

WESTON METCO ANNUAL REPORT
2018-2019



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The 2018-2019 school year marks our 51st School Year of METCO in Weston. This report will show our ongoing programming, highlight some student accomplishments both in Weston and Boston, as well as those events that have become traditions of our Weston METCO program. We continue to be grateful for the expressed district and community support of our program continues, and are continuing to maintain our high standards in both our level of programming and as well as student/family supports. Our goal as we end our 2018-2019 school year and plan for our 2019-2020 school year; is to continue to work with the district to maintain the optimal levels of support and innovative programming as they are what has continued to set Weston METCO apart as a standout METCO program in the Commonwealth.



Overview

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Areas of note, including student successes in and out of the classroom and college acceptances

ACHIEVEMENT DATA

College Prep, Honors & Advanced Placement course data comparison

SUPPORTING STUDENTS – SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAMMING

Description and detail of the varied programs offered specifically to our METCO students throughout the district during the school year.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS – SUMMER PROGRAMMING

Description and detail of the programs and experiences offered to our METCO students during the summer.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS

Description of the varied organizations with whom Weston METCO partners.

2017-2018 NEXT STEPS AND 2018-2019 FOLLOW UP

Review of the plans made in the past year and update on this year's progress.

Accomplishments

STUDENT-SPECIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 2 National Honor Society members.
- Posse Scholarship – Seven of our students nominated, two made it to the semifinal round and one was selected as a finalist.
- High School students serving on: School Council (1), Student Council (2), Class officers (1).
- 1 HS and 1 MS member of Crossroads C5 Leadership Program.
- 1 members of the Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra.
- 1 8th grader recommended for Honors History & Physics.
- 1 MS student invited to Alvin Ailey School Summer Dance Intensive in New York city for the month of July.
- 3 MS students selected to represent WMS in the IDEAS (*Initiatives in Developing Equity and Achievement for Students*) Middle School Student Conference sponsored by the EDCO Collaborative.
- 71% (25 of 35) of all students participate in afterschool athletics, clubs, and recreational activities at the Middle School.
- 3 High School sophomores traveled to India for exploration and service with their local Boys and Girls' Club.
- 1 High School student selected member of the Youth Leadership Convention sponsored by Citizen University (only 25 students selected from across the country).
- 2018-2019 Blue Hill Boys & Girls Club Youth of the Year.
- 1 Field School student stepped up to advocate for equity by requesting a change in the numbering system used for school bus routes. She met with the METCO academic liaison, school adjustment counselor, school principal, director of transportation and superintendent of schools to share her concerns and discuss possible solutions.

- 2 Field School students elected by their classmates to serve as Student Council representatives.
- 1 Field School student selected as a reporter for the Field Flyer school newspaper.
- 2 Field School students participate in the BECOME leadership group. BECOME is a new program designed to help students explore ways to strengthen their communities and understand how to become advocates and voices for change.
- 64% (16 out of 25) Field students attend the METCO After-school Achievement Program (M.A.A.P.) - an optional after-school homework opportunity.
- 88% (22 out of 25) of Field students participate in one or more optional after-school activities (Art Club, Band, BECOME Program, Chorus, Knitting, Orchestra, WeDo Coding, After-School Sports).
- 1 Field student performed in The Nutcracker with a local ballet company.
- 2 Field students are members of local championship basketball teams.
- 1 Field student is a member of a local swim team, competing on a national level.
- 100 % (14 of 14) of the grade 3 students participate in Orchestra.
- 42 % (6 of 14) of grade 3 students participate in Chorus.
- 50 % (7 of 14) of the grade 3 students participate in After School Sports.
- 100 % (12 of 12) of the grade 3 students participate in Homework Academy/Learning Academy.
- 58 % (7 of 12) of the grade 1 students participate in After School Math Academy Program (MAP) 71 % (11 of 14) of the grade 2 students participate in After School Math Academy Program (MAP).
- 100% (14 of 14) of the grade 3 students participate in 3rd to 4th grade Transition Program.
- 60% (5 of 8) of the grade 3 students (Country) participate in After School Art Program.
- 100% of Kindergarten to Grade 3 students participate in academic projects during the school year (Science, Math, Social Studies, Art, Music).



COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

This year, the 10 METCO graduates of the class of 2019 have been accepted to the following institutions:

