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**Brookline’s Ivy Street School Hosts Ribbon-Cutting**

**for Renovated Solarium and 21st Century Library**

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**Brookline, MA** – On December 2nd, the Ivy Street School hosted a ribbon-cutting event to unveil its newly renovated Solarium and 21st century library, officially launching their Literacy Initiative. The result of a successful $300,000 fundraising campaign, this new space will enhance the learning experience for the school’s students, offering both traditional resources and adaptive technology.

A small private school for teens and adolescents with autism spectrum disorder, brain injury, and other mental health diagnoses, Ivy Street School is nestled in Brookline’s bucolic Cottage Farm neighborhood. They offer both day and residential programming, with a focus on transition planning to prepare their students for independent adult living.

Beyond aesthetics, the Solarium and refurbished library are central to the school’s Literacy Initiative and will enhance their curriculum moving forward.

“Given the vastly different learning needs of our students and our commitment to individualized programming,” says Barbara Salisbury, CEO of the school’s umbrella organization MAB Community Services, “compiling a meaningful and relevant schoolwide resource library is a challenge, but one we are able to meet thanks to the support of our generous donors. This 21st century library enables Ivy Street School to blend traditional resources with current technologies to accommodate our students’ unique needs through individualized, multi-pronged, and multi-sensory instruction and support.”

While the Solarium and library offer quiet learning spaces and traditional resources, the school stresses that books are just the beginning of the Literacy Initiative, which also includes access to adaptive tools, the latest technology, and highly-trained staff. As part of this initiative, the school recently hired a Certified Reading Specialist, Linda Yee, to work one-on-one with each student to provide literacy intervention tailored to his or her specific needs, integrating assistive technology to help support students who struggle with reading and written expression.

“With current technology, creative tools, and caring staff,” says Salisbury, “the Solarium Renovation and Literacy Initiative will dramatically enhance our learning environment, helping us give each of our students the skills they need to transition to full and satisfying adult lives.”

**About Ivy Street School**

Since 1993, the Ivy Street School has been helping teens and young adults gain the skills they need to successfully transition to adult life. We support students and families overcoming the challenges of autism spectrum disorder, brain injury, and other neurological challenges. To learn more, visit [ivystreetschool.org](http://www.ivystreetschool.org).