



Spotlight on Excellence – LHS/MCC/Project Learn Early College Collaboration

TO: Dr. Joel Boyd, Superintendent of Schools
FROM: Robin Desmond, Chief Academic Officer *Robin Desmond*
DATE: March 31, 2023
RE: *Spotlight on LHS/MCC/Project Learn Early College Collaboration*

Attached please find a memorandum from Dr. Jill Lang, LHS Associate Head of School, spotlighting the Early College Program which is a collaborative project between Lowell High School, Middlesex Community College and Project Learn. This program provides enriching educational opportunities available to all students at Lowell High School.



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MEMORANDUM

To: Robin Desmond, Chief Academic Officer, Lowell Public Schools
Fr: Jill Rothschild, Associate Head of School, Lowell High School
Cc: Michael Fiato, Head of School, Lowell High School; Liam Skinner, Chief Schools Officer
Re: Spotlight on Excellence

The Spotlight on Excellence presentation for Wednesday, April 5, 2023 will feature Lowell High School's Early College program - a dynamic educational opportunity open to all Lowell High School students and EC regardless of what they plan to do after graduation.

In 2018, Lowell Public Schools, in conjunction with Project Learn and Middlesex Community College, was awarded an Early College (EC) Designation from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, and the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education. Since that time LHS has worked in partnership with MCC and Project Learn to expand EC offerings to LHS students which has resulted in:

- 4,011 students enrolled
- 5,117 courses taken
- 9,806 credits earned
- 2,471,112 saved

At present there are 240 students enrolled in our spring semester. Student demographics for this program include: 30% Asian. 21% White, 19% Hispanic, 18% Black, and 12% Multiracial, Other.

EC Lowell students take enriching college-level courses while enrolled in high school, earn real 30 college credits, and get an early start on their post-secondary education and career—at no cost to them or their families. This work begins in a student's freshman year when they have the opportunity to take 1-credit interdisciplinary courses that center on career exploration and introduce students to LHS' academic pathways. At present, LHS offers 11 EC courses and anticipates offering three additional courses next year as we continue to build the program. We are excited about program expansion and the opportunities afforded to Lowell students.