



Massachusetts Department of
**ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY
EDUCATION**

Massachusetts Academy for Math and Science

COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEW REPORT OF FINDINGS

Dates of Onsite Visit: January 24, 2008

Date of Draft Report: April 22, 2008

Date of Final Report: June 24, 2008

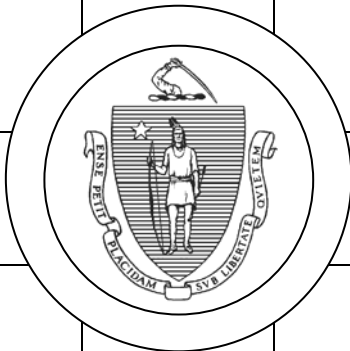
Action Plan Due: August 12, 2008

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**MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEW**

Massachusetts Academy for Math and Science

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MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEW REPORT

Massachusetts Academy of Math and Science

SCOPE OF COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEWS

As one part of its accountability system, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education oversees local compliance with education requirements through the Coordinated Program Review (CPR). All reviews cover selected requirements in the following area:

Civil Rights Methods of Administration and Other General Education Requirements (CR)

- selected federal civil rights requirements under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Equal Educational Opportunities Act of 1974, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, together with selected state requirements under M.G.L. c. 76, Section 5 (Chapter 622 of the Acts of 1971) and other Massachusetts General Laws.
- selected requirements from the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education's Physical Restraint regulations (603 CMR 46.00).
- selected requirements from the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education's Student Learning Time regulations (603 CMR 27.00).

Districts and charter schools *identified for improvement or corrective action* will be required to submit, for review, their written plans to improve student performance. Districts and charter schools that are in *identified for improvement or corrective action* status, for students in the aggregate or for student subgroups, and all districts with grant awards of \$300,000 or more, may have an onsite visit during the 2007-2008 school year as part of the monitoring process. Visits will be for the dual purposes of determining compliance and providing technical assistance, as needed, to improve program quality.

COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEW ELEMENTS

Team: Depending upon the size of a school district and the number of programs to be reviewed, a team of two to eight Department staff members, together with any necessary outside consultants, conducts a Coordinated Program Review over two to ten days in a school district or charter school.

Timing: Each school district and charter school in the Commonwealth is scheduled to receive a Coordinated Program Review every six years and a mid-cycle special education follow-up visit three years after the Coordinated Program Review; about seventy-five school districts and charter schools are scheduled for Coordinated Program Reviews in 2007-2008. The Department's 2007-2008 schedule of Coordinated Program Reviews is posted on the Department's web site at <<<http://www.doe.mass.edu/pqa/review/cpr/schedule.html>>>. The statewide six-year Program Review cycle, including the Department's Mid-cycle follow-up monitoring schedule, is posted at <<<http://www.doe.mass.edu/pqa/review/cpr/6yrcycle.html>>>.

Criteria: The Program Review criteria for each program encompass the requirements that have been selected for review. The requirements selected for review in all of the regulated programs are those that are most closely aligned with the goals of the Massachusetts Education Reform Act of 1993 to promote student achievement and high standards for all students.

Methods: Methods used in reviewing programs include:

- Review of documentation about the operation of the charter school or district's programs.
- Interviews of administrative, instructional, and support staff across all grade levels.
- Interviews of parent advisory council (PAC) representatives and other interviews as requested by other parents or members of the general public.
- Observation of classrooms and other facilities. The onsite team visits a sample of classrooms and other school facilities used in the delivery of programs and services to determine general levels of compliance with program requirements.

Report: Preparation:

At the end of the onsite visit, the onsite team will hold an informal exit meeting to summarize its preliminary findings for the Superintendent or Charter School Leader and anyone else he or she chooses. Within approximately 45 business days of the onsite visit, the Onsite Chairperson will forward to the Superintendent or Charter School Leader (and Collaborative Director where applicable) a Draft Report containing specific findings from the Program Review. The district (and collaborative) will then have 10 business days to review the report for factual accuracy before the publication of a Final Report. The Final Report will be issued within approximately 60 business days of the conclusion of the onsite visit and posted on the Department's website at <<http://www.doe.mass.edu/pqa/review/cpr/reports/>>.

Content:

Ratings. The onsite team gives a rating for each compliance criterion it reviews; those ratings are "Commendable," "Implemented" (meaning at least substantially implemented), "Implementation in Progress," "Partially Implemented," "Not Implemented" (meaning at least substantially not implemented), and "Not Applicable." "Implementation in Progress," used for criteria containing new legal requirements, means that the district has implemented any old requirements contained in the criterion and is training staff or beginning to implement the new requirements in such a way that the onsite team anticipates that the new requirements will be implemented by the end of the school year.

Findings. The onsite team includes a finding for each criterion that it rates "Commendable," "Partially Implemented," or "Not Implemented," explaining the basis for the rating. It may also include findings for other criteria.

