



QUINCY'S EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL PATHWAY

ECHS SUMMER ACADEMY; A SWEEPING SUCCESS

Quincy's Early College High School (ECHS) Pathway is a cohort-based program that provides students the opportunity to earn up to 22 college credits while still in high school, at no cost to families. ECHS students receive robust academic support during their ECHS experience that will better position them to be successful in college and their future career. ECHS begins in grade 10.

The program is made possible by the partnership between Quincy College, Quincy Public Schools, State Street Foundation, and Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.



From left to right, a student works on an assignment in Precalculus; students enjoy lunch in the Quincy College Student Lounge; and a Biotechnology student works on a lab related to the central dogma.

The 2023 ECHS Summer Academy has been a sweeping success! Some mornings, even as early as 8:00 AM, the student lounge at Quincy College is bustling with students eager to get their day underway. By mid-day, students can be seen mingling with new friends, working on assignments and enjoying snacks together. Thanks to a donation from the Rotary Club and a partnership with Stop & Shop, students have been well fueled throughout their summer college experience. **Go to page 2 to read more about the ECHS Summer Academy!**

**SPREAD
THE WORD**



Do you have a friend who would be interested in getting a head start on college? For students in grades 10 and 11, it's not too late to think about enrolling in Quincy's ECHS Pathway for this fall. Please contact the ECHS Pathway School Counselor or College Transition Coach at your high school for more information. See last page for their contact information.

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FOR ECHS ORIENTATION ON AUG. 29

Orientation for new grade 10 and 11 ECHS students will take place Tuesday, August 29, from 9:00 to noon. For QHS students, orientation will be held in Adams Hall. At NQHS, orientation will be in the media center. If you are a current grade 11 or grade 12 ECHS student and would like to help with the orientation, please let us know. New ECHS students would love to hear your perspective and advice! In addition, **you will receive five hours of community service for volunteering.**

QHS students please contact Mr. Stewart at elyjahstewart@quincypublicschools.com to volunteer.

NQHS students please fill out this [Google form](#) to volunteer.

STUDENTS ENROLLED

- **152** QPS students entering grades 10-12
- **18** recently graduated seniors
- **76** students (**50% of students enrolled**) chose to take more than one class, earning as many as seven college credits for the summer

CLASSES TAUGHT

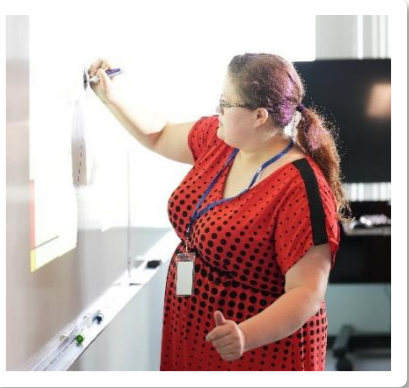
- 7 class offerings, all taught by Quincy College and Quincy Public Schools faculty:

3 credit classes – five weeks long

1. Foundations of Business
2. Precalculus
3. General Sociology
4. Intro to Computers
5. Public Speaking

4 credit classes – seven weeks long

6. Intro to Biotechnology
7. Intro to Forensics



“During my time at Boston University, the longest math class I had was three hours. These students are choosing to take a four-hour class during their summer, which shows their commitment to their education and making the most of everything ECHS can offer them. They are rising to the challenge of a college course, and I am so proud of all of their hard work and dedication!

- **Anna Petcosky (Math Teacher at QHS) taught Precalculus during the Summer Academy**



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

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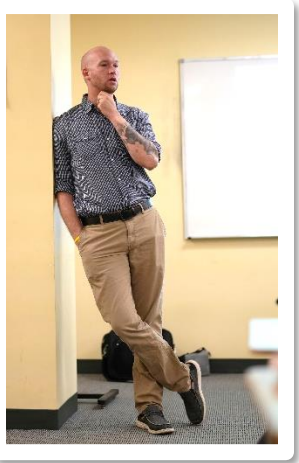
ECHS PATHWAY STUDENT at NQHS

