

Edward M. Kennedy



Academy for Health Careers

**Kennedy Academy Approval Request for Memorandum of  
Understanding with the Boston Teacher's Union and the  
Boston Public Schools**

**Presentation to the Boston School Committee  
Wednesday, November 7, 2018**

**Dr. Caren S. Walker Gregory, Headmaster**

# Our Mission

**Edward M. Kennedy Academy for Health Careers (EMK) is a college preparatory and vocational high school for Boston students exploring careers in health and health-related professions.**

**The Academy provides a supportive learning environment that promotes respect and embraces diversity. Students will attain the life skills needed to become productive and positive members of society.**



# Background

## Wednesday, September 12, 2018

Presentation of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) between EMK and the Boston Public Schools. This Agreement covered topics such as Budget, Facilities, and Compliance (see Appendix A).

## Wednesday, September 26, 2018

The Boston School Committee unanimously voted in favor of the MOU Agreement between EMK and BPS.



# Our Current Request

The Edward M. Kennedy Academy for Health Careers (EMK) is now seeking the approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Agreement between EMK, the Boston Public Schools (BPS), and the Boston Teacher's Union (BTU).

- The agreement covers areas such as BTU compensation, working conditions, selection and hiring of staff.
- The agreement has been reviewed by the BPS Office of the Legal Advisor.
- The agreement has the approval from the EMK Board of Trustees and the President of the BTU.



# APPENDIX A



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# Our History: Key Milestones

**1995 – Founded as one of the original Boston Pilot Schools**

**1998 – Designated as one of the first Horace Mann Charter Schools in Massachusetts**

**2003 – 5-year charter renewed without conditions (also in 2008, 2013 and 2017)**

**2010 – Renamed in honor of the late Senator Edward M. Kennedy**

**2012 – Enrollment expansion at a second site to provide high quality educational opportunity to more Boston students**

**2016 – Designated as the first charter Chapter 74 program in MA**





# Evidence of Success-Graduation & College

- **EMK Graduation Rate - 98% over the last five years – is consistently among the highest in the BPS**
- **EMK Drop Out Rate is consistently among the lowest in the BPS**
- **EMK College Matriculation Rate - 97% over the last five years -- is consistently among the highest in the the BPS**
- **More than half of EMK graduates select higher education majors in health care or a related field (56% over the last five years)**
- **EMK maintains a long waiting list every year, with several families seeking enrollment for every space available. Over 1000 applications for one hundred 9<sup>th</sup> grade seats for 2018.**



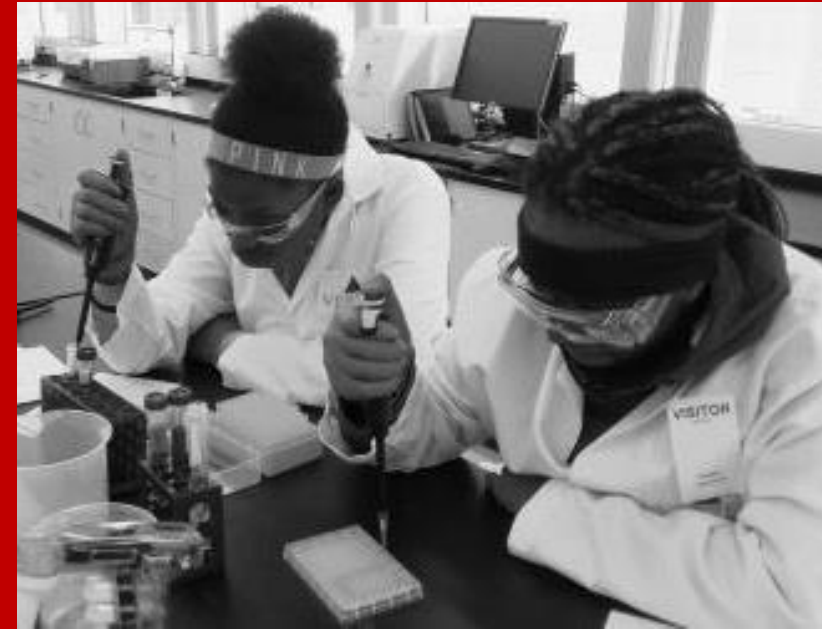
# Evidence of Success - Equity

**EMK enrolls students without regard to prior academic achievement and serves a population that mirrors the racial, ethnic and economic diversity of the city.**

**EMK has significantly increased enrollment of English Learners and Students with Disabilities over the last five years and continues to demonstrate success with these populations.**

**EMK student population has grown and changed significantly to better serve Boston families:**

- **ELL students: 5.3% in fall 2011 versus 18% in fall 2018**
- **IEP students: 9.3% in fall 2011 versus 15% in fall 2018**
- **Total enrollment: 225 in fall 2011 versus 390 in fall 2018**



# Evidence of Success - MCAS

The DESE Accountability Report indicates that EMK is partially meeting targets and does not require assistance or intervention.

- Steady MCAS Achievement sustained in the context of a more representative student population
- Grade 10 proficiency rates for EMK exceed BPS (overall and for population subgroups) in ELA and Science, and are comparable overall and for subgroups in Math



# Evidence of Success -Partnerships

**EMK has a very strong and sustained network of partners among Boston's higher education and health care organizations**

- **Northeastern University, Wentworth Institute of Technology, Bunker Hill Community College**
- **Brigham and Women's Hospital and Mass General Hospital**
- **Harvard Schools of Medicine and Public Health**
- **Vertex Pharmaceuticals**

**EMK was the first charter school to be approved as a Chapter 74 Career and Technical Education program**

- **Health Assisting enrollment started in fall 2016**
- **Additional pathways, including biotechnology, are planned for the next charter term**