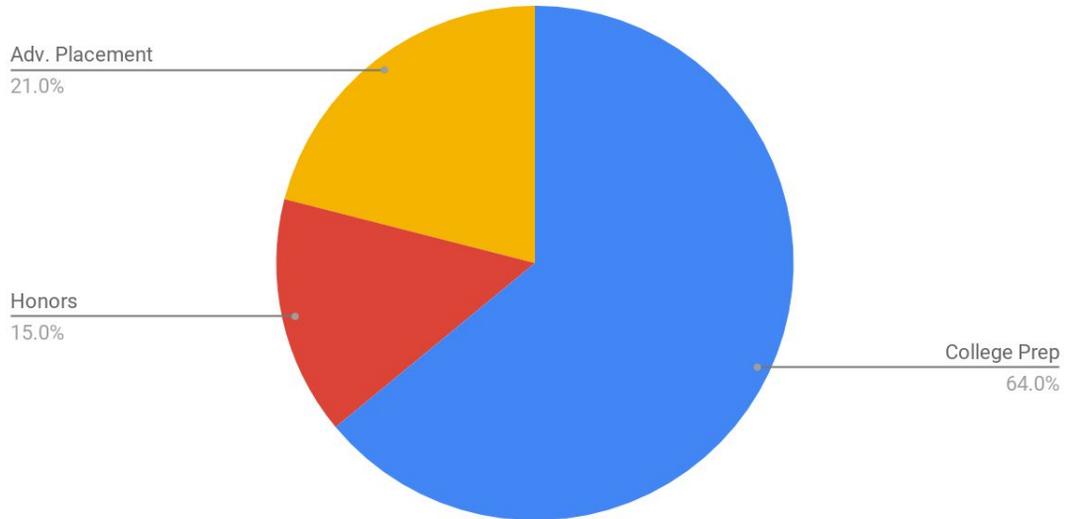
- American University
- Anna Maria College
- Assumption College
- Bridgewater State
- Bryant University
- Clark University
- College of the Holy Cross
- Curry College
- Dean College
- Drexel University
- Emerson College
- Fisher College
- Fordham University
- Hampton University
- Husson University
- Johnson and Wales University
- Kentucky State University
- Lasell College
- Loyola University (Maryland)
- University of Maryland
- Merrimack College
- Morehouse College
- Morgan State University
- Newbury College

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- New England College
 - Nichols College
 - Northeastern University
 - Pace University
 - Penn State
 - Pine Manor College
 - Providence College
 - Quinnipiac University
 - Rhode Island College
 - Salem State University
 - Simmons College
 - Suffolk University
 - Syracuse University
 - Tampa University
 - Temple University
 - University of Bridgeport
 - University of Maine
 - University of Massachusetts Amherst
 - University of Massachusetts Boston
 - University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
 - University of Massachusetts Lowell
 - University of Miami
 - Virginia Tech

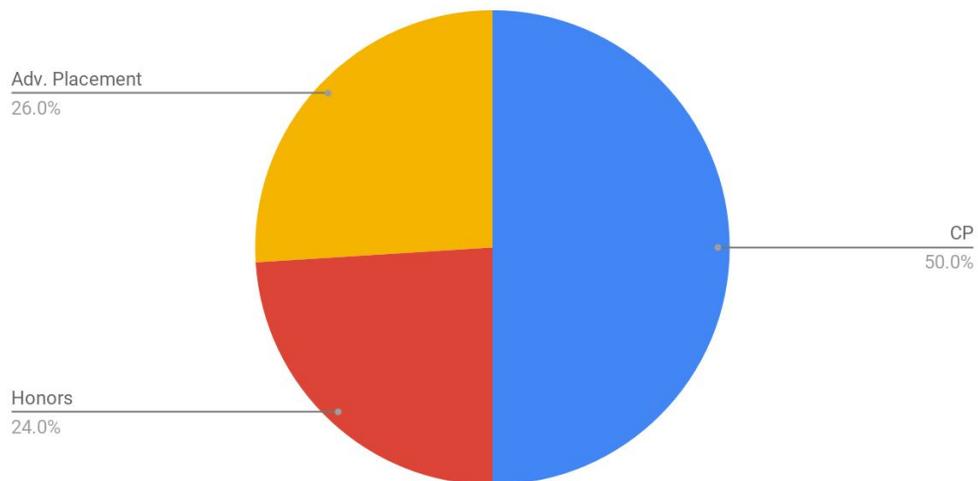
Achievement Data

COLLEGE PREP, HONORS & ADV. PLACEMENT COURSE DATA COMPARISON

Percentage of METCO Students in AP/Honor/CP Courses (2017-2018 School Year)

