

Board of Trustees

October 14, 2015

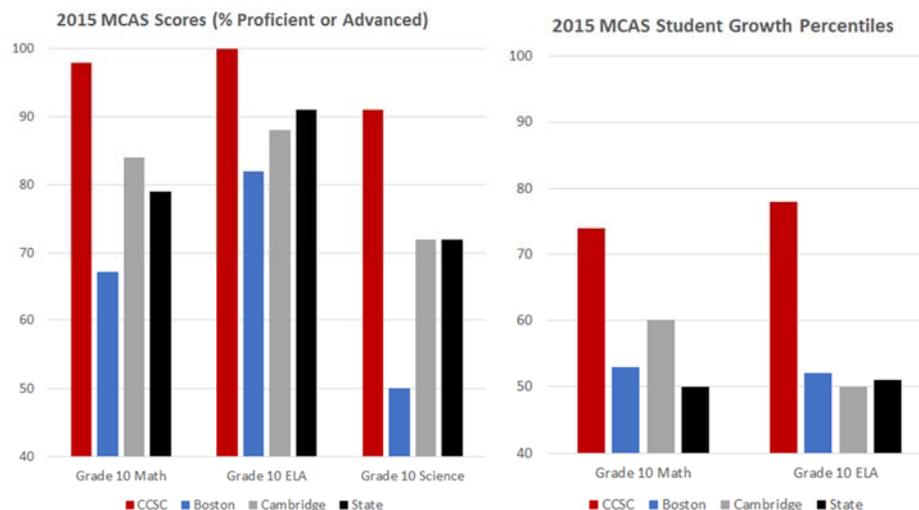
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Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

We have come to the end of the first marking period. While this initial stretch is full of adjustments -- for students and faculty alike -- it is also time when rhythms are established, maintained, and some of the best learning of the year occurs. The recent three day weekend was welcome as the first break in weeks, but we're also going to dive right back in and push to Thanksgiving with as much focus as always.

With the late September release of MCAS scores, CCSC finds itself in the familiar position of being extremely proud of our results. Our 10th grade students again rose to the occasion and demonstrated the skills each worked so hard to acquire. Here are some highlights:

- For the third time in 5 years, CCSC 10th grade ELA MCAS scores ranked first in the state, with 66% of the class scoring Advanced.
- CCSC was one of three schools to have 98% of 10th grade students score an Advanced or Proficient on the Math exam, which places us in the top 15 schools statewide.
- CCSC was one of only 8 schools in the entire state with median 10th student growth scores over 70, which means CCSC continues to close existing gaps and propel students forward more quickly than almost every other school.
- 91% of CCSC high school students earned proficient & advanced on the science exam, our strongest performance to date. This places CCSC within the top 15% of schools in Massachusetts for science testing.



As I said to faculty and staff, these results come from hard work by *every* member of our community. They don't reflect the work of a single teacher. Rather, it is a team effort in every sense of the word. Congratulations to many who are so deserving of it. If your child took MCAS at CCSC last year, his/her results are included with this mailing. (PARCC scores for the 6th, 7th, and 8th graders who took the exams last spring will not be available until later this fall.)

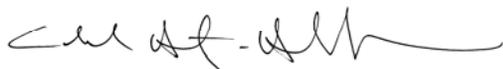
We are well-positioned as we move forward. On September 22nd and 24th, middle and high school students attended our annual cougar fair, which showcases the many options students have for extracurricular involvement during the year -- from varsity and middle school teams to mock trial, dance, drama, visual arts, rock band, a cooking club, and so much more. Last year, more than 85% of our students participated in at least one of these activities during the year with over 50% of our students participating in two or more. This year, we want to do even better. Please speak with your child about his/her interests and help him/her find an extracurricular that is of interest (a comprehensive list is included in this mailing). Involvement broadens the CCSC experience, builds community, offers leadership opportunities, and of course looks great on college resumes.

As always, there is information we want you to know about. Please review these announcements and get in touch with us at school if you have any questions or concerns.

- A friendly reminder that **CCSC provides breakfast and lunch to all students for free, but you must complete an order form monthly.** Menu/meal order forms are available on our website or at the front desk. Student orders must be placed in advance as our meal counts are submitted on Tuesdays for the following week.
- **Monthly t-passes must be renewed before the end of the month** in order for them to continue working. You may submit monthly payments in advance if you wish.
- **Benchmark Exams** will occur on October 28th through October 30th. Dismissal times will vary, but all students will be dismissed by 2:30 on those three days. Bus service will run at 2:30PM on October 28th, 11:30PM on October 28th, and 11:30 PM on October 29th.
- **Parents and guardians of students receiving special education services at CCSC are invited to attend a workshop on the IEP process.** The Federation of Children with Special Needs will come and speak about Basic Rights and Responsibilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Act and Massachusetts special education law. The presentation will run on November 9th from 6:00-8:00pm. Please join us!

Thanks for all you do in supporting your child and our school. Let's make this school year our best yet.

Sincerely,



Caleb Hurst-Hiller
Head of School