Response: Where criteria are found “Partially Implemented” or “Not Implemented”, the district or charter school must propose corrective action to bring those areas into compliance with the relevant statutes and regulations. This corrective action plan will be due to the Department within 30 business days after the issuance of the Final Report and is subject to the Department’s review and approval.

As the school or district is implementing the approved corrective action, Department staff will provide ongoing technical assistance. **School districts and charter schools must demonstrate effective resolution of noncompliance identified by the Department as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from the issuance of the Department’s Final Program Review Report.**

The Department believes that the Coordinated Program Review is a positive experience and that the Final Report is helpful in planning for the continued improvement of programs and services in each school district, charter school, and educational collaborative.

REPORT INTRODUCTION

A three member team from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education visited the Massachusetts Academy of Math and Science during the week of January 14, 2008 to evaluate the implementation of selected criteria in the program area of civil rights and other related general education requirements. The team appreciated the opportunity to interview staff and parents, to observe classroom facilities and to review the programs underway in the district. The onsite team would like to commend the following areas that were brought to its attention and that it believes have a significant and positive impact on the delivery of educational services for students enrolled in the Massachusetts Academy of Math and Science. These areas are as follows:

The Massachusetts Academy for Math and Science is a pilot project school. It serves as an alternative, highly specialized placement for juniors and seniors from an array of Massachusetts public school districts. The Academy was instituted as a public-private partnership between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI). The unique functionality of the Academy is outlined in a piece of legislation enacted in 1992.

The Academy is located on the edge of the WPI campus in a renovated mill where it houses the latest technologies for students and faculty. Through the Academy’s partnership with WPI, a small population of students with intellectual gifts and related talents are provided essential collaborative learning opportunities. The student population is culturally diverse and demonstrates gender equity. Its students apply and are selected on the basis of a rigorous set of criteria including an entrance examination and past school performance. Once enrolled students participate in a combination of classes taught by the Academy faculty and prescribed classes offered by WPI. Upon successful completion of the program, students will earn a high school diploma from their sending public school district and a certificate, issued by the state, from the Massachusetts Academy for Math and Science.

At conception, all aspects related to curriculum and governance of the Academy were directed to the then Secretary of Education who was authorized to determine the appropriateness of state laws and regulations that govern public education as they relate to the contractual functions of the Academy.

The Department is submitting the following Coordinated Program Review Report containing findings made pursuant to this onsite visit. In preparing this report, the team reviewed extensive written documentation regarding the operation of the district's programs, together with information gathered by means of the following Department program review methods:

- Interviews of two administrative staff.
- Interviews of nine teaching and support services staff across all levels.
- Interviews as requested by persons from the general public.
- Observation of classrooms and other facilities. A sample of three instructional classrooms and other school facilities used in the delivery of programs and services was visited to determine general levels of compliance with program requirements.

The report includes findings in the program areas reviewed organized under seven components. These components are:

- Component II: Student Identification and Placement**
- Component III: Parent and Community Involvement**
- Component IV: Curriculum and Instruction**
- Component V: Student Support Services**
- Component VI: Faculty, Staff and Administration**
- Component VII: School Facilities**
- Component VIII: Program Plan and Evaluation**

The findings in each program area explain the “ratings,” determinations by the team about the implementation status of the criteria reviewed. The ratings indicate those criteria that were found by the team to be substantially “Implemented” or implemented in a “Commendable” manner. (Refer to the “Definition of Compliance Ratings” section of the report.) Where criteria were found to be either “Partially Implemented” or “Not Implemented,” the district or charter school must propose to the Department corrective actions to bring those areas into compliance with the controlling statute or regulation. In some instances the team may have rated a requirement as “Implemented” or “Implementation in Progress” but made a specific comment on the district’s implementation methods that also requires response from the district or charter school. In some instances the team may have rated a requirement as “Not Applicable” based on the unique nature of the agreement between the legislature and WPI.

Districts are expected to incorporate the corrective action into their district and school improvement plans, including their professional development plans.

Massachusetts Academy of Math and Science

SUMMARY OF COMPLIANCE CRITERIA INCLUDED IN THIS REPORT REQUIRING CORRECTIVE ACTION

PROGRAM AREA	PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED	NOT IMPLEMENTED	OTHER CRITERIA REQUIRING RESPONSE
Civil Rights and Other General Education Requirements	CR4, CR17A		

NOTE THAT ALL OTHER CRITERIA REVIEWED BY THE DEPARTMENT THAT ARE NOT MENTIONED ABOVE HAVE RECEIVED AN “IMPLEMENTED” OR “NOT APPLICABLE” RATING.

