For Immediate Release
October 18, 2007

For More Information Contact:
Mayor's Press Office, 617 635-4461
Boston Beyond: 617-345-5322

# Mayor Menino Announces BOSTONavigator with Boston After School & Beyond and BOST*net*

## *Database will Connect Youth and Families To After School Activities*

Mayor Thomas M. Menino today joined Boston After School & Beyond and BOST*net* to announce BOSTONavigator, a new unified, citywide database that will help connect kids with after school opportunities. Created through a partnership with The City of Boston, BOST*net* and Boston After School & Beyond, BOSTONavigator includes information on any program in the City of Boston that offers services to youth between the ages of 5 and 18 during out-of-school time, including before school, after school, weekends, school vacations and the summer.

"Our kids need fun yet educational opportunities when they are not in school. BOSTONavigator can help kids, parents and communities locate after school activities," Mayor Menino said. "BOSTONavigator will be a tool that families and providers across the city will come to rely on."

BOSTONavigator.org is a unified database searchable by zip code, age group, activity focus and by name so anyone looking for out-of-school time programming in Boston can go online and pull up the information within a matter of minutes. This exciting new online tool brings together many smaller directories into a single, more complete, integrated and accessible online tool.

"This will be the place where parents, funders, policy makers, and providers come for up-to-date information on opportunities and needs," said Stephen M. Pratt, President and CEO of Boston After School & Beyond.

Critical to the success of this database is the buy in from out-of-school program providers. Organizations are being encouraged by policy makers, funders, intermediaries and the Mayor's office to regularly check their self managed data using a protected login.

"By listing your programs on BOSTONavigator you will reach thousands of young people, parents, guardians and other caring adults," said Maryellen Coffey, Executive Director of BOST*net*. "Together, we can make BOSTONavigator a great resource for Boston's children and families."

***