



# EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

## Newsletter

November 2021



The **Early College High School (ECHS) Pathway** is a cohort-based program that provides students the opportunity to earn up to 21 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, the State Street Foundation, and the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

**For more information, turn to the last page!**

### A Message from the Superintendent of Schools

Quincy College and Quincy Public Schools have a long history of working together to enhance the educational opportunities for students in the greater Quincy community. Quincy College has been an important part of the Quincy School-Community Partnership for many years, providing opportunities through Dual Enrollment and Career Vocational and Technical Education (CVTE) Pathways and participating in the Credit for Life Fair.

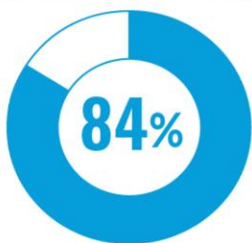
New this year is the **Early College High School Pathway (ECHS)**, which provides an opportunity for students to expand their academic horizons through participating in a cohort-based model in an inclusive, student-centered community prioritizing their success. The ECHS program structure will create a strong foundation and a pathway that will build confidence and a positive beginning to the post-secondary experience. All ECHS Pathway students will graduate from Quincy Public Schools with Quincy College credits, a valuable head start for our students in pursuing their post-secondary goals.

Special thanks to all of the ECHS program staff for their dedicated support of our students.

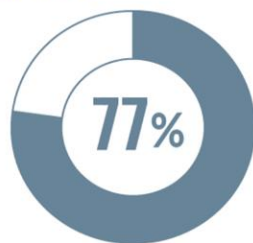
*Kevin W. Mulvey, J.D., Superintendent of Schools*

#### POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENT RATES

Enrolled in college within six years after expected high school graduation:



Early College students



Control students

Early College students were significantly more likely to enroll in college and earn a degree than students in a comparison group with similar demographic characteristics who were not enrolled in an early college program, according to a 2014 study.

Source: *Early College, Continued Success: Longer-Term Impact of Early College High Schools (2019) | The American Institutes for Research (AIR)*



## TEACHER'S TIP



### Lucas Buckingham

B. S. (Bachelor's of Science) in Geology and MAT (Master of Arts in Teaching)

### 10 years teaching at NQHS

13.5 years teaching overall

### ECHS Course: Intro to Environmental Science

"I am passionate about the outdoors and most weekends find me outside hiking or biking with my family.

My interest in all things outside and especially Geology led me to many of the jobs that I have held in the past and to my current job of teaching. I began teaching because I wanted to share my experiences with students and illustrate to them, what opportunities are available after they leave high school.

My advice to my current and future students is this:

***Be the most hardworking, the most creative, the grittiest...and be the one having the most fun!"***



*QHS ECCHS Pathway Guidance Counselor Timothy Liuzzo (left) and QHS ECCHS Pathway College Transition Coach Eli Stewart*

Welcome to the first issue of Quincy's Early College High School (ECHS) Pathway newsletter, a quarterly publication from Quincy High School (QHS) and North Quincy High School (NQHS) to keep you up to speed on the ECHS program. In addition to listing upcoming events, each issue will include: a **teacher's tip** which highlights an ECHS teacher, a piece of advice and how they bring their knowledge and expertise to the classroom; **hot topics** that have been covered during the academic support blocks; **student spotlight**, which features an ECHS student; and **Quincy College corner**, which profiles various aspects of Quincy College. We encourage you to share this newsletter with anyone who may be interested in the information provided. Thank you for your interest and we look forward to your feedback!

*NQHS ECCHS Pathway College Transition Coach Kara Bobrov (left) and NQHS ECCHS Pathway Guidance Counselor Virginia Cushman*



*For students in Grades 10 or 11, it's not too late to think about enrolling in the ECHS program for next semester. Please contact the ECHS guidance counselor or college transition coach at your high school for more information.*



During a recent academic support block, students at NQHS work together to fit rocks into a jar to illustrate a concept about prioritizing time. The jar is like your time. The big rocks (top priorities) automatically make room for pebbles and water (lower priorities). You can automatically make room for “fun stuff.” Simply take care of your top priorities first!



## HOT TOPICS



In addition to taking a college level course each semester, ECHS Pathway students at both NQHS and QHS are enrolled in an academic support block where they learn skills that are helpful for high school, college, and their future careers. Over the past two months, the ECHS guidance counselor and college transition coaches at both high schools have worked with students on identifying their **learning styles**, reviewing **study skills** and helping them identify strategies on how to best manage their time. Students did a learning assessment to help them better understand how they process and store new information. Learning about the differences in learning styles helped shed light on their own learning habits and preferences, and gave them idea for incorporating different strategies into their learning. During sessions on **time management**, students established their priorities and worked on finding a good balance between school and their social lives. *Upcoming hot topics include **goal setting** and **stress and emotional management**.*