DEFINITION OF COMPLIANCE RATINGS

Commendable	Any requirement or aspect of a requirement implemented in an exemplary manner significantly beyond the requirements of law or regulation.
Implemented	The requirement is substantially met in all important aspects.
Partially Implemented	The requirement, in one or several important aspects, is not entirely met.
Not Implemented	The requirement is totally or substantially not met.
Not Applicable	The requirement does not apply to the school district or charter school.

**CIVIL RIGHTS
METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR)
AND
OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION
REQUIREMENTS**

**LEGAL STANDARDS,
COMPLIANCE RATINGS AND
FINDINGS**

CRITERION NUMBER	CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR) AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS II. STUDENT IDENTIFICATION AND PLACEMENT
	Legal Standard
CR 3	<p>Access to a full range of education programs All students, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or homelessness, have equal access to the general education program and the full range of any occupational/vocational education programs offered by the district.</p> <p>Title VI: 42 U.S.C. 2000d; 34 CFR 100.3(a),(b); EEOA: 20 U.S.C. 1703(f); Title IX: 20 U.S.C. 1681; 34 CFR 106.31, 106.34, 106.35; Section 504: 29 U.S.C. 794; 34 CFR 104.4; Title II: 42 U.S.C. 12132; 28 CFR 35.130; IDEA 2004: 20 U.S.C. 1400; 34 CFR 300.110; NCLB: Title III, Part A, Sec. 3121(c)(1)(C); Title X, Part C, Secs. 721, 722(g)(4); Mass. Const. amend. art. 114; M.G.L. c. 71A, s. 7; c. 76, s. 5; 603 CMR 26.03</p>
	<p>Rating: Implemented District Response Required: No</p>

CRITERION NUMBER	
	Legal Standard
CR 4	<p>Placement of female students, male students, homeless students, students with disabilities, and students from linguistic and racial/ethnic groups Patterns of placement in district programs and services for female students, male students, homeless students, students with disabilities, and students from various linguistic and racial/ethnic groups are consistent with patterns of placement for other students. If these patterns of placement are not consistent, the district is able to demonstrate that placements have been made for valid educational reasons.</p> <p>Title VI: 42 U.S.C. 2000d; 34 CFR 100.3(a),(b); EEOA: 20 U.S.C. 1703(f); Title IX: 20 U.S.C. 1681; 34 CFR 106.31, 106.34, 106.35, 106.36; Section 504: 29 U.S.C. 794; 34 CFR 104.4; Title II: 42 U.S.C. 12132; 28 CFR 35.130; NCLB: Title III, Part A, Sec. 3121(c)(1)(C); Title X, Part C, Secs. 721, 722(g)(4); Mass. Const. amend. art. 114; M.G.L. c. 71A, s. 7; c. 71B, s. 6; c. 76, s. 5; 603 CMR 26.03</p>

CRITERION NUMBER	
	Legal Standard
	Rating: Partially Implemented District Response Required: Yes

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:

Interviews indicated that, in the past three years, the Academy has identified some students as Limited English Proficient (LEP).

According to the contract between the Commonwealth and WPI, a mission of the Academy is to serve as an education equalizer. The Academy recruits individuals who demonstrate “talent and perseverance” in the areas of math and science despite being economically disadvantaged or LEP. Students who meet the criteria are tutored by WPI faculty and staff in order to meet the academic expectations of the Academy.

While the Academy provides access to a full range of academic opportunities for students, the Academy does not have a system in place to ensure that LEP students receive access to academic support services. Specifically, the Academy has not developed formal procedures for identifying LEP students, notifying and including parents and/or guardians in matters pertaining to their child’s education, and instructional groups to ensure that LEP students receive effective sheltered content instruction and English language development instruction at appropriate academic levels.

CRITERION NUMBER	
	Legal Standard
CR 6	<p>Availability of in-school programs for pregnant students</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pregnant students are permitted to remain in regular classes and participate in extracurricular activities with non-pregnant students throughout their pregnancy, and after giving birth are permitted to return to the same academic and extracurricular program as before the leave. 2. The district does not require a pregnant student to obtain the certification of a physician that the student is physically and emotionally able to continue in school unless it requires such certification for all students for other physical or emotional conditions requiring the attention of a physician. <p>Title IX: 20 U.S.C. 1681; 34 CFR 106.40(b)</p>
	Rating : Implemented District Response Required: No

CRITERION NUMBER	CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR) AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS III. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT
	Legal Standard
CR 7	<p>Information to be translated into languages other than English</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Important information and documents, e.g. handbooks and codes of conduct, being distributed to parents are translated into the major languages spoken by parents or guardians with limited English skills; the district has established a system of oral interpretation to assist parents/guardians with limited English skills, including those who speak low-incidence languages. 2. School or program recruitment and promotional materials being disseminated to residents in the area served by the school or program are translated into the major languages spoken by residents with limited English skills. <p>Title VI; EEOA: 20 U.S.C. 1703(f); M.G.L. c. 76, s. 5; 603 CMR 26.02(2)</p>
	<p>Rating: Implemented District Response Required: No</p>

