



Exam School Task Force Recommendation & Data Analysis

Superintendent Dr. Brenda Cassellius
7-7-21

Task Force Charge

*Building upon the work initiated by the Superintendent's Exam Schools Admissions Criteria Working Group, the Boston School Committee Exam Schools Admissions Task Force is charged with developing a set of recommendations for the admissions policy for Boston Public Schools exam schools. The desired outcome is to expand the applicant pool and create an admissions process that will support student enrollment at each of the exam schools such that rigor is maintained and the student body better reflects the **racial, socioeconomic, and geographic diversity** of all students (K-12) in the city of Boston. The Task Force shall consider use of the new NWEA assessment and other factors, and leverage learning from a full review of the implementation of the SY 21-22 admissions criteria, as well as a thorough review of practices in other districts.*

Summary of Task Force Recommendation

Step 1: Who Is Eligible

Purpose: Determine Student Preparedness

Admissions Cycle	Criteria	Weight
SY22-23	Grades (B average or higher) +High Poverty Indicators	100% (10 or 15 points)
SY23-24 And beyond	Assessment Grades +High Poverty Indicators	30% 70% (10 or 15 points)

Step 2: Who is Invited

Purpose: Ensure Citywide Access

Admissions Cycle	Mechanism	Weight
SY22-23 And beyond	Straight Rank City-wide Straight Rank Socioeconomic Tiers	20% 80%

High poverty indicator:

- 15 Points for students living in BHA housing, experiencing homelessness and in DCF care.

OR

- 10 points for students attending a school whose enrollment reflects 50% or greater low income students

Overall Simulation Assumptions

- **Assumptions within simulations:**
 - 1,000 invitations to distribute
 - Students attending a 6th grade school with 50%+ economically disadvantaged students receive an additional 10 points on their overall score.
 - The composite score is weighted 30% assessment, 70% GPA.
- **Data set for the simulation:**
 - 7th grade applicants for SY20-21
 - Incorporates ISEE scores in place of MAP Growth
 - Re-calculated GPA using Fall grades only -- GPA is not rounded
- **Considerations to keep in mind:**
 - Simulation does not incorporate school preference
 - Does not incorporate any eligibility criteria -- if students had a GPA and test score, they are considered eligible
 - Missing census tract data for students outside of Boston (16 students in this data set)
 - Economically disadvantaged data by school is from DESE and is only available for BPS and Charter schools.

Simulation Limitations

- The simulations can only provide a sense of what may happen with proposed changes this year and should not be interpreted as definitive results.
 - The task force is proposing to include science and social studies grades, which are not incorporated into the simulations.
 - The current district assessment contract is with NWEA for MAP Growth. The simulation uses ISEE scores because MAP Growth results are not available.
 - Applicants for the next admissions cycle may not be distributed across the city in the same way applicants were for the SY20-21 admissions cycle.
 - The grades proposed to be used (SY21-22 grades) have not yet been recorded.
 - The simulations do not take into account student preference.

Simulation Results

By Economic Status

Economic Status	SY20-21 Invitees	SY21-22 Invitees			20% Citywide, 80% Tiers			100% Tiers	Difference between 20-80 and 100
		Overall	20%	80%	Overall	20%	80%		
Number of Invitations	1025	974	195	779	1000	200	800	1000	
Economically Disadvantaged	35%	43%	30%	46%	52%	41%	54%	54%	25
Non-Economically Disadvantaged	65%	57%	70%	54%	48%	59%	46%	46%	25

By Race

Race	SY20-21 Invitees	SY21-22 Invitees			20% Citywide, 80% Tiers			100% Tiers	Difference between 20-80 and 100
		Overall	20%	80%	Overall	20%	80%		
Number of Invitations	1025	974	195	779	1000	200	800	1000	
Asian	21%	18%	15%	18%	21%	31%	18%	21%	4
Black	13%	23%	14%	25%	20%	13%	22%	21%	9
Latinx	21%	23%	18%	24%	30%	20%	32%	31%	15
Multi-Race/Other	5%	6%	7%	5%	4%	3%	5%	4%	1
White	40%	31%	46%	27%	26%	34%	24%	24%	19

