

West Roxbury Academy (WRA)

For school closures, we analyzed sets of data to inform our decisions. These included:

- Changes in student enrollment
- School choices made by families
- Academic growth and performance

We looked at trends over time. We also considered school needs across the city.

ENROLLMENT AND CLASSROOM CAPACITY

In October 2014, 581 students were enrolled at WRA. They are:

47.0% Black	21.5% students with disabilities:
40.1% Hispanic	10.7% mainstream (mild disabilities)
10.3% White	10.8% substantially separate
1.5% Asian	48.2% current or former English
0.9% Native Am/Pac Is	Language Learners
0.2% Mixed or Other	70.4% low income

- From 2012 to 2014, WRA enrollment declined by 11.4%.
- Next year, we project enrollment to decline by an additional 4%.

Classroom Capacity

School buildings with more empty seats are more costly per student than those with fewer empty seats.

- 85.8% of WRA'S available seats are filled. This is less than the district average of 91.3%.

Where do WRA students live?

Roslindale	108
Roxbury	107
Hyde Park	93
Mattapan	78
South Dorchester	65
West Roxbury	39
Jamaica Plain	35
North Dorchester	15
South End	11
Allston/Brighton	10
Charlestown	<10
South Boston	<10
Fenway/Kenmore	<10
Back Bay/Beacon Hill	<10
East Boston	<10
Other	<10

ACADEMIC GROWTH AND PERFORMANCE

Students scoring Adv/Prof on 2014 MCAS / grade 10	ELA	Math	Science
West Roxbury Academy	62%	41%	27%
BPS	76%	64%	47%

- The percentage of WRA students who scored at the Advanced/Proficient levels on the spring 2014 MCAS was lower than the district percentage.
- Math performance for all students is substantially below other high schools. WRA's 2014 Math Composite Performance Index (CPI) is the 2nd lowest of traditional BPS high schools. The CPI measures student progress toward proficiency in ELA and mathematics.
- WRA is a BPS School Quality Tier 4 School. The Tiers (1-4) attempt to quantify several factors, including student performance; teaching and learning; family, community and culture; leadership and collaboration; and proficiency and growth. Tier 1 is the highest (best). Tier 4 is the lowest.
- The 4-year graduation rate at WRA has decreased from almost 83% three years ago (well above the district average) to just 65.5% last year, below the district average.
- While the dropout rate decreased two years ago, it was up again last year to 5.1%, above the district's all-time low of 3.8%.

SCHOOL CHOICE

WRA is an underchosen school.

- Of 20 high schools in the district, families chose WRA 12th when making their top 3 choices.



Office of the Superintendent
 Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building
 2300 Washington Street
 Roxbury, MA 02119
 bostonpublicschools.org

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West Roxbury Academy

What Families Need to Know:

- Your child will receive priority at high schools with available seats. Students entering grade 12 will have a guaranteed seat at Urban Science Academy.
- The BPS Office of High School Support will work with students individually to offer transcript review and guidance counseling to support their school selections.
- Students in SEI programs and their families will be supported individually through the Office of High School Support.
- Students with disabilities will be supported individually through the Office of Special Education and Related Services.

Where will WRA students go to school next year?

Grades 9-11	All general education students will receive a priority at high schools with available seats. Students entering grade 12 will have a guaranteed seat at Urban Science Academy.
Grades 9-11 SEI	English language learners in SEI programs and their families will be supported individually by staff from the Office of High School Support.
All Students with Disabilities (SWD)	Students with a disability will be supported by staff from the Office of Special Education and Related Services.

What WRA Families Need to Do:

- In the coming days, families will receive a letter from the Boston Public Schools inviting them to make new choices at other high schools. Once they have made choices, they should return the form to the student’s homeroom teacher by **April 6**.
- Students entering grade 12 next year have a guaranteed seat at Urban Science Academy. Students entering grade 12 who want to attend Urban Science Academy do not need to take any action. Students who *do not* want to attend Urban Science Academy must submit a school choice form for other schools.
- BPS staff will contact families of students enrolled in **SEI programs** and **students with a disability** to help them decide on school placement for next year.
- If you have questions or would like to explore your options further, please call or visit one of the BPS Welcome Centers. Hours of operation are on our website: bostonpublicschools.org/domain/280

Roxbury Welcome Center

Bruce C. Bolling Building
2300 Washington St., Roxbury 02119
617-635-9010

Dorchester Welcome Center

Campbell Resource Center
1216 Dorchester Ave., Dorchester 02125
617-635-8015

Roslindale Welcome Center

Jennie Barron Building
515 Hyde Park Ave., Roslindale 02131
617-635-8040

East Boston Welcome Center

Mario Umana Academy
312 Border St., East Boston 02128
617-635-9597 • Open Mondays and Tuesdays