CRITERION NUMBER	CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR) AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS IV. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION
	Legal Standard
CR 7A	<p>School year schedules</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Before the beginning of each school year, the school district sets a school year schedule for each school. The school year includes at least 185 school days for students in grades 1-12 at each elementary, middle, and secondary school in the district, and these schools are in operation for at least 180 days a year for these students. 2. The school district ensures that unless his or her IEP or Section 504 Accommodation Plan provides otherwise, each elementary school student is scheduled for at least 900 hours of structured learning time a year and each secondary school student is scheduled for at least 990 hours of structured learning time a year, within the required school year schedule. Where the school district operates separate middle schools, it designates each one as either elementary or secondary. 3. Where the school district sets a separate school year and school day schedule for kindergarten programs, it provides at least 425 hours of structured learning time a year. If the district schedules two sessions of kindergarten a day, it ensures equal instructional time for all kindergarten students.

CRITERION NUMBER	CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR) AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS IV. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION
	Legal Standard
	M.G.L. c. 69, § 1G; 603 CMR 27.03, 27.04
	Rating: Not Applicable District Response Required: No

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:

Documentation and interviews indicated that students do receive in excess of 990 hours of instructional time; however, students do not attend school for the required 180 days. The contract between the Commonwealth and WPI states that students will take prescribed courses offered by WPI consequently they will follow the WPI academic year. The WPI academic year includes 140 days.

CRITERION NUMBER	
	Legal Standard
CR 7B	<p>Structured learning time</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The school district ensures that its structured learning time is time during which students are engaged in regularly scheduled instruction, learning, or assessments within the curriculum of core subjects and other subjects as defined in 603 CMR 27.02 (including physical education, required by M.G.L. c. 71, s. 3). The district’s structured learning time may include directed study (activities directly related to a program of studies, with a teacher available to assist students), independent study (a rigorous, individually designed program under the direction of a teacher, assigned a grade and credit), technology-assisted learning, presentations by persons other than teachers, school-to-work programs, and statewide student performance assessments. 2. The district ensures that its structured learning time does not include time at breakfast or lunch, passing between classes, in homeroom, at recess, in non-directed study periods (study halls), participating in optional school programs, or receiving school services such as health screening, speech, or physical and occupational therapy, except where those services are prescribed by a student’s IEP or Section 504 Accommodation Plan. 3. The hours spent in any type of structured learning time are verified by the school district. Where the school district counts independent study or a school-to-work program as structured learning time, it has guidelines that explain clearly how hours spent by students are verified.

CRITERION NUMBER	
	Legal Standard
	M.G.L. c. 69, § 1G; 603 CMR 27.02, 27.04
	Rating: Not Applicable District Response Required: No

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:

Documentation indicated that at the time of the Department’s visit, students in their senior year did not receive physical education as required under M. G.L. c. 71, s. 3. However, the contract between the Commonwealth and WPI states that senior year students will take only prescribed classes offered by WPI.

CRITERION NUMBER	
	Legal Standard
CR 7C	<p>Early release of high school seniors When the school district schedules the early release at the end of the year of the senior class of a high school, it does so in a way that conforms with Board of Elementary and Secondary Education requirements under 603 CMR 27.05, ensuring that neither the conclusion of the seniors’ school year nor graduation is more than 12 school days before the regular scheduled closing date of that school.</p> <p>M.G.L. c. 69, § 1G; 603 CMR 27.05</p>
	Rating: Not Applicable District Response Required: No

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:

Documentation and interviews indicated that seniors are released more than 12 days prior to the last scheduled day of classes for juniors. The contract between the Commonwealth and WPI states that senior year students will take only prescribed classes offered by WPI. As indicated contractually, the Academy is permitted to follow the WPI academic year and is therefore exempt from this state requirement.

CRITERION NUMBER	
	Legal Standard
CR 8	<p>Accessibility of extracurricular activities Extracurricular activities sponsored by the district are nondiscriminatory in that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the school provides equal opportunity for all students to participate in intramural and interscholastic sports; 2. extracurricular activities or clubs sponsored by the school do not exclude students on the basis of race, sex, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or homelessness. <p>Title VI: 42 U.S.C. 2000d; 34 CFR 100.3(a), (b); Title IX: 20 U.S.C. 1681; 34 CFR 106.31, 106.41; Section 504: 29 U.S.C. 794; 34 CFR 104.4, 104.37(a), (c); Title II: 42 U.S.C. 12132; 28 CFR 35.130; NCLB: Title X, Part C, Sec. 721; Mass. Const. amend. art 114; M.G.L. c. 76, § 5; 603 CMR 26.06</p>
	<p>Rating: Implemented District Response Required: No</p>

