



SABIS®

PRESS RELEASE



**** 634 Students Vie for 75 Places at Holyoke Community Charter School ****

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For Immediate Release

The Holyoke Community Charter School (HCCS), located in Holyoke, Massachusetts, recently held its annual lottery for the 2015-16 school year. Six hundred and thirty-four (634) students were vying for only 75 openings at the public charter school which is a member of the global SABIS® Network.

Since opening in 2005, HCCS, a K-8 school, has been enrolled to a full capacity of 702 students as capped by the Massachusetts State Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The school quickly established a reputation for academic achievement, sparking a rapid increase in the number of students wanting to enroll there.

"It is heart-breaking to tell the many families that expect to enroll their children at Holyoke Community Charter School that we do not have enough openings due to the cap number assigned to our district," said HCCS School Director, Dr. Sonia Correa-Pope. *"Parents know that our school has raised the bar on education in our community. Our solid reputation after 10 years of operation makes us a desirable choice for the parents of Holyoke and the surrounding communities."*

As established by the rules governing charter schools, a public lottery for available school places must be held if the number of applicants exceeds the number of available places. Only 1 in 8 families who gathered for the lottery walked away knowing that their children would be able to join HCCS and become part of a school that consistently outperforms the district.

"I am super excited because my daughter is coming to the Holyoke Community Charter School," said Ms. Colón, the parent of a child whose name was drawn in the lottery. *"The anxiety of waiting for her number to be pulled out at the lottery was very scary... But we were lucky and she'll be coming to HCCS next year. The education at this school is number one, and the safety here is outstanding as well."*

Currently in its 10th year of operation, HCCS strives to promote the joy of learning and prepare a broad cross-section of Holyoke children for success as students and citizens by providing them with a high-quality public education. Like all SABIS® Network schools, HCCS implements the SABIS® Educational System, a comprehensive educational program that gives students a solid foundation of knowledge, essential life skills, and an edge for the future.

For more information about HCCS, please visit hccs.sabis.net or like the HCCS page on Facebook. For more information about the SABIS® Educational System, visit sabis.net or follow us on Twitter at @SABIS_US.

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New HCCS Parent

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