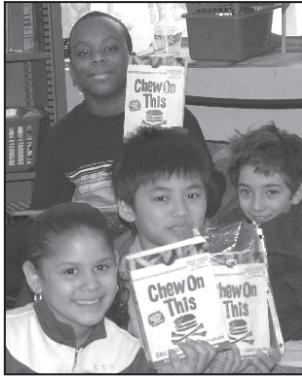


## About Advanced Work Class

**A**dvanced Work Class (AWC) is a full-time program in the Boston Public Schools (BPS) that provides an accelerated academic curriculum for highly motivated and academically capable students. Course work in all classes is challenging, and performance standards are high. Students are expected to complete more school work and more home study.



Student participation is by invitation only.

Participation in AWC provides your child with many benefits. If your child is highly motivated and a capable learner, s/he will enjoy being with other students having the same interests and passions. Students who successfully complete AWC are well prepared ▲to compete for admission to the three BPS exam schools or to other accelerated programs.

Students entering grade 5 Advanced Work Class are invited to attend the **A+ Summer Academy** for two weeks of acceleration and the **A+ Saturday Academy** for mentoring in writing, research, and advanced math in order to reach the highest levels of achievement. By the end of each school year, a child's performance should be at the Advanced or Proficient level as measured by the Citywide Task Descriptions and standardized test results.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Who is eligible for Advanced Work Class?

All students in grades 3, 4 and 5 are tested for eligibility. Spanish-speaking bilingual students are tested in their native language.

### When are students tested?

Tests are given in late September or early October each year. These tests—in Reading/Language Arts and Mathematics—are multiple choice and timed.

### How will I know if my child is eligible for the AWC program?

The Boston Public Schools sends out AWC invitations and school choice applications in January (grade 5) and February (grades 3 and 4).

### How is my child assigned to a school with an AWC program?

Students applying to grades 4 and 5 will receive an application listing all of the student's AWC school choices. Students applying to grade 6 will receive an application listing both AWC and non-AWC schools. Remember to number your choices in your true order of preference. These forms must be completed, signed by the parent, and returned to the school, a BPS Family Resource Center, or the Office of Enrollment Services by the deadline.

The Hennigan Elementary School and Timilty Middle School offer citywide AWC programs for Spanish-speaking English language learners.

### May I visit the AWC schools?

Yes! Visitors are welcome. We recommend contacting the school in advance to schedule a visit. All schools have visiting hours during School Preview Time, from November through late January. A list of schools offering AWC appears on the back of this brochure.

### When will I know where my child is going to school?

Grade 5 students will receive their assignment in mid-March. Grades 3 and 4 students will receive their assignments in late April.

### What if I want my child's eligibility reconsidered?

The AWC Review Committee meets as needed to reconsider the eligibility of students. Call the AWC program coordinator for details, 617-635-9202.

### What school choices do I have if my child becomes eligible for the AWC program after the February registration period?

In later registration periods, students receive the same choices as they do in earlier periods. However, some programs may be full. Before making your choices, ask Family Resource Center staff what schools have seats available. Phone numbers are on the other side.

### Once my child has a seat in the AWC, why does s/he take the test each year?

Tests are administered to fill seats that may become available and to compare student performance from year to year.

### Is my child guaranteed a seat each year?

Continuation in the program is not guaranteed. Grade 4 students may continue in grade 5 AWC if they make satisfactory academic progress. All grade 5 students, including those already attending an AWC program, take a test in the fall to determine eligibility for grade 6 AWC classes.

### May students take the test if they don't attend the Boston Public Schools?

Yes. The Office of Enrollment Services provides applications and information to all of Boston's private and parochial schools. Test dates and sites are scheduled by the BPS Office of Research, Assessment and Evaluation.



*For more information about the assignment process, please contact the Office of Enrollment Services at 617-635-9512. For information regarding AWC curriculum, please contact the AWC program coordinator at 617-635-9202.*

**“My child is eligible for  
Advanced Work Class.  
How do I know if it’s the  
right choice?”**



Visit the AWC programs available to your child and talk with the teacher. Do the activities and classroom atmosphere seem like a good match for your child’s interests, abilities and learning style? You may also ask yourself these questions about your child. If the answer to many of them is “yes,” then AWC may be right for your child.

- Does your child prefer older friends?
- Does your child solve problems by seeing connections or by delving deeply into the subject matter?
- Is your child chosen by others to help or lead?
- Does your child have a large vocabulary in his/her first language?
- Does your child understand jokes?
- Did your child read at an early age?
- Is your child curious about ideas?
- When your child is alone, would your child rather read than play?
- Does your child complete homework after gentle reminders from you?
- Does your child seek endless explanations about how things work?

These schools offer

**Advanced Work Class**

**NORTH ZONE**

**Elementary and K–8**

- Bradley  
☎ 617-635-8422
- Farragut  
☎ 617-635-8450
- Jackson/Mann K–8  
☎ 617-635-8532
- Quincy  
☎ 617-635-8497
- Winthrop  
☎ 617-635-8379

**Middle**

- Dearborn  
☎ 617-635-8412
- Edison  
☎ 617-635-8436
- Quincy Upper  
☎ 617-635-8940
- Umana  
☎ 617-635-8481

**EAST ZONE**

**Elementary and K–8**

- Channing  
☎ 617-635-8722
- Condon  
☎ 617-635-8606
- Lee  
☎ 617-635-8687
- Murphy K–8  
☎ 617-635-8781
- Taylor  
☎ 617-635-8731

**Middle**

- McCormack  
☎ 617-635-8657
- Rogers  
☎ 617-635-8700

**WEST ZONE**

**Elementary and K–8**

- Bates  
☎ 617-635-8064
- Curley K–8  
☎ 617-635-8239
- Ellis  
☎ 617-635-8257
- Hennigan★  
☎ 617-635-8264
- Ohrenberger  
☎ 617-635-8157

**Middle**

- Irving  
☎ 617-635-8072

**CITYWIDE**

- King Middle  
☎ 617-635-8212
- Timilty Middle★  
☎ 617-635-8109

Students may apply for schools in their zone of residence as well as for schools within their “walk zone” that may be outside their zone of residence.

★ These schools also offer citywide AWC programs for English language learners (Spanish)

**Important Phone Numbers**

- AWC Program Coordinator .....617-635-9202
- Assignments and Test Administration ....617-635-9512
- Family Resource Centers:  
East Zone (Dorchester) .....617-635-8015
- North Zone (Roxbury) .....617-635-9010
- West Zone (Roslindale) .....617-635-8040

**The Boston Public Schools | [www.bostonpublicschools.org](http://www.bostonpublicschools.org)**

26 Court Street ■ Boston MA 02108  
Carol R. Johnson, Superintendent

**Boston School Committee**

Elizabeth Reiling, Chairperson ■ Marchelle Raynor, Vice-Chairperson  
Michele Brooks ■ Helen Dájer ■ Rev. Gregory Groover  
Alfreda Harris

**Advanced Work Class (AWC)**

Yu-Lan Lin, Program Director ■ Judy Berkowitz, Program Coordinator

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December 2007

**Boston Public Schools**

**Advanced Work  
Class**



**Accelerated Academic Curriculum  
for Grades 4, 5 and 6**