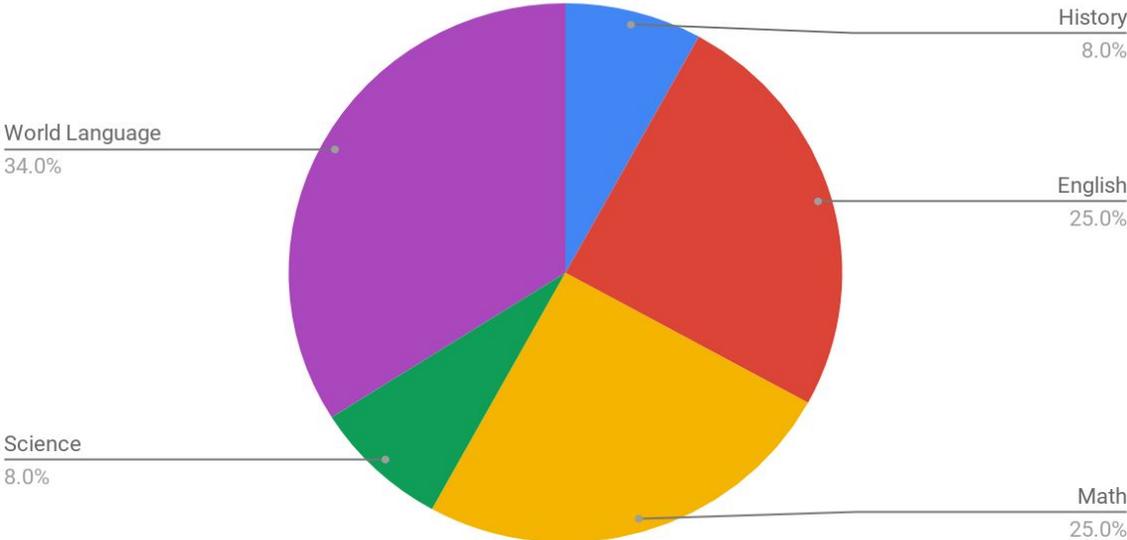


Percentage of METCO Students in AP/Honors/CP Courses (2018-2019 School Year)

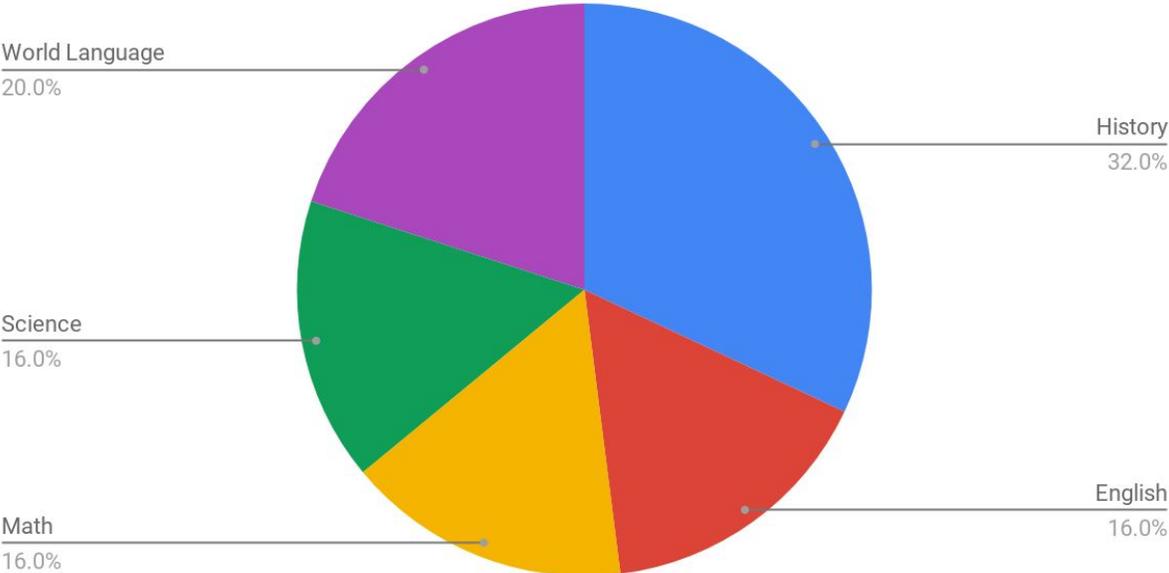




Percentage of METCO Students in Honors Courses by Department
(2017-2018 School Year)

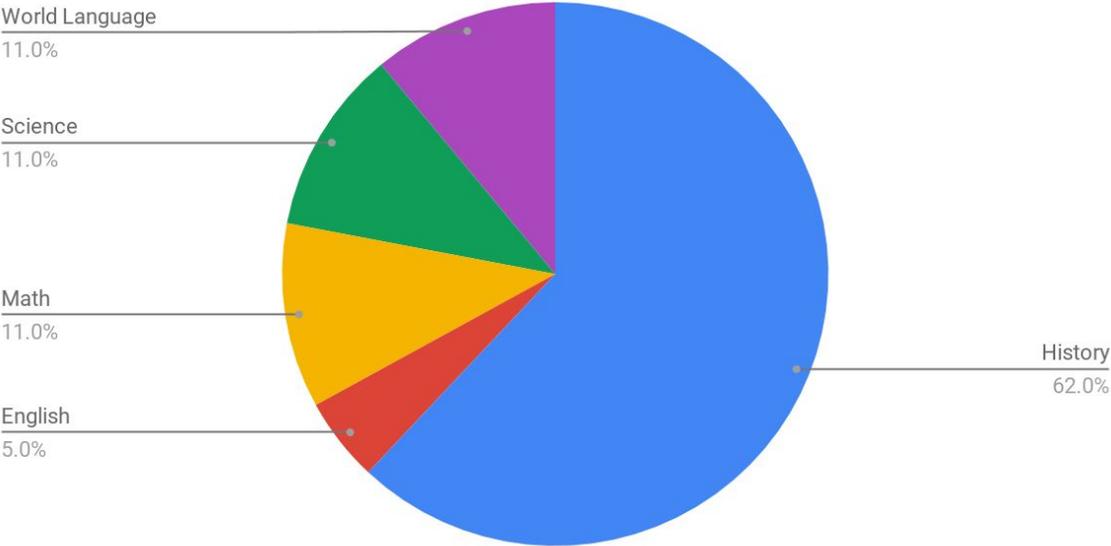


Percentage of METCO Students in Honors Courses by Department
(2018-2019 School Year)

