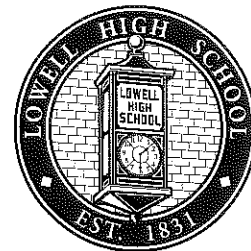


LOWELL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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TO: Jeannine Durkin, Superintendent

FROM: Marianne Busteed, Head of Lowell High School *M&B*

DATE: October 29, 2018

RE: Mass Insight Education Partnership with Lowell High School

Please see the attached Mass Insight press release regarding the partnership between Lowell High School and Mass Insight which details progress being made by Lowell High School students in AP STEM and English education. Lowell High School saw a 9 percent increase in the number of students who earned a qualifying score on AP STEM and English exams in 2018. This is great news!

Assistant Superintendent Robin Desmond reached out to Mass Insight in April 2017 to develop a partnership with LHS based on a School Committee member's request to look into the Mass Insight organization. Since then, five LHS teachers attended the 2017 Summer Institute and many of our AP teachers participated in workshops throughout the 2017-2018 school year. We held our fall 2018 kick-off event on October 1 which initiates our partnership work this school year. The first Saturday session was held on 10/27 for AP Science students and the next one is coming up on December 8 for AP Math students.

We look forward to continuing our relationship with Mass Insight to further support AP STEM and English students (and their teachers) to improve student achievement and college success, particularly for underserved students.



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Lowell High School sees growth in Advanced Placement success following partnership with Mass Insight

LOWELL, Mass., Oct. 23 – Lowell High School saw a 9 percent increase in the number of students who earned a qualifying score on AP STEM and English exams in 2018, according to data released by the College Board. Overall, 164 students at Lowell High earned a score of 3 or better (on a scale of 1-5) in college-level math, science, and English coursework. The 2018 results come after Lowell High partnered with Mass Insight Education & Research (Mi), a Boston-based nonprofit dedicated to improving student achievement and college success, particularly for underserved students.

Lowell High joined more than 80 high schools statewide that participate in Mi's AP STEM and English program, designed to dramatically increase students' participation and performance in AP math, science and English courses. Annually, Mi's AP STEM and English program reaches more than 10,000 students at partner schools across the Commonwealth with a mission of raising educational standards and expanding higher education opportunities.

Mi provides Lowell High School with on-site assistance that supports teacher training and Saturday study sessions for students taking AP coursework in several STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) disciplines, as well as English AP courses. The program is funded through a combination of state, district, and philanthropic support.

Advanced Placement courses offer entry-level college coursework to high school students to prepare them for success throughout their college experience. At the conclusion of the course, students are tested on their knowledge of the subject area and are given a score ranging from 1-5. Typically, scores of 3, 4 or 5 are awarded college credit, but simply enrolling in AP courses makes students more favorable to colleges looking for students with academic rigor and experience.

"We have been excited about our partnership with Lowell High School," said Susan Lusi, president and CEO of Mi. "We know that the school's AP faculty is committed to expanding rigorous AP classes, improving results, and helping more students receive college credit for classroom excellence."

Mi's program is funded by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, state, district, and philanthropic support.

About Mass Insight Education & Research:

Founded in Boston in 1997, Mass Insight Education & Research is a national leader in accelerating student learning and shrinking achievement gaps. We help school systems develop and implement cost-effective school improvement solutions. Our field-tested approach starts with asking questions to understand context and conditions. Leveraging strengths, we build coherence, capacity, and networks to accelerate learning. Our performance improvement results are among the most promising in the field of public education today. For more information, visit www.massinsight.org.