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

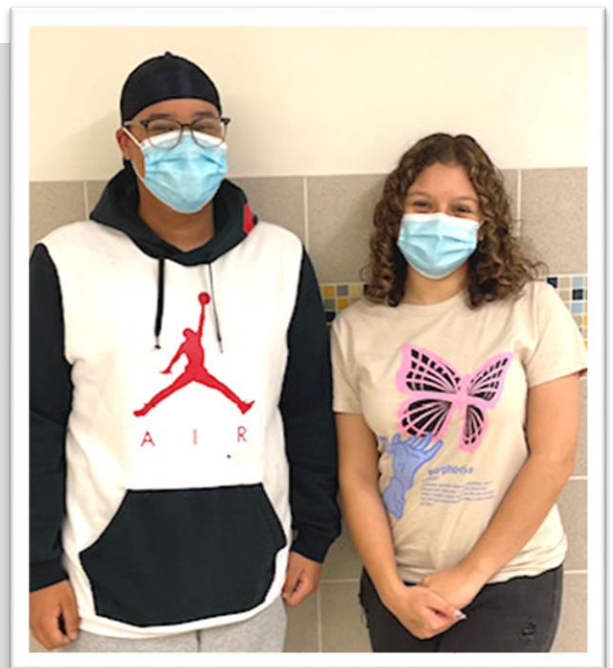
Kiara E. & Devontae S.

ECHS Pathway Students at Quincy High School

Grade 12

“One thing I’ve learned from this program is the different ways of how I can develop effective study habits and stay organized.” – Kiara E.

“I’ve learned how to identify various learning styles and how to spend my time wisely and stay organized.”  
- Devontae S.



*Kiara plans to pursue a degree in psychology and Devontae is looking to pursue a career in healthcare upon graduation.*

## QUINCY COLLEGE CORNER



**Alexander Reid**

### **President, Black Student Union at Quincy College**

The Black Student Union has made a huge impact on my Quincy College experience! I first joined because I didn't know anyone at the school and I really wanted to be able to create avenues for new students to meet each other and interact. I have been able to meet a lot of students with different goals in mind and been able to learn so much from each person's perspective. All the different clubs have the responsibility of bringing the Quincy College community together as well as making the school a better place for learning and meeting/interacting with new people!

I will be receiving my associate's degree in Natural Science at the end of this semester. My goal is to get my bachelor's degree in Environmental Science with a minor in Chemistry. I have always had a dream of improving the environment and sustainability on this planet. Quincy College is helping me reach my goal by getting me closer to job opportunities in my field with an associate's degree. I am also able to use the transfer agreements that Quincy College offers to go to the college that I choose – UMass Boston.

## ECHS PATHWAY STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

On September 28, 23 students from NQHS and QHS participated in a virtual student convening organized by the Massachusetts Early College Program (MAECP). Over 800 students across the state took part in the event, which featured speakers who shared stories and strategies that helped them to achieve personal success. Participants also listened to an alumni student panel discussion where they heard firsthand about different early college experiences and how those programs were instrumental in preparing the students for college.

In addition, ECHS Pathway staff from QHS and NQHS participated in a conference on October 20<sup>th</sup> with two Boston high schools where they shared best practices and focused on collaborative learning to support student success in both high school and the college setting. The event was hosted by State Street Foundation and RTI International.





# WHAT'S COMING UP?



November	One-on-one Meetings & Post-Graduate Planning with Grade 12 students Grade 12 ECHS Students Visit Quincy College Academic Support Block Topics: <i>Goal Setting and Stress and Emotional Management</i>
November 10	Early Release Day
November 11	Veterans Day Observed - No School
November 12	Term 1 Ends
November 15-23	Add/Drop Period
November 19	Term 1 Report Cards Posted on Aspen
November 24	Early Release Day
November 25-26	Thanksgiving Recess – No School
December 8	Early Release Day
December 17	Last day for Grade 12 students to meet with counselor for Jan. 1 deadlines!
December 24 - January 2	Winter Recess – No School

## Contact Us:

### Quincy High School

Timothy Liuzzo  
 ECHS Pathway Guidance Counselor  
 617-376-3399  
[timothyliuzzo@quincypublicschools.com](mailto:timothyliuzzo@quincypublicschools.com)

Eli Stewart  
 ECHS Pathway College Transition Coach  
 617-376-3388  
[elyjahstewart@quincypublicschools.com](mailto:elyjahstewart@quincypublicschools.com)

### North Quincy High School

Virginia Cushman  
 ECHS Pathway Guidance Counselor  
 617-984-8983  
[virginiacushman@quincypublicschools.com](mailto:virginiacushman@quincypublicschools.com)

Kara Bobrov  
 ECHS Pathway College Transition Coach  
 617-984-8875  
[karabobrov@quincypublicschools.com](mailto:karabobrov@quincypublicschools.com)