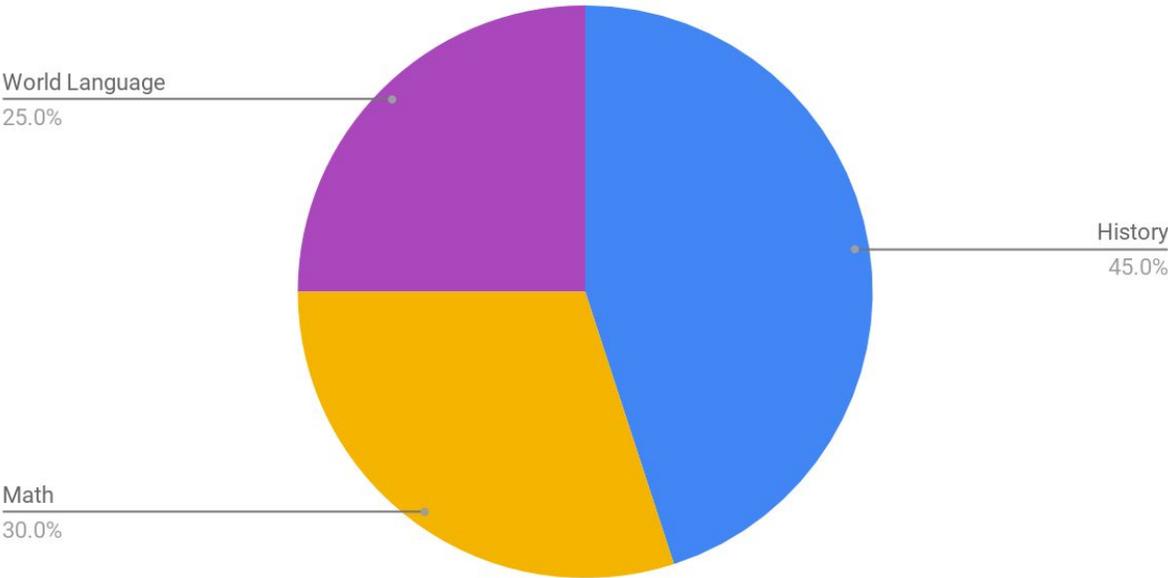




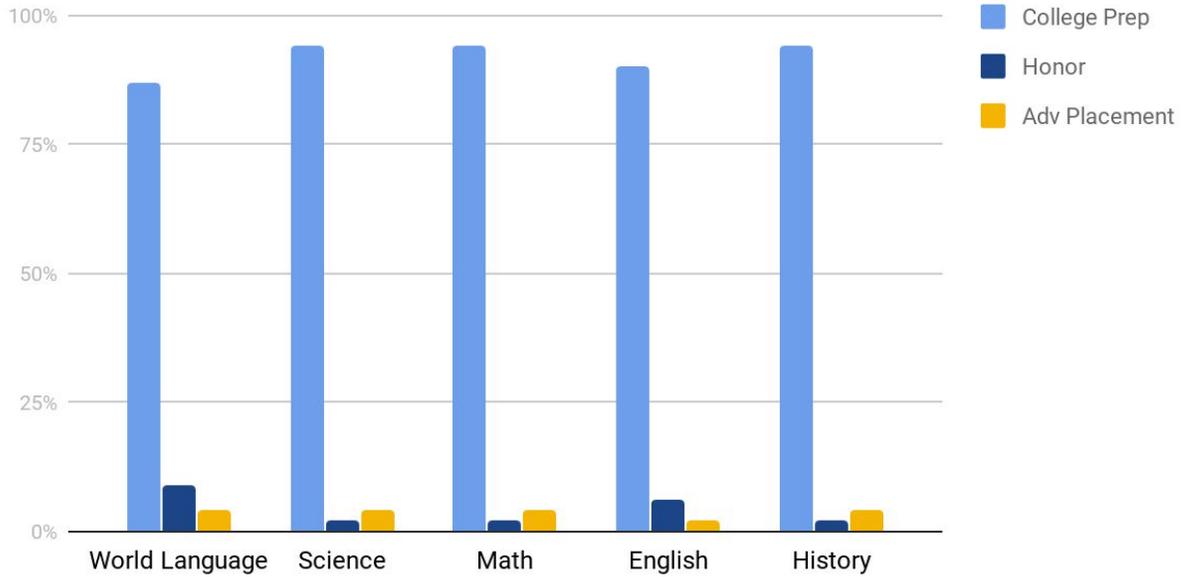
Percentage of METCO Students in Adv. Placement Courses By Department (2017-2018 School Year)