CRITERION NUMBER	
	Legal Standard
CR 9	<p>Hiring and employment practices of prospective employers of students</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The district requires employers recruiting at the school to sign a statement that the employer complies with applicable federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination in hiring or employment practices. 2. Prospective employers to whom this criterion applies include those participating in career days and work-study and apprenticeship training programs, as well as those offering cooperative work experience. <p>Title VI: 42 U.S.C. 2000d; 34 CFR 100.3(b)(1),(2); Title IX: 20 U.S.C. 1681; 34 CFR 106.38; Section 504: 29 U.S.C. 794; 34 CFR 104.4(b)(1)(v), 104.37(a); Title II: 42 U.S.C. 12132; 28 CFR 35.130(b)(1)(v); M.G.L. c. 76, § 5; 603 CMR 26.07(5)</p>
	<p>Rating: Not Applicable District Response Required: No</p>

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:

During its 16 years of operation, all students who graduate from the Academy go to college. The contract between the Commonwealth and WPI states that upon completion of the Academy, students will receive a high school diploma from the Academy. Students can opt to also receive a diploma from their home school district upon request. If a student seeks recruitment from perspective employers rather than the prescribed college preparation, the student can return to his/her sending district.

CRITERION NUMBER	CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR) AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS V. STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES
	Legal Standard
CR 10A	<p>Student handbooks and codes of conduct</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The district has a code of conduct for students and one for teachers. b) The principal of every school containing grades 9-12 prepares, in consultation with the school council, a student handbook containing the student code of conduct and distributes it to each student annually, as well as to parents and school personnel; the school council reviews and revises the student code of conduct every year. c) The principal of every school containing other grades distributes the district's student code of conduct to students, parents, and personnel annually. d) At the request of a parent or student whose primary language is not English, a student handbook or student code of conduct is translated into that language. 2. Student codes of conduct contain: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) procedures assuring due process in disciplinary proceedings and b) appropriate procedures for the discipline of students with special needs and students with Section 504 Accommodation Plans. 3. Student handbooks and codes of conduct reference M.G.L. c. 76, s. 5 and contain: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) a nondiscrimination policy that is consistent with M.G.L. c. 76, s. 5, and affirms the school's non-tolerance for harassment based on race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or sexual orientation, or discrimination on those same bases; b) the school's procedure for accepting, investigating and resolving complaints alleging discrimination or harassment; and c) the disciplinary measures that the school may impose if it determines that harassment or discrimination has occurred. <p>Section 504; M.G.L. c. 71, § 37H; 603 CMR 26.08</p>
	<p>Rating: Implemented District Response Required: No</p>

CRITERION NUMBER	
	Legal Standard
CR 11A	<p>Designation of coordinator(s); grievance procedures</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The district has designated one or more staff persons to serve as coordinator(s) for compliance with its responsibilities under Title IX, Section 504, and (if it employs 50 or more persons) Title II. 2. The district has adopted and published grievance procedures for students and for employees providing for prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging discrimination based on sex or disability. <p>Title IX: 20 U.S.C. 1681; 34 CFR 106.8; Section 504: 29 U.S.C. 794; 34 CFR 104.7; Title II: 42 U.S.C. 12132; 28 CFR 35.107</p>
	Rating: Implemented District Response Required: No

CRITERION NUMBER	
	Legal Standard
CR 12A	<p>Annual and continuous notification concerning nondiscrimination and coordinators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If the district offers vocational education programs, it advises students, parents, employees and the general public before the beginning of each school year that all vocational opportunities will be offered regardless of race, color, national origin, sex or disability. The notice includes a brief summary of program offerings and admission criteria and the name(s), office address(es), and phone number(s) of the person(s) designated under CR 11A to coordinate compliance under Title IX and Section 504. 2. In all cases, the district takes continuing steps to notify applicants, students, parents, and employees (including those with impaired vision or hearing), as well as unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with the district, that it does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or disability. This notice, also, includes the name(s), office address(es), and phone number(s) of the person(s) designated under CR 11A to coordinate compliance under Title IX and Section 504. 3. Written materials and other media used to publicize a school include a notice that the school does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, or sexual orientation. <p>Title VI: 42 U.S.C. 2000d; 34 CFR 100.6(d); Title IX: 20 U.S.C. 1681; 34 CFR 106.8(a), 106.9; Section 504: 29 U.S.C. 794; 34 CFR 104.8; M.G.L. c. 76, § 5; 603 CMR 26.02(2)</p>
	Rating: Implemented District Response Required: No

