



**** Two SABIS[®] Charter Schools in Massachusetts are Closing the Achievement Gap in English and Math ****

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For Immediate Release

SABIS[®] Educational Systems, INC. just released reports showing that two of the network's public charter schools are closing the achievement gap. The reports show that low-income and minority students attending the SABIS[®] International Charter School (SICS) and the Holyoke Community Charter School (HCCS), both in Massachusetts, outperformed their peers in the state, local district, and surrounding suburban districts in all subgroups in English and math.

SICS opened in 1995 and currently serves 1574 students in grades K-12. HCCS opened in 2005 and currently serves 702 students in grades K-8. Combined, the two schools have close to 4,000 students waiting to enroll. Both schools are comprised of a majority of minority students, with SICS serving 71% minority students and HCCS serving 83%.

The newly released reports are based on state-mandated assessment results from the 2014 Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) and compare the performance of the two schools' low-income and minority students with their peers. Drawing from data for the last grade level tested at each school – Grade 8 at HCCS and Grade 10 at SICS – the reports highlight the percentage of African-American, Latino, and low-income students who achieved proficient or advanced levels in English and math and compare their results with those of the state, host district, and neighboring districts.

Minority and low-income students at both schools outperformed their peers across the board. At HCCS, 84% of the school's Latino students achieved proficient/advanced in English, compared to 58% of students at the state level and only 37% of students in the local district. The results were even more astounding in math, where 65% of Latino students at HCCS achieved proficient/advanced compared to only 29% and 16% at the state and local district levels, respectively. Sixty (60) percent of low-income students attending HCCS achieved proficient/advanced in math, compared to 32% statewide and 19% in the local district. At SICS, 98% of African-American 10th graders were proficient/advanced in English compared to 79% statewide and 74% in the local district. And 100% of Hispanic 10th graders at SICS achieved proficient/advanced in English. At the state level, 76% achieved proficiency, while in the local district 68% reached this level.

"Year after year, SABIS[®] Network schools in Massachusetts are showing that low-income and minority students are able to achieve at high levels regardless of their socio-economic status," said George F. Saad, Vice President of U.S. Operations for SABIS[®] Educational Systems, INC. *"These two schools are fully implementing the SABIS[®] Educational System, a college-preparatory curriculum, and the results show that this rigorous academic program is making a difference in the lives of at-risk students regardless of their zip code."*

SABIS[®] Educational Systems, INC. is an education management organization that manages public and private schools in the U.S. and Europe. Using a proprietary system, SABIS[®] Network schools, including 12 U.S. public charter schools, provide students with a top-quality education that prepares them to achieve success. Visit <http://sab.is/591FYB> to download the SICS performance report and to view the HCCS report, visit <http://sab.is/JEBQE1>.

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