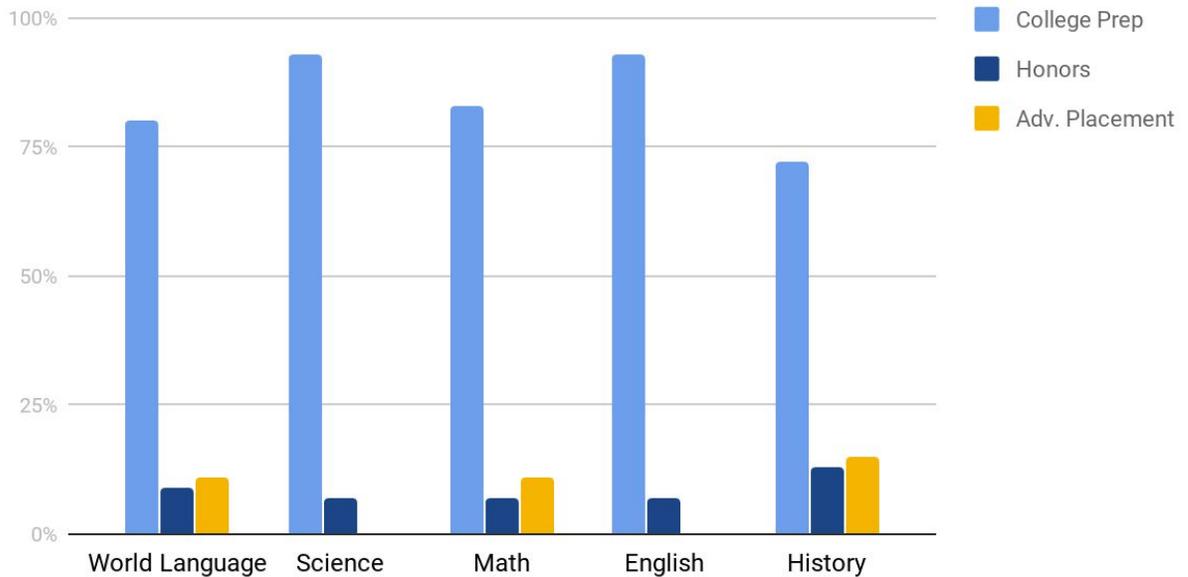
Percentage of METCO Students in Adv. Placement Courses By Department (2018-2019 School Year)



Percentage of METCO Students in CP/Honors/AP Courses by Department (2017-2018)



Percentage of METCO Students in CP/Honors/AP Courses by Department (2018-2019)



Supporting Students – School Year Programming

ELEMENTARY PROGRAMS – WOODLAND AND COUNTRY SCHOOLS

Name of Program	Purpose	# Students PARTICIPATING	Grades	FREQUENCY	Educator Type(s)
<u>MAP (Math Academy Program)</u>	Objectives: Strengthen mathematical foundations; Reinforce language and mathematical concepts; Strengthen thinking and factual math operations; Reinforce the curriculum by extended exposure to the concepts.	18	1 and 2	2 days a week	K-3 METCO Academic Liaison
<u>Academic Support</u>	Objective: Provide in and or out of classroom services to METCO students who need regular education support in specific areas, such as math, writing, reading and/or science.	23	K, 1, 2 and 3	1-2 times per week	K-3 METCO Academic Liaison
<u>METCO Transition Meetings/Activity</u>	Objective: Provide support for third graders transitioning to fourth grade at Field School; Reduce anxiety about going to a new school building and environment; Meet METCO students currently in fourth and fifth grade at Field School as well as the FS METCO Liaison.	All	3	1-2 times per school (WS/CS)	K-3 METCO Academic Liaison and FS METCO Academic Liaison
<u>Snack Groups</u>	Objectives: The objective is to provide opportunities to students in need of help (K – 3rd) for learning and development of social-emotional skills as well as language and communication skills. Skills that helps children learn to navigate the school life (playground, bus ride, transitions) better by learning self-regulation strategies. Students learn the meaning of teamwork, having good “sportsmanship”, confidence and friendship. This promotes appropriate student like behavior in order to better access the curriculum. Some essential themes are: Positive and appropriate interactions with peers, social awareness, use of appropriate language in social settings, negotiation and play skills, and safety in the school and on the bus.	Open to All	K, 1, 2, and 3	2-3 times a week	K-3 METCO Academic Liaison
<u>Breakfast Academic Program (BAP)</u>	Objectives: Provide breakfast and social-emotional support to students under stress as a result of the long journey from Boston and the dynamics generated on the bus; Opportunity for the students to prepare themselves and finish academic work required for the day; Opportunity for students to talk about their plans for the day and	Open to All	K, 1, 2 and 3	2 days per week	K-3 METCO Academic Liaison

perspective attendance to after school enrichment programs.

