



PERKINS

PERKINS TO HONOR SCHILLING and CHANDLER AT ANNUAL RECOGNITION DAY

LANCASTER: On Saturday, June 12, 2010, the Doctor Franklin Perkins School will hold its annual Recognition Day Ceremony to celebrate the accomplishments of students during the academic year. Additionally, several individuals will be honored for significant contributions in the fields of public service, community service, and dedication to Perkins students and residents.

Shonda Schilling, author of “*The Best Kind of Different: Our Family’s Journey with Asperger’s Syndrome*,” tells the story of the challenges she and her husband, former Red Sox Pitcher Curt Schilling, faced while raising a child with Asperger Syndrome. She will be recognized for her efforts to elevate public understanding of autism spectrum disorders and more specifically Asperger Syndrome. “Not only is she an amazing advocate for her son but for all children with Asperger Syndrome, states Dr. Charles P. Conroy, Perkins Executive Director.

State Senator Harriette L. Chandler will receive the *Distinguished Service Award in the Field of Public Service* in recognition of her admirable record of service in the Massachusetts House of Representatives and as state senator. “Her assistant vice chairmanship of the *Ways and Means Committee*, vice chairmanship of the *Joint Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs*, and membership on the Committee for *Public Health*, demonstrates her commitment as an advocate for children and families, and we believe that merits public recognition,” states Conroy.

Rev. Tomasz J. Borkowski will receive the *Distinguished Service Award in the Field of Community Service* in recognition of his devoted service to the town of Clinton and surrounding communities. Fr. Tomasz's leadership of St. Mary Elementary School and St. Mary Cares Day Care Program, his launching of the CARE pantry, and the successful merger of Our Lady of Jasna Gora and Our Lady of the Rosary parishes.

Martha E. Moore will also receive the *Distinguished Service Award in the Field of Community Service* in recognition of her devoted service to the community of Lancaster. As a Director of the Bulfinch Fund, she has become the driving force behind the effort to preserve The Fifth Meeting House. This Lancaster treasure was designed by Charles Bulfinch, and built in 1816 on the historic Lancaster Town Green, the oldest town in Worcester County.

Timothy R. Hammond, Director of Programs, will receive the *Distinguished Service Award in the Field of Service to the Students of Perkins* in recognition of his devoted efforts on behalf of students and residents of Perkins. "Over his nine years at Perkins, he has spearheaded initiatives in character education, Collaborative Problem Solving, and expansion of services to adolescents with Asperger Syndrome. His knowledge, talents, and skills have made our residential program a model of excellence, and he has had untold beneficial effects on the lives of Perkins residents," says Conroy.

The Recognition Day Ceremony will begin at 10 o'clock under a tent on the Manor lawn on the School's Main Street campus, Lancaster, on Saturday, June 12, 2010. A luncheon will follow the ceremony in the Janeway Education Center. For more information about this event, please contact the Perkins School at 978-365-7376.

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