



SPS METCO Program 1975 to ...

Artist - Former Wayland Student
Sophia Blair-Goldin

January 24, 2022
Sudbury Public Schools



Sudbury METCO Program

The 2021-2022 school year marks the 46th school year of Sudbury being a METCO district. This annual report will show our ongoing programming, highlighting student accomplishments and those events that have become traditions of our Sudbury METCO program. We continue to be grateful for the strong district and community support for the METCO program. We plan to maintain the high standards in both our programming and our student/family support. As we end the 2021-2022 school year and plan for 2022-2023, our goal is to continue to maintain optimal levels of student and family support along with innovative programming.

Agenda

- Sudbury METCO History
- Enrollment Process
- Enrollment at a Glance
- Accomplishments
- School Choices for Boston Families
- Challenge - Low Enrollment
- Looking Ahead
- Acknowledgements

Sudbury METCO History

METCO: INTEGRATING CLASSROOMS SINCE 1966

- ▷ Sudbury became a METCO district in 1975 when the School Committee voted to enroll 40 students.
- ▷ In 1976, the number increased to 70 students and has remained at 70 for the past 45 years

Enrollment Process

**COMPLETE
APPLICATION**

**REFERRAL
TO DISTRICT**

DISTRICT SELECTION

ENROLL IN DISTRICT

- Application is completed online during various application cycles and submitted to METCO Inc
- METCO Inc refers students with completed applications to Districts based on District needs
- METCO is a seat availability program
- New students are enrolled based on the number of available seats

Enrollment at a Glance

**Historical
Enrollment: 70**

Enrollment SY 75-76

Grade 1 - 10 students

Grade 2 - 15 students

Grade 3 - 4 students

Grade 4 - 24 students

Grade 5 - 17 students

**Current
Enrollment: 60**

Enrollment SY 21-22

Grade K - 8 students

Grade 1 - 3 students

Grade 2 - 9 students

Grade 3 - 5 students

Grade 4 - 7 students

Grade 5 - 8 students

Grade 6 - 7 students

Grade 7 - 7 students

Grade 8 - 6 students

Accomplishments

- ▷ Mentoring Program for Middle School Students
- ▷ 7 Middle School Students Participated in Tenacity Challenge Bowl
 - Second Place Tie for the Leadership Action Project
- ▷ 27 Students Participated in SMILE
- ▷ 2 Middle Schools Students Participate in Winter Sports - Basketball
- ▷ 3 Middle School Students Participate in AAU Basketball
- ▷ 3 Middle School Students Participate in Dance
- ▷ Partnership with Sudbury Extended Day

Reflections About the Mentoring Program



Mentoring Program Wrap Up

Tour of Boston College



Boston College Tour



Middle School Book Club



8th graders had an opportunity to build stronger relationships with some of their peers and school staff within the structured format of a book study by reading “Belonging” by Former First Lady, Michelle Obama

Accomplishments

METCO Parent Education Series for the 2021-2022 school year

- COVID 19 & the Vaccine - Dr. Fayemi
- Student Success in School & Beyond - Betsy Grams

Parent Workshop #1



Dr. Olutoyin Fayemi, is a pediatrician with practices in Hyde Park and Milton. He graduated from Yale University with a bachelor's degree in Architecture and received his medical degree from Harvard Medical School. He trained at Boston Children's Hospital and spent 2 years after residency working in the Emergency Room at Children's Hospital. Dr Fayemi facilitated a workshop on physical wellness, Covid 19 and the benefits for vaccination. He spoke about the pros of receiving the vaccine and the cons of contracting the vaccine and its long term impact on children

Parent Workshop #2

Betsy Grams has a Bachelor of Science from Minnesota State University and a Master in Education from Baylor University. Betsy has been the Wellness Coordinator for SPS for over 20 years.

In this presentation, Ms. Grams spoke to families about:

- What is Social Emotional Learning?
- Why is Social Emotional Learning Important?
- Provided actionable strategies for parents and caregivers to help their children develop these important life skills





Partnership

- ▷ Parents are a child's first teachers
- ▷ Shared commitment to success
- ▷ Align SEL strategies at school and home
- ▷ Work together to help children be connected, engaged, inspired members of our learning community

Current School Choices for Boston Families

- METCO Districts
- Parochial schools
- Private schools
- Pilot schools
- Exam schools
- Charters schools



Challenge

Staffing

- Liaisons
- Bus Monitors

Transportation

- After School Activities



Challenge - Low Enrollment

- **Boston population changes:** there are fewer families of color who make up METCO's core network
- **Migration:** Families of color are moving out of the city of Boston to non METCO communities
- **Distance:** Long bus ride
- **Unfamiliarity:** Sudbury is unknown to some applicants
- **Lack of Choice:** Families are disempowered by the random referral process, having no voice about which districts they accept

Looking Ahead

- ▷ Strengthening Partnerships
- ▷ Create a METCO Website
- ▷ Planning a spring in person family event

Acknowledgements

The METCO Staff would like to thank all of the following stakeholders for helping to ensure that we are not simply a functioning program, but a flourishing Sudbury METCO Community:

- The Sudbury School Committee
- The Superintendent
- The Assistant Superintendent
- The METCO Staff
- Central Administrative staff
- Building Principals and Staff members
- Transportation Department

Additionally, we would like to thank both the Sudbury and Boston families for a collaborative spirit and continued dedication to work together.