Boys Group	Enhance academic achievement and social skills through an affinity and mentoring program model	9	1, 2 and 3	2 days per month	Middle School METCO Academic Liaison
Lunch Groups	Strengthen the interaction between Boston and Weston students, provide opportunity to build social relationships and develop social skills, provides opportunity to reinforce proper manners when eating, encourage appropriate conversation, share experiences	All	K, 1, 2 and 3	1 day per week	METCO ACADEMIC Liaison
Kindergarten Academy	To enhance the learning experience of incoming Kindergarten students in the METCO program.	All	K	2-4 times a month	METCO KA Support Staff
Social-Emotional Support Group:	Objective: Promote social language and teach appropriate strategies for problem solving. Positive Guidance	All	K, 1, 2, and 3	2 days per week	METCO ACADEMIC Liaison

ELEMENTARY PROGRAMS – FIELD SCHOOL

Name of Program	Purpose	# Students participating	Grades	FREQUENCY	Educator Type(s)
METCO After-School Achievement Program (M.A.A.P.)	Build a culture of academic collaboration and excellence among METCO students, introduce young students to the benefits of seeking extra help from teachers outside of class time, support homework completion by providing a supervised setting where students begin their homework before their commute home, and provide co-curricular enrichment opportunities	16	4 and 5	3 days per week	Field School METCO Academic Liaison
Boys' Group	Enhance academic achievement and social skills through an affinity and mentoring program model	5	4 and 5	2 days per month	Middle School METCO Academic Liaison
Math Morning Groups and Lunch Groups	Strengthen mathematical foundations, reinforce mathematical language and concepts, practice basic math skills, promote risk-taking and outside-the-box thinking, and explore the understanding that every student is a mathematician	18	4 and 5	4 days per week	Elementary Math Specialist
Lunch Groups	Promote social and emotional learning and community-building in an affinity group setting. Facilitate and support relationships between Family Friends pairs	23	4 and 5	4 days per week	Field School METCO Academic Liaison

MCAS Math Boot Camp Program	To improve students' test taking skills and strategies, and to strengthen math skills and refresh knowledge of math content	10 students (via invitation)	4 and 5	Full day – week long program (during spring vacation)	Academic Tutorial Center in Boston
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<u>METCO Transition Meetings/Activity</u>	Objective: Provide support for fifth graders transitioning to sixth grade at the Middle School. Reduce anxiety about going to a new school building and environment; meet METCO students currently in sixth, seventh and eighth grade at Middle School; meet and begin working with MS METCO Liaison.	All Grade 5 students	5	1-2 times per school	Field School and Middle School METCO Academic Liaisons
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MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Name of Program	Purpose	# Students	Grades	FREQUENCY	Educator Type and #
METCO X-Block	Designated weekly extra support time for students experiencing academic struggles. Liaison, teachers, and students/parents may request meeting time for any allotted subject. Students may meet in groups and/or 1 on 1 for assistance provided by teachers/liaison.	All	6, 7 and 8	1 day per week	Weston Staff, Middle School Academic Liaison
Lunch Groups	Provide social and emotional support in semi-structured affinity groups	All students	6, 7 and 8	5 days per week	Middle School Academic Liaison
Academic Support (METCO Academics)	Provide individual and small-group academic support during structured support blocks	Varies	6, 7 and 8	5 days per week	Middle School Academic Liaison
MCAS Prep Program (STE)	To improve students' test taking skills and strategies, while also enhancing writing skills, reading comprehension and vocabulary usage	5 students (via invitation)	8	1 day per week	Weston Staff
<u>METCO Transition Meetings/Activity</u>	Objective: Provide support for eighth graders transitioning to the High School; Reduce anxiety about going to a new school building and environment; Meet METCO students currently in the high school as well as the HS METCO Academic Liaison/METCO Director.	All	8	1-2 times per school	Middle School METCO Academic Liaison and the High School METCO Academic Liaison/METCO Director

HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Name of Program	Purpose	# Students	Grades	FREQUENCY	Educator Type and #
Tenacity Challenge	An academic scholarship competition for teams of Latino and African-American students from urban and suburban high schools across Massachusetts	9	9, 10, 11 and 12	6-month preparation leading to annual competition	High School METCO Academic Liaison/METCO Director and Weston High School Staff (2)
Academic Planning and Support Meetings	Scheduled appointments to review academic struggles and create a plan for academic support. Review schedule and discuss potential course selections for upcoming year	Open to All	9, 10, 11 and 12	2-4 times per year (midterm reports, term report, spring course selection)	High School METCO Academic Liaison/METCO Director
Affinity Meetings	Opportunity for METCO Students to meet as a group to discuss issues that are most relevant to them as students of color as well as METCO students.	Open to All	9, 10, 11 and 12	Once a month	High School METCO Academic Liaison/METCO Director
Black Student Union	School Club to help address the needs of the Black students in the school as well as allow them an organized voice and way to contribute positively to the school. Organize the Black History Month Assembly.	Open to All	9, 10, 11 and 12	1-2 times a month	High School METCO Academic Liaison/METCO Director

