



Contact: Joyce Kim McDonough
Director of Strategic Development
Phone: 617-265-1172, ext. 291
Fax: 617-265-1176
jmcdonough@bostoncollegiate.org

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PRESS RELEASE

BOSTON COLLEGIATE CHARTER SCHOOL IS TOP IN THE STATE Charter School Consistently Delivers Strong Results on MCAS Exams

Dorchester, MA. Boston Collegiate Charter School scored top in the entire state on the 2008 10th grade math MCAS exam. Since the inception of the 10th grade MCAS exams in 2002, 99% of 10th graders at Boston Collegiate have passed both the math and English exams on the first attempt. **This year, Boston Collegiate is the only district in the state that scored 100% Advanced or Proficient on the 10th grade MCAS Math exam.** This is the second time in three years that Boston Collegiate has achieved this success. In addition, **100% passed the 10th grade MCAS English exam.** Boston Collegiate, an eleven year-old charter school located in Dorchester, continues to achieve top academic results at all grade levels:

- 100% of Boston Collegiate 10th graders passed the math MCAS exam for the sixth year in a row, making it the **only** school in the state to achieve such success. On average, over 90% of 10th graders have scored Advanced or Proficient on the math MCAS over the past six years.
- Over 99% of Boston Collegiate students have passed the English MCAS over the past six years. On average, over 83% of 10th graders have scored Advanced or Proficient on the English MCAS exam over the past six years.

Boston Collegiate's mission is to prepare each student for college. In support of its mission, Boston Collegiate's teachers focus on data driven instruction and commit more time to students in the classroom. Boston Collegiate has a longer school day and longer school year than most other public schools. The school day starts at 7:45am and ends at 3pm, 4pm, or 5pm. Students in need of extra support attend Saturday School and mandatory tutoring and homework club from 3 – 4pm.

Boston Collegiate's rigorous and disciplined curriculum starts in the 5th grade. The structured middle school environment lays a solid foundation that enables its high school students to flourish. Teachers provide tailored approaches and individual support to students. The results also highlight the school's commitment to building a highly successful, highly accountable urban public school.

Executive Director Kathleen Sullivan notes that, "Our results demonstrate that a structured academic environment, high expectations combined with individual support, and an exceptional teaching staff lead to outstanding results and, most importantly, college success. While we are pleased with our scores, we remain focused in every class, every day, on our goal of achieving 100% proficiency for all our students. We also strive to ensure that all of our graduates have a successful college experience after graduating from Boston Collegiate."

In June 2008, Boston Collegiate had cause to celebrate when 100% of Boston Collegiate's senior class was accepted into college for the fifth year in a row, earning 73 acceptances and a record of over \$1.4 million in merit scholarships. **Nearly half of the class of 2008 received full, four-year scholarships.** Drawing students from Boston families in which 80% of students will be the first to graduate from college, Boston Collegiate demonstrates that all students can achieve and be ready to succeed in college.

Boston Collegiate Charter School, founded as South Boston Harbor Academy Charter School, was established in 1998 with the mission to prepare each student for college. The school has grown from 120 students in grades 5, 6, and 7 to over 460 students in grades 5 through 12. The school offers an academically rigorous, college preparatory curriculum based on three pillars: a structured academic environment, high expectations combined with a tremendous amount of individual support, and an exceptional teaching staff. Now with its third charter, the school has received 4,302 applications for eleven lotteries and has a waiting list of over 1,400 students. This year, the middle school has officially expanded and transformed into a Lower School, grades 5 and 6, and a Middle School, grades 7 and 8. Boston Collegiate is thrilled to offer more families in Boston a Boston Collegiate education.

If you would like additional information on this topic, or to schedule an interview with Kathleen Sullivan, please contact Joyce Kim McDonough at 617-265-1172, ext 291 or e-mail Joyce at jmcdonough@bostoncollegiate.org.