



**MAUREEN E. FEENEY**  
**BOSTON CITY COUNCIL**

June 24, 2009

Mr. Rob Dixon  
745 Washington St.  
Braintree, MA 02184

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to support Rob Dixon in his nomination for the People Magazine/MLB All-Stars Among Us Award. In 1993 Rob founded Project RISE as an experimental pilot program on the Thayer Academy campus in Braintree, MA. The goal of the program was to empower and help at risk youth from the greater Boston area succeed academically. The program provides African American and Hispanic/Latino males and females with minority education, employment skills, and many other beneficial services to help them succeed later on in their lives.

Early involvement in a child's life is crucial for their development. This program helps the children at an early age with more than 60% of the students returning each summer and more than 35% of the students remaining in the program for 3 years or longer. Eighty five percent of the students enrolled in this program will be first generation college attendees and since its inception in 1993, 146 students have attended 4-year colleges such as Harvard University, Colgate University, and many other prestigious universities.

As a representative of the Dorchester community, I support a program that provides young children with a learning environment over the summer, helping keep them off the streets and involved in activities that help them both socially and academically. Students involved in this program surpass their fellow classmates in varying areas of academia. Rob Dixon, with the founding of this program, has shaped the youth of the greater Boston area and in doing so greatly contributed to the community as a whole. Therefore, please give his nomination every possible consideration.

Sincerely,

Maureen E. Feeny  
Boston City Council

**DISTRICT 3**

**BOSTON CITY HALL, ONE CITY HALL SQUARE, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, 02201**  
**617-635-3455 FAX: 617-635-3734 [Maureen.Feeney@cityofboston.gov](mailto:Maureen.Feeney@cityofboston.gov)**