CRITERION NUMBER	
	Legal Standard
CR 13	<p>Availability of information and academic counseling on general curricular and occupational/vocational opportunities Students from linguistic, racial, and ethnic minorities; males; females; homeless students; and students with disabilities all receive, in grades 7-12, the same information and academic counseling as other students on the full range of general curricular and any occupational/vocational opportunities available to them.</p> <p>Title VI: 42 U.S.C. 2000d; 34 CFR 100.3(a), (b); Title IX: 20 U.S.C. 1681; 34 CFR 106.31, 106.36; Section 504: 29 U.S.C. 794; 34 CFR 104.4, 104.37(b); Title II: 42 U.S.C. 12132; 28 CFR 35.130; NCLB: Title III, Part A, Sec. 3121(c)(1)(C); Title X, Part C, Sec. 721; Mass. Const. amend. art. 114; M.G.L. c. 71A, § 7; c. 76, § 5; 603 CMR 26.03</p>
	Rating: Implemented District Response Required: No

CRITERION NUMBER	
	Legal Standard
CR 14	<p>Counseling and counseling materials free from bias and stereotypes To ensure that counseling and counseling materials are free from bias and stereotypes on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, and homelessness, all counselors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. encourage students to consider programs of study, courses, extracurricular activities, and occupational opportunities on the basis of individual interests, abilities, and skills; 2. examine testing materials for bias and counteract any found bias when administering tests and interpreting test results; 3. communicate effectively with limited-English-proficient and disabled students and facilitate their access to all programs and services offered by the district; 4. provide limited-English-proficient students with the opportunity to receive guidance and counseling in a language they understand; 5. support students in educational and occupational pursuits that are nontraditional for their gender. <p>Title VI: 42 U.S.C. 2000d; 34 CFR 100.3(a), (b); EEOA: 20 U.S.C. 1703(f); Title IX: 20 U.S.C. 1681; 34 CFR 106.31, 106.36; Section 504: 29 U.S.C. 794; 34 CFR 104.4, 104.37; Title II: 42 U.S.C. 12132; 28 CFR 35.130, 35.160; NCLB: Title III, Part A, Sec. 3121(c)(1)(C); Title X, Part C, Sec. 721; Mass. Const. amend. art. 114; M.G.L. c. 71A, § 7; c. 76, § 5; 603 CMR 26.04, 26.07(8)</p>
	Rating: Implemented District Response Required: No

CRITERION NUMBER	
	Legal Standard
CR 15	<p>Non-discriminatory administration of scholarships, prizes and awards Scholarships, prizes and awards sponsored or administered by the district are free of restrictions based upon race, color, sex, religion, national origin, sexual orientation or disability.</p> <p>Schools may post or print information regarding private restricted scholarships as long as no preferential treatment is given to any particular scholarship offered and as long as the school does not endorse or recommend any such scholarship nor advise or suggest to a particular student that he or she apply for such a scholarship.</p> <p>Title VI: 42 U.S.C. 2000d; 34 CFR 100.3; Title IX: 20 U.S.C. 1681; 34 CFR 106.31, 106.37; Section 504: 29 U.S.C. 794; 34 CFR 104.4(b)(1)(v); Title II: 42 U.S.C. 12132; 28 CFR 35.130(b)(1)(v); Mass. Const. amend. art. 114; M.G.L. c. 76, § 5; 603 CMR 26.07(7)</p>
	Rating: Implemented District Response Required: No

CRITERION NUMBER	
	Legal Standard
CR 16	<p>Notice to students 16 or over leaving school without a high school diploma, certificate of attainment, or certificate of completion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Within ten days from a student's fifteenth consecutive unexcused absence, the school provides written notice to students age 16 or over and their parents or guardians. The notice is in English and the family's native language and states that the student and the parent or guardian may meet with a representative of the district within ten days from the date the notice was sent. At the request of the parent or guardian, the district may consent to an extension of the time for the meeting of not longer than fourteen days. 2. At the meeting the participants discuss the reasons that the student is leaving school and alternative educational or other placements. The student and parent or guardian are told that attendance is voluntary after the student turns 16 but are also informed of the student's right to return to school. 3. Any district serving students in high school grades sends annual written notice to former students who have not yet earned their competency determination and who have not transferred to another school <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) to inform them of the availability of publicly funded post-high school academic support programs and b) to encourage them to participate in those programs. <p>At a minimum, the district sends annual written notice by first class mail to the</p>

CRITERION NUMBER	
	Legal Standard
	last known address of each such student who attended a high school in the district within the past two years. M.G.L. c. 76, §§ 5, 18; St. 1965, c. 741
	Rating: Not Applicable District Response Required: No

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:

During the Academy's 16 years of operation, three students have not been able to successfully complete the program. According to the contract between the Commonwealth and WPI, WPI assumes all responsibility for the operation of the Academy. In this capacity, WPI is responsible for all admissions to the Academy. Any student who is not able to sustain the academic rigor at the Academy after admission will be returned to his/her home district.