Supporting Students – Summer Programming

ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAMS – RISING STUDENTS IN GRADES 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Name of Program	Purpose	# Students	Grades	FREQUENCY	Educator Type and #
Summer Opportunities in Academics and Recreation	Builds skills, expands upon prior learning, and provides opportunities for students to work together on team building and problem solving	20 students	4, 5, 6 and 7	2 weeks	METCO Liaison(s), Weston Staff

HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Name of Program	Purpose	# Students	Grades	FREQUENCY	Educator Type and #
METCO Summer Academy	To review material from the prerequisite courses (when applicable), preview material for the upcoming school year, build relationship(s) with WHS faculty	15 students	9, 10 and 11	1-2 weeks	Weston Staff

Supporting Students – Community Coordinator Programming

ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Name of Program	Purpose	# Students/Population	Grade(s)	FREQUENCY	Educator Type(s)
Kindergarten Luncheon	To provide an opportunity for new Family Friend families to learn about the program and meet in person	METCO students and their Weston Family Friends	K	Once each for Country School and Woodland	Community Coordinator
Family Friends After School Program	To strengthen the relationships between the Family Friend pairings by having shared enrichment activities	METCO students and their Weston Family Friends	1-3	Each grade meets every other month	Community Coordinator
Field School Field Trips	To strengthen the relationships between the Family Friend pairs by providing an opportunity for a shared social experience	METCO students and their Weston Family Friends	4 and 5	1-2 times per year	Community Coordinator and Liaison
Middle School After School Activity	To strengthen the relationships between the Family Friend pairings by providing an opportunity for a shared social experience	METCO students and their Weston Family Friends	8	1 per year	Community Coordinator and Liaison
Pot Luck Supper	To strengthen the relationships between the Boston and Weston families by providing an opportunity for a shared social experience for the students and their families	METCO students and their Weston Families, members of the Community, and Staff	K-12	Once a year	Community Coordinator
Ice Cream Social	This annual event is held in September to reconnect Weston and Boston families. Participation remains high for both Boston and Weston families as well as METCO staff. With high school students volunteering their time to entertain the younger students and scoop the ice cream, all grade levels are well represented at the event.	METCO students and their Weston Families, members of the Community, and Staff	K-12	Once a year	Community Coordinator
Field and Middle School Afternoon Activity/Field trip	These are events similar to the FFAP held at the K-3 level. These trips and/or afternoon activities are held to continue to strengthen the bonds between Weston and Boston resident students	METCO Students and Weston resident students	4-8	Once a year	Community Coordinator and Liaison
High School Support and Connection Event(s)	Building in supports and making arrangements to provide meals/places to stay and transportation and allow HS METCO students to fully engage in the community	METCO HS Students	9-12	As needed	Community Coordinator, Liaison and community volunteers

Community Support Organizations

The following organizations, which represent both communities, continue to be an integral part of the success of our METCO program:

- Friends of Weston METCO (F.W.M) – Madelaine Kenyon is in her Fourth year as the Chair of the Committee. The committee consists of members from both the Boston and Weston communities. In support of the METCO Director and staff, the committee offers recommendations for fundraising opportunities. A letter distributed to Boston and Weston resident families in the spring, has become an annual fundraising vehicle. The METCO Director/High School academic liaison, the Field School academic liaison and the Community Coordinator served as members on the committee this year.
- Boston Weston METCO Parent Organization (BWMPO) – Keitrice Johnson serves as Chair of this organization along with Michelle Galloway as her co-Chair. The BWMPO continues its work by co-sponsoring the annual METCO Informational Session held annually in Boston. The organization also continues to assist the METCO Director and the Transportation Coordinator in a variety of areas pertaining to program goals and transportation issues and policies. The organization holds monthly meetings in Boston for parents and supporters for discussion and review of procedures and policies of the METCO program and the school system. The organization supports our graduates with an annual scholarship program for qualified students. This gift award is given during the annual Class Day at the High School.
- Weston METCO Scholarship Committee – The members of this committee consist of former METCO graduates, members of the Boston and Weston communities who volunteer their time to raise scholarship money for our graduating seniors, and former students who are currently attending college. The committee works closely with parents, students, the METCO staff, and the Guidance Department in support of the scholarship process.
- Weston PTO – This organization continues to support our program in several areas, which includes working with the Community Coordinator to advertise METCO events to the Weston community. It also donates a portion of the proceeds of the annual PTO calendars to the BWMPO for their scholarship program.
- Land's Sake Farm (Weston) – Thriving community farm that is dedicated to building meaningful connections between people, the food they eat, and the land. For the past 4



years, the farm has raised funds to cover the cost of the summer programming they provide (free of charge) to our METCO Summer SOAR Program.

