



For Immediate Release

Boston Collegiate Charter School Announces New Leader

Dorchester, MA (8/24/2011) – When Boston Collegiate Charter School opened its doors today to its newest class of fifth grade students, the graduating class of 2019, it did so with new leadership at the helm. BCCS is pleased to announce the appointment of Shannah Varón as the new Executive Director, who will take the school into its next phase.

As some of Boston’s high-performing charter schools are channeling their success into replicating to launch new schools, Boston Collegiate’s new leadership has chosen a different path: to deliver on a core promise of the charter school movement by looking outward and collaborating with district schools as true partners in education.

Varón’s interest in district collaboration comes from her past work in district reform. Prior to joining Boston Collegiate, she worked as a consultant with the Parthenon Group, a Boston-based strategic advisory firm, where she supported large foundation-funded education reform projects in the public school districts of Memphis; Washington, DC; and New York City. There, she learned of the challenges that districts face, and she hopes to bring this humility and understanding into her work as a charter leader. She also brings teaching experience in a district school in Texas through Teach For America, as well as experience coaching new Teach For America teachers.

Varón’s fresh approach will be balanced by the strong and veteran Boston Collegiate team that will continue to push towards college acceptance, persistence, and completion for all of its graduates. Eileen Callahan, the first teacher ever hired when Boston Collegiate opened its doors in 1998 as South Boston Harbor Academy, has assumed the post of Chief Academic Officer to help the school continue to raise the academic bar for its students.

Founded in 1998, Boston Collegiate Charter School is a tuition-free public school serving nearly 600 children in grades 5 through 12. Boston Collegiate has a simple yet ambitious mission: to prepare each student for college. Boston Collegiate has consistently brought its mission to life: 100% of the school’s graduates have been accepted to college. For more information, visit www.bostoncollegiate.org.

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Reimagining What a School Can Be

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