CRITERION NUMBER	
	Legal Standard
CR 17	Screening for vision, hearing and posture Provision is made for ongoing and periodic screening of all students as required by the Department of Public Health (vision, hearing, and posture). M.G.L. c. 71, s. 57
	Rating: Implemented District Response Required: No

CRITERION NUMBER	
	Legal Standard
CR 17A	<u>Use of physical restraint on any student enrolled in a publicly-funded education program</u> 1. The district has developed and implemented staff training at least annually on the use of restraint consistent with regulatory requirements. Such training occurs within the first month of each school year and, for employees hired after the school year begins, within a month of their employment. 2. The district administers physical restraint on students only when needed to protect a student and/or a member of the school community from imminent, serious, physical harm. The district implements restraint procedures consistent with Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

CRITERION NUMBER	
	Legal Standard
	<p>regulations in order to prevent or minimize any harm to the student as a result of the use of physical restraint.</p> <p>3. The district has developed written procedures regarding appropriate responses to student behavior that may require immediate intervention. Such procedures are annually reviewed and provided to school staff and made available to parents of enrolled students.</p> <p>4. The district has developed and implemented reporting requirements and procedures for administrators, parents and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education consistent with the regulations.</p> <p>5. The district has developed and implemented any applicable individual waiver procedures consistent with the regulations.</p> <p>M.G.L. c. 71, § 37G; 603 CMR 46.00</p>
	<p>Rating: Partially Implemented District Response Required: Yes</p>

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:

Interviews and the review of documentation indicated that the annual training has not provided teaching personnel with a review of restraint policy and procedures consistent with the state regulations, 603 CMR 46.00.

CRITERION NUMBER	CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR) AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS VI. FACULTY, STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION
	Legal Standard
CR 18	<p>Responsibilities of the school principal</p> <p>1. Instructional support. The principal in each of the district’s schools promotes instructional practices responsive to student needs and ensures that adequate instructional support is available for students and teachers. Instructional support includes remedial instruction for students, consultative services for teachers, availability of reading instruction at the elementary level, appropriate services for linguistic minority students, and other services consistent with effective educational practices and the requirements of M.G.L. c. 71B, §2. The principal consults with the Administrator of Special Education regarding accommodations and interventions for students. Such efforts and their results are documented and placed in the student record. Additionally, when an individual student is referred for an evaluation to determine eligibility for special education, the principal ensures that documentation on the use of instructional support services for the student is provided as part of the evaluation information reviewed by the Team when determining eligibility.</p> <p>2. Curriculum Accommodation Plan. The principal implements a curriculum accommodation plan developed by the district’s general education program to</p>

CRITERION NUMBER	CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR) AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS VI. FACULTY, STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION
	Legal Standard
	<p>ensure that all efforts have been made to meet the needs of diverse learners in the general education program. The plan assists the regular classroom teacher in analyzing and accommodating diverse learning styles of all children in the regular classroom and in providing appropriate services and support within the general education program including, but not limited to, direct and systematic instruction in reading and provision of services to address the needs of children whose behavior may interfere with learning. The plan includes provisions encouraging teacher mentoring and collaboration and parental involvement. <i>(The plan may be part of a multi-year strategic plan.)</i></p> <p>3. Coordination with special education. The principal with the assistance of the Administrator of Special Education coordinates the delivery and supervision of special education services within each school building.</p> <p>4. Educational services in home or hospital. Upon receipt of a physician's written order verifying that any student enrolled in a public school or placed by the public school in a private setting must remain at home or in a hospital on a day or overnight basis, or any combination of both, for medical reasons and for a period of not less than fourteen school days in any school year, the principal arranges for provision of educational services in the home or hospital. Such services are provided with sufficient frequency to allow the student to continue his or her educational program, as long as such services do not interfere with the medical needs of the student. The principal coordinates such services with the Administrator for Special Education for eligible students. Such educational services are not considered special education unless the student has been determined eligible for such services, and the services include services on the student's IEP.</p> <p>M.G.L. c. 71, § 38Q ½; 603 CMR 28.03(3)</p>
	Rating: Not Applicable District Response Required: No

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:

According to the contract between the Commonwealth and WPI, all responsibility for the operation of the Academy including the functions of faculty is assumed by WPI. The role of the Principal and the Director of the Academy are addressed through administrative hierarchy and the faculty handbook at WPI.

CRITERION NUMBER	CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR) AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS VI. FACULTY, STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION
	Legal Standard
CR 18A	<p>School district employment practices District employment practices in general are free from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or disability. In particular, the district's faculty salary scales are based on the conditions and responsibilities of employment without</p>

CRITERION NUMBER	CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR) AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS VI. FACULTY, STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION		
	Legal Standard		
	regard to race, color, national origin, sex, or disability, and the district's employee recruitment is aimed at reaching all groups, including members of linguistic, ethnic, and racial minorities, females and males, and persons with disabilities. Title VI: 42 U.S.C. 2000d; 34 CFR 100.3(c); EEOA: 20 U.S.C. 1703(d); Title IX: 20 U.S.C. 1681; 34 CFR 106.51-106.61; Section 504: 29 U.S.C. 794; 34 CFR 104.11-104.14; Title II: 42 U.S.C. 12132; 28 CFR 35.140; Mass. Const. amend. art 114		
	Rating: Implemented	District Response Required:	No

