



August 2024

Quincy's Early College High School Pathway

Summer Academy Newsletter



"I am extremely proud of Quincy's ECHS Pathway Summer Academy, which provides our high school students the incredible opportunity to expand their academic horizons by earning up to 8 additional college credits. Special thanks to Quincy College, a leading partner of the Quincy School~Community Partnership, for providing this educational opportunity."

**Kevin W. Mulvey, J.D.,
Superintendent
Quincy Public Schools**

ECHS Summer At A Glance

Year 2 of Quincy's ECHS Summer Academy brought even more successes and triumphs than Year 1! Thanks to our partnership with Stop and Shop, the student lounge was always well stocked with snacks and remained a hub of activity as students completed assignments, worked on group projects, and caught up with their friends. Quincy College became an academic haven to 210 students this summer, including 30 recently graduated seniors, all looking to earn credits towards their college education. Students were able to choose between 10 different class offerings, all taught by Quincy College and Quincy Public Schools faculty. Nutrition, Website Design, and Introduction to Programming were new class offerings this summer.

Also new this year was the addition of multiple course sections. Due to the enrollment numbers, we needed to offer additional sections of Intro to Biotechnology, Foundations of Business, Public Speaking, General Sociology, and Intro to Programming. The addition of these sections allowed students to take up to 8 college credits this year as opposed to the 7 offered last summer. Classes offered for 3 college credits included Foundations of Business, Precalculus, Website Design, General Sociology, Intro to Computers, Intro to Programming, and Public Speaking, all of which ran for 5 weeks. Students wishing to earn 4 college credits could enroll in Nutrition, Intro to Biotechnology or Intro to Forensics which ran for 7 weeks. 104 students, 49.5% of students enrolled, chose to register for 2 college classes.

QiLu Chen, QHS Graduate

Quincy's ECHS Summer Academy is awesome! You get the opportunity to earn free college credits, which can save you time and money once you start college and gives you a life experience of what it's like being on a college campus. Also, by taking these classes, you get an early exposure to college-level coursework that will challenge you and help prepare you to become ready for college. You'll discover what interests you or not, so when it comes to deciding classes for college, the process will go more smoothly. There's really nothing to lose! I've learned that taking Pre-calculus really did challenge me in math, but Ms. Gainey was so nice and eager to help out when I was confused. I also found that Intro to Computers was interesting to me, and working with excel made me want to take a computer class in college since it relates to my major. I love that the facilitators distributed Charlie bus passes to students who often rely on public transportation. As a person who takes the bus frequently, I found that very useful!



Alivia Caruso, NQHS Sophomore

The Summer Academy has been a great experience and wonderful opportunity overall and I am very grateful I was able to participate in this program. While taking part in Sociology and Business this summer, I have gotten a better understanding of what college will be like and what I may want to do going forward. Through the Summer Academy, I have met new people and have taken part in opportunities like outside observations and in depth sociological studies that I would not have had during the regular school year. I am so happy I was able to be involved in the Summer Academy and I am looking forward to beginning Early College classes in the fall!



QPS Staff Spotlight

Ed Merrigan

NQHS English Teacher
ECHS Summer Academy
Public Speaking

“This September will mark my third school year being involved with the Early College program, but this is the first time I've been involved with its summer program. The fact that so many students have elected to take 4-hour classes over the summer and get a jump start on their college credits initially shocked me, but after working with these students it's easy to see why. They have been so hardworking and motivated, and I'm so glad I got to see them grow not only as students but as young adults.”



Quincy College Staff Spotlight



Shauna Sweeney & Melissa Lord
QC Student Wellness

Melissa Lord, LMHC

Student Program and Wellness Coach

“ECHS Summer Academy is such a great opportunity for students to get adjusted to college classes and integrate into our Quincy College Campus.”

Shauna Sweeney

Student Wellness Counselor

“It has been really fun and exciting to see so many students participating in summer college courses and getting to know our campus! The students and staff have been so kind and great to work with!”

Student Orientation



The Early College High School Summer Academy kicked off in early July with a Student Orientation session, where Quincy College President, Dr. Richard DeCristofaro, Provost Servet Yatin, Meghan Giovannoni (VP of Student Success and Partnerships), and Mike Ryan (Capital Resources & Building & Operations Manager) warmly greeted the students. The message conveyed was "Our doors are always open," emphasizing that the students are valued members of Quincy College. During the event, we gave an overview of the program, reviewed expectations. Students enjoyed a guided campus tour, received course materials and their Quincy College Student ID, and engaged in practical technology training facilitated by IT experts and Dr. Lisa Desruisseaux, Associate Vice President of Online Learning.

"Once again, this summer, the Quincy College and Quincy Public Schools partnership has made a significant difference for high school students within the "Summer Academy." I would like to thank our dedicated instructors and administrative staff for their professionalism and for giving so much of themselves to each and every student."

*Dr. Richard DeCristofaro,
President, Quincy College*



Summer Academy Visitations

We were delighted to welcome a range of state and community partners to Quincy's ECHS Summer Academy. During their visits, we showcased aspects of Quincy's Early College High School program, focusing on our Summer Academy. Guests were taken on a campus tour and had the opportunity to observe classroom activities with the students. Attendees included The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, led by Phylitia Jamerson, Executive Director of Early College, as well as the Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education. Leaders of MBAE included Ed Lambert, Executive Director, MBAE, Julie Williams, VP, South Shore Chamber of Commerce, and Mike Holland, Director, Workforce Development Strategies, Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce.



Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education visited Quincy's ECHS Summer Academy

Program Highlights



Rich Ragusa, Career Vocation Technical Support Liaison for North Quincy High School, presented to students on alternative career paths. "In the past, career choices in the U.S. were limited by traditional roles, but now individuals can pursue diverse careers based on their interests and strengths. During the presentation, students were advised to not let gender define their career choices, to focus on their skills, and to consider the benefits of this shift, including higher wages and increased job satisfaction."

During the Summer Academy, Nutrition instructor Kristen Thibeault (QHS) provided students with various hands-on experiences. The students went on field trips to Stop and Shop and fast-food outlets like Chipotle. Additionally, they conducted a heart rate lab to assess their physical fitness. Kristen, thank you for organizing such an enjoyable learning opportunity for our students!



A big thank you to Mike Ryan and his team for organizing a cookout for our students. The classes had a wonderful time enjoying a delicious lunch prepared and served by the facilities and public safety team. We are truly grateful for such a warm and welcoming atmosphere at Quincy College!



Thank You!

A heartfelt thank you to the faculty of Quincy's ECHS Summer Academy, with a special shoutout to Eli Stewart, Dan Gould, Amalia Torres, and Mackenzie Mason for their contributions in making the program a success!

- Steve Dooner (QC, Public Speaking)
- Kerry Leary (QC, Intro to Sociology)
- Julia Buben (Intro to Biotechnology)
- Lauren Abbott (Intro to Forensics)
- Devyn Rogers (Intro to Programming)
- Rebecca McInnis (QHS, Intro to Computers)
- Ed Holmes (QHS, Website Design and Programming)
- Kristen Thibeault (QHS, Nutrition)
- Kaitlyn Alzened (QHS, Fundamentals of Business)
- Matt Gibbons (NQHS, Fundamentals of Business)
- Matt Edgerly (NQHS, Intro to Sociology)
- Ed Merrigan (NQHS, Public Speaking)
- Kate Gainey (NQHS, PreCalculus)



Save the Date!

Quincy's 4th Annual ECHS Pathway Symposium
Friday, February 7, 2025
Marriot Boston Quincy