Simulation Results: by Zip Code

Zip Code	Neighborhood	SY20-21 Invitees	SY21-22 Invitees			20% Citywide, 80% Tiers			100% Tiers	Difference between 20-80 and 100
			Overall	20%	80%	Overall	20%	80%		
Number of Invitations		1025	974	195	779	1000	200	800	1000	
2108	Beacon Hill	0.1%	0.6%	1.5%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0
2109	Downtown	0.7%	0.2%	0.5%	0.1%	0.4%	0.0%	0.5%	0.4%	0
2110	Downtown	0.7%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.4%	0.0%	0.5%	0.4%	0
2111	Chinatown	2.3%	0.7%	0.5%	0.8%	2.3%	1.5%	2.5%	2.2%	1
2113	North End	0.7%	0.2%	0.0%	0.3%	0.5%	1.0%	0.4%	0.5%	0
2114	Beacon Hill / West End	1.9%	0.7%	1.0%	0.6%	1.4%	1.5%	1.4%	0.9%	5
2115	Longwood/Fenway	1.4%	1.0%	0.0%	1.3%	1.9%	1.0%	2.1%	2.0%	1
2116	Back Bay	2.6%	1.3%	1.5%	1.3%	1.6%	2.5%	1.4%	1.4%	2
2118	South End	3.5%	2.8%	1.5%	3.1%	3.4%	3.5%	3.4%	3.5%	1
2119	Roxbury	2.6%	5.1%	2.6%	5.8%	4.3%	1.5%	5.0%	4.5%	2
2120	Roxbury	1.6%	1.1%	0.0%	1.4%	2.2%	1.0%	2.5%	2.5%	3
2121	Dorchester	2.6%	6.9%	3.6%	7.7%	5.3%	2.0%	6.1%	5.9%	6
2122	Dorchester	6.1%	4.9%	7.2%	4.4%	7.7%	12.5%	6.5%	8.0%	3
2124	Dorchester	8.2%	11.2%	8.7%	11.8%	10.6%	14.5%	9.6%	10.3%	3
2125	Dorchester	4.6%	6.1%	6.7%	5.9%	6.5%	5.5%	6.8%	6.5%	0
2126	Mattapan	2.0%	5.2%	4.1%	5.5%	3.6%	3.0%	3.8%	4.2%	6
2127	South Boston	3.3%	3.6%	2.1%	4.0%	3.2%	2.0%	3.5%	3.6%	4
2128	East Boston	5.6%	7.7%	4.6%	8.5%	9.9%	4.5%	11.3%	10.7%	8
2129	Charlestown	5.5%	3.6%	6.7%	2.8%	2.7%	3.0%	2.6%	2.4%	3
2130	Jamaica Plain	7.5%	5.5%	8.2%	4.9%	5.4%	7.5%	4.9%	5.3%	1
2131	Roslindale	9.2%	6.9%	9.7%	6.2%	5.9%	8.5%	5.3%	5.3%	6
2132	West Roxbury	13.0%	7.1%	16.9%	4.6%	6.6%	7.0%	6.5%	5.8%	8
2134	Allston	1.7%	1.1%	1.0%	1.2%	2.3%	2.0%	2.4%	2.6%	3
2135	Brighton	5.1%	3.0%	0.5%	3.6%	4.4%	6.0%	4.0%	4.2%	2
2136	Hyde Park	6.5%	6.9%	4.6%	7.4%	6.6%	8.5%	6.1%	6.1%	5
2163	Allston	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0
2199	Back Bay	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0
2210	South Boston Waterfront	0.2%	0.2%	0.5%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0
2215	Fenway/Kenmore	0.8%	0.2%	0.0%	0.3%	0.7%	0.0%	0.9%	0.6%	1
2467	Chestnut Hill	0.3%	0.4%	1.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0
9999	Homeless/DCF	Not used	5.4%	4.6%	5.6%	Not used				