- First Parish Church in Weston – Gathered in 1698 by the Puritan settlers of Weston, First Parish was founded to serve all the residents in our neighborhood and was known as the “parish” or town church. For over 8 years First Parish has awarded the Weston METCO Program a grant to establish (and continue to fund) our Educational Travel Assistance for METCO Families.
- Weston Recreation Department – For the past 6 years, the Weston Recreation Department has allowed our METCO Students, participating in our summer program, use of the pool as well as access to discounted swim lessons.
- Weston Historical Society – The Weston Historical Society Inc. is a private, non-profit organization run entirely by volunteers. It was founded in 1963 at the time of the town's 250th Anniversary. Their mission is to collect, preserve, and make available artifacts relating to the history of Weston, and to educate residents about our community heritage. This past year, in honor of our program's 50th year; the historical society hosted a panel of the program's founders as well as the founders of the Roxbury Weston Preschool. The Roxbury Weston Preschool and its founders were instrumental to the launch of the Weston METCO Program. The historical society also commemorated this milestone event with a Roxbury Weston Preschool and Weston METCO themed Fall 2017 Weston Historical Society Bulletin.

2017-2018 Next Steps and 2018-2019 Follow Up

- 2017-2018 Continued to advocate for continued funding of our Kindergarten Academy. Some observed benefits: greater affinity amongst METCO Cohort, additional feedback/perspectives of students by additional staff (KA Teachers), childcare benefit to METCO Families as the Wednesday half days created a barrier for some families, additional structure and enrichment opportunities for our youngest students.

2018-2019 Funds were re-allocated to ensure that this program can and will continue to run. We just completed our 3rd successful year of the program and plan to continue it next year.

- 2017-2018 Continued our streamlined model of K-3 in-school programming. We decreased scope and increased the frequency of sessions.

2018-2019 This new model saw an increase in availability of our K-3 Liaison to offer more supports to struggling students in classes during the day.

- 2017-2018 Continued to run our Boys' Group which is running for boys in grades 1-5

2018-2019 Due to an increased need for our 4th and 5th grade boys and poor attendance of our 1st thru 3rd grade boys; the Boys' Group was concentrated to servicing the 4th and 5th grade boys more often and not running the group grades 1-3.

- 2017-2018 Middle School offered MCAS/PARCC support courses for qualifying students. 10 Field School students participated in MCAS/PARCC Boot Camps and we will review their scores. If there is a positive impact, we will advocate for continued funding of those 10 seats.

2018-2019 Middle School offered Science MCAS support. We were unable to offer Field School Boot Camp opportunities, but look to offer it next year and continuing to gather data.

- 2017-2018 Meet with Directors and Department Heads for cohort specific needs. Based on feedback there will be changes were made to this year's HS Summer

programming which will be reviewed by obtaining additional feedback and monitored for its impact.

2018-2019 Still monitoring for impact. Some trends observed were an overall better start to the school year academically for students participants however the benefits seemed to trail as we reached the midpoint of the year. Will continue to monitor this in the next school year.

- 2017-2018 Meet with 3rd/4th, 5th/6th and 8th/9th grade teams to develop transition programs.

2018-2019 No new work done in this area. Will push forward as a goal for next year.

- 2017-2018 Based on feedback from students changes were made to this year's HS Summer programming which will be reviewed by obtaining additional feedback and monitored for its impact.

2018-2019 Summer program was received better by students and staff. Participation numbers did increase over past years. This year we will run a similar model.

- 2017-2018 We were unable to run: our annual Family Friends' Ice Cream Social, Field School Afternoon Activity, Middle School Family Friends' Field Trip and our Family Friends' After school Program for grades 1-3 was reduced. Typically, each grade (1-3) have one afternoon activity a month and this year each of the grades had 3 activities. We were also unable to expand the program into the high school as we had planned.

2018-2019 We were able to hire a new community coordinator and she along with help from our liaison and program director were able to resume some of the activities from years past (Ice Cream Social, Field School Afternoon Activity and a MS Field trip). We also provided support to High School Students staying for mandatory Band, Orchestra and Chorus concerts. In the next school year we plan to continue to build upon this years' successes. Our coordinator plans to: updating literature, increase family friend participants and support families, find new ways to work on Weston resident family allies.



The METCO Staff would like to thank all of the following stakeholders for helping to ensure that we are not simply a functioning program, but a flourishing Weston METCO Community: the Weston School Committee, the Superintendent, the Assistant Superintendents, members of the Central Administrative staff, building Principals, Faculty and Staff members, members of the Transportation Department, Office Support Staff and Aides, the members of the Food Services Department, and members of the Custodial and Maintenance Staff. Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do to work at making this program the success that it is and supporting our students! Additionally, we would like to thank both the Weston and Boston families for a collaborative spirit and continued dedication to work together.

Last, but certainly not least, as Director, I would like to thank the METCO staff for their persistent dedication to our students' success. I am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this amazing team and look forward to helping our students reach their fullest potential!

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