Grade 11



“Summer Academy provides an opportunity to experience college better than just taking college level courses during the school year because you are on an actual college campus. I’m taking a biotechnology class which I find very interesting and involves a lot of labs. I love it and the teacher, Ms. Buben, is so nice and makes the course very interesting. One thing I like about the Summer Academy is that it allows us to take up to two different classes outside of the school year. We can try different subjects that might or might not interest us so that we can either eliminate them or consider them for our “potential college majors list.” Plus, it’s free! Students are even given a monthly Charlie Card pass and snacks. I have found that business is definitely not my thing, but biotechnology is a subject I want to consider majoring in when I go to college.”

MATT EDGERLY & KERRY LEARY ON CO-TEACHING SOCIOLOGY



“Co-Teaching has been an overall enjoyable experience. Prior to the class, Kerry and I met to discuss the curriculum, our teaching styles, student needs, and how we were going to navigate the summer course. Kerry is the experienced teacher in the Sociology curriculum. I relied heavily on her expertise and the course structure she had already built out, and worked on bridging the gap between the ECHS students from NQHS and QHS to the college level curriculum.” - **Mr. Edgerly, NQHS Social Studies Teacher**

➔ “Matt has a dynamic teaching style, keeping students engaged and motivated. His previous relationship with our students has Matt connecting with our students in ways that I am unable to. It was truly a blast teaching this course.” – **Ms. Leary, Quincy College Instructor**



“As facilitators, we really had a birds-eye view of the program. It was exciting to see the students rise to the task of being “in-college” for the summer and tackle all of the challenges that come with that. Students developed independence and confidence, both socially and academically, as they learned to communicate with their peers and professors on a higher level. We are really proud of the students for capitalizing on this incredible opportunity, and doing so with such positive attitudes and mindsets!” – **ECHS Summer Institute Facilitators Karen Buzzelle, QC (right), Joanna Compitiello, QHS/NQHS (middle), and Marisa Smith, NQHS (left)**



Kerry Leary Instructor | Quincy College

Graduate degrees in Education, Mental Health and Social Justice.

22 years of experience teaching in public schools.

“Education, both teaching and learning, has always been my passion. I have repeatedly found over the years that incredible learners come from all walks of life with all levels of ability.”

My advice to my current and future students: **You are all scholars!!!**





In June, ECHS staff traveled to Raleigh, NC to attend the 5th Annual Early College Summit which was hosted by RTI International. The conference focused on research highlighting best practices for early colleges and provided opportunities for peer networking and for teams to collaborate on implementation planning. The two-day event included moments of reflection from former and current early college students who highlighted how the early college model helps students bridge gaps, build relationships, and bolster their civic engagement. ECHS staff who participated in the visit included the following: Mr. Stewart (QHS ECHS College Transition Coach); Mrs. Cushman (NQHS Chair of Student Support); Marisa Smith (NQHS Grade 9 Dean); Jayson Paynich (Professor of Criminal Justice at Quincy College); and Keith Segalla, Executive Director of Career Vocational and Technical Education at Quincy Public Schools.

Contact Us:

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ECHS STAFF CHANGES



Virginia Cushman has taken on the role of Department Chair for Student Support and will continue to serve as school counselor to several ECHS seniors.

Keriann Hart, who has been a school counselor at NQHS for four years, and previously worked at QHS for four years, has replaced Mrs. Cushman as ECHS School Counselor.

Marisa Smith is leaving the classroom to become dean of grade 9 students.

Kelly Byrne, who is going into her eighth year of teaching math at NQHS, will become the new ECHS Statistics teacher for grade 12 ECHS students.

Amalia Torres will be joining the ECHS staff in the new position of ECHS Academic Coach. She will provide academic support in the area of English and Humanities.



Ryan Pratt, who has been teaching at QHS for the past year, will become the English Composition I and II teacher for grade 12 ECHS students.

Mackenzie Mason will be joining the ECHS staff in the new position of ECHS Academic Coach. She will provide academic support in the area of English and Humanities.