

SPLASH LEARN-TO-SWIM PROGRAM AT JORDAN BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

Chelsea Community Schools (CCS) has partnered with the Jordan Boys and Girls Club to provide Chelsea residents with a learn-to-swim program.

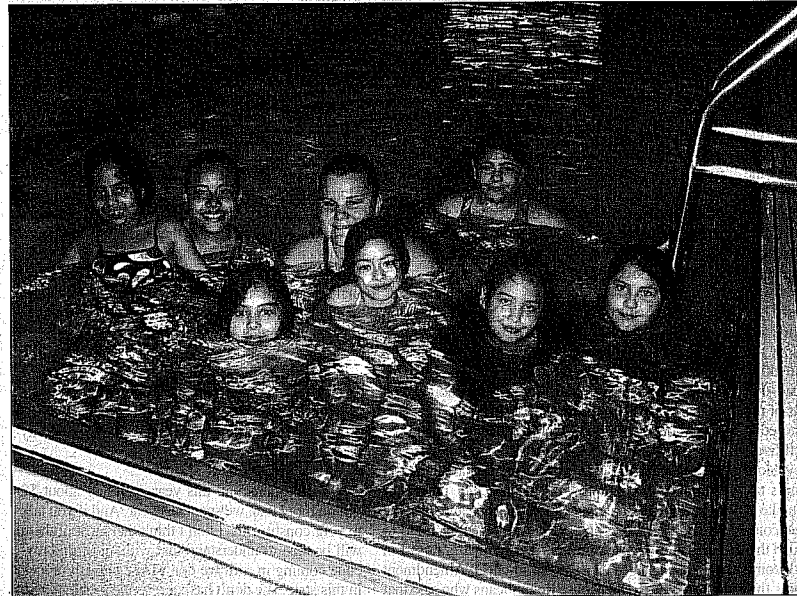
CCS is offering the program, SPLASH, this week to all Chelsea residents ages 6-15 at the Jordan Boys and Girls Club swimming pool.

According to recent research of the Centers for Disease Control and Injury Prevention, drowning rates among ethnic communities, such as Chelsea, are nearly three times the national average. The most commonly accepted reason for this discrepancy is lack of access to swimming instruction.

"It's about being smart, being aware and being educated on the subject of aquatic safety," said Bea Cravatta, CCS director. SPLASH participants will learn basic swimming skills from American Red Cross certified instructors.

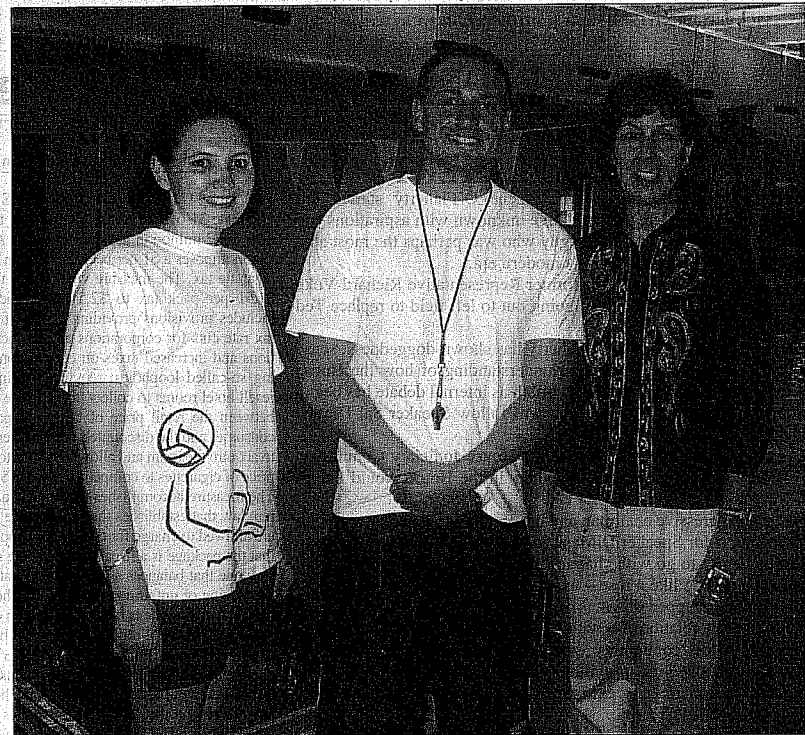
CCS invited parents to discuss water safety issues with qualified experts during their children's swim instruction.

The next session of the CCS learn-to-swim program is scheduled for June 23-29. For more information, please contact Chelsea Community Schools at 617-466-5233.



CARY SHUMAN PHOTOS

Some of the young swimmers are pictured enjoying the Learn-to-Swim program at the Jordan Boys and Girls Club.



Joan Kisthardt, director of aquatics at Boston University, Chris Crombie, aquatics director at the Jordan Boys and Girls Club, and Ann Richie, aquatics coordinator for SPLASH, are pictured at the Jordan swimming pool, site of the learn-to-swim program.