



# Boston Green Academy

**Presentation to:**  
Boston School Committee  
June 10, 2015

# Introduction



Who We Are  
Our Story  
What Makes Us Special  
Results: After 4 Years  
Challenges & Responses  
Our Future



# Who We Are

## **Our Mission:**

Boston Green Academy welcomes diverse students of all abilities, educates and empowers them to succeed in college and career, and prepares them to lead in the sustainability of our community and world.



- Horace Mann 'in-district' Charter School
- 410 students, grades 6, 9-12
- Located in the Taft Building in Brighton
- 85% at-risk, 83% low income, 29% Special Education, 16% ELLs
- Diversity mirrors the BPS; enrollment is city-wide lottery; 700+ students on the waitlist; we admit students at all grades levels

# Our Story



- Planned since 2007, replicating successful practices of Fenway High School
- Focused on serving at-risk students and building bridges between green innovation and Boston students and families
- Asked in 2010 by the BPS to turnaround a struggling high school in South Boston (Odyssey); became a Turnaround School without the Turnaround Grant
- Opened in 2011 with 200 students from Odyssey and 140 from other closed BPS High Schools (Hyde Park); almost completely new faculty
- Successfully turned around Odyssey; moved to Brighton in 2014; finally began middle school expansion



# What Makes Us Special

- Inclusion of Diverse Learners
- Green Programs
- Student Support
- Experiential Learning

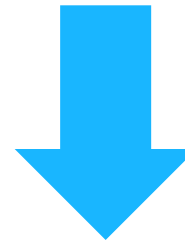


# Results: After 4 Years



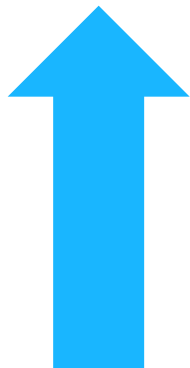
## **4-Year Graduation Rate:**

Increased from 55% to 75%  
(89% 5-Year Graduation Rate)



## **Drop-out Rate:**

Decreased from 13.5%  
To 4.4% in 2015



## **College Acceptance Rate:**

Increased from 45%  
To 89% in 2015



## **MCAS Scores:**

In four years, the 2<sup>nd</sup> most improved high school in BPS; 8<sup>th</sup> in the state out of 261. ELLs and SPED Students outperform their BPS peers on MCAS proficiency

# Challenges & Responses

## Probation

Compliance and financial concerns; Difficult, but has made us a stronger institution; Year Four site visit was very positive; BGA has now met 6 of 8 probation conditions; we are on track to meet remaining two (clean audit, improved MCAS scores)

## MCAS Growth

SGP low but concentrated efforts to improve (tutoring, Acceleration Academy, partnership with BU, strong teaching); Math is major focus

## Facilities

Great improvement in Brighton over South Boston; Current space challenges at Taft; ACC's future location must be settled by November 2015

# Our Future:

- Receive new five year charter
- Increase student achievement and growth
- Full expansion into a 6-12 school utilizing all of the Taft Building
- Deepen innovative partnerships with BU, Facing History, BDL, Vertex, Harvard Medical School, others
- Become a truly model Green school with a green roof
- Continue to be part of strengthening the Boston Public Schools





# Thank you!