CRITERION NUMBER			
	Legal Standard		
CR 20	Staff training on confidentiality of student records The district trains school personnel on the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, M.G.L. c. 71, s. 34H, and 603 CMR 23.00 and on the importance of information privacy and confidentiality. FERPA: 20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99; M.G.L. c. 71, § 34H; 603 CMR 23.00, esp. 23.05(3)		
	Rating: Implemented	District Response Required:	No

CRITERION NUMBER			
	Legal Standard		
CR 21	Staff training regarding civil rights responsibilities The district provides in-service training for all school personnel at least annually regarding civil rights responsibilities, including the prevention of discrimination and harassment on the basis of students' race, color, sex, religion, national origin and sexual orientation and the appropriate methods for responding to it in the school setting. Title VI: 42 U.S.C. 2000d; 34 CFR 100.3; EEOA: 20 U.S.C. 1703(f); Title IX: 20 U.S.C. 1681; 34 CFR 106.31-106.42; M.G.L. c. 76, § 5; 603 CMR 26.00, esp. 26.07(2), (3)		
	Rating: Implemented	District Response Required:	No

CRITERION NUMBER	CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR) AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS VII. SCHOOL FACILITIES		
	Legal Standard		
CR 22	<p>Accessibility of district programs and services for students with disabilities In at least one facility within the district, the district makes available and entirely accessible to students with disabilities all educational and vocational programs and services offered at each level (preschool, elementary and secondary).</p> <p>Section 504: 29 U.S.C. 794; 34 CFR 104.21,104.22; Title II: 42 U.S.C. 12132; 28 CFR 35.149, 35.150; Mass. Const. amend. art. 114; 603 CMR 28.03(1)(b)(1)</p>		
	Rating: Not Applicable	District Response Required:	No

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:

Interviews indicated that if a student at the Academy, regardless of disability, is not able to meet the academic requirements of the Academy, the student will be returned to his/her sending public school. According to the contract between the Commonwealth and WPI, the academy was established to provide Massachusetts students who are high achievers in math and science the opportunity to take courses at the highest levels. The academy's contractual emphasis on fostered independence and academic excellence in the areas of math and science is applied equally for all students including students with disabilities.

CRITERION NUMBER			
	Legal Standard		
CR 23	<p>Comparability of facilities Where the district provides separate facilities for members of a specific group, those facilities are comparable to those offered other students in the district, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. separate facilities for disabled, limited-English-proficient or pregnant students that are comparable to the facilities for other students in the district; 2. separate toilet, locker room, and shower facilities for students of one gender that are comparable in size, condition, number and location to those provided students of the other gender. <p>Title VI: 42 U.S.C. 2000d; 34 CFR 100.3(b)(2); Title IX: 20 U.S.C. 1681; 34 CFR 106.33, 106.40(b)(3); Section 504: 29 U.S.C. 794; 34 CFR 104.34(c); Mass. Const. amend. art. 114; 603 CMR 28.03(1)(b)</p>		
	Rating: Implemented	District Response Required:	No

CRITERION NUMBER	CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR) AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS VIII. PROGRAM PLAN AND EVALUATION	
	Legal Standard	
CR 24	<p>Curriculum review The district ensures that individual teachers in the district review all educational materials for simplistic and demeaning generalizations, lacking intellectual merit, on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin and sexual orientation. Appropriate activities, discussions and/or supplementary materials are used to provide balance and context for any such stereotypes depicted in such materials.</p> <p>M.G.L. c. 76, § 5; 603 CMR 26.05(2)</p>	
	Rating: Implemented	District Response Required: No

CRITERION NUMBER		
	Legal Standard	
CR 25	<p>Institutional self-evaluation The district evaluates all aspects of its K-12 program annually to ensure that all students, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, limited English proficiency, sexual orientation, disability, or housing status, have equal access to all programs, including athletics and other extracurricular activities. It makes such changes as are indicated by the evaluation.</p> <p>Title VI: 42 U.S.C. 2000d; 34 CFR 100.3(b)(2); EEOA: 20 U.S.C. 1703(f); Section 504: 29 U.S.C. 794; 34 CFR 104.4(b)(4); Title II: 42 U.S.C. 12132; 28 CFR 35.130(b)(3); NCLB: Title III, Part A, Sec. 3121(c)(1)(C); Title X, Part C, Sec. 722(g)(1)(J)(i), 722(g)(7); Mass. Const. amend. art. 114; M.G.L. c. 71A, § 7; c. 76, § 5; 603 CMR 26.07(1),(4)</p>	
	Rating: Implemented	District Response Required: No

CRITERION NUMBER	CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR) AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS IX. RECORD KEEPING
	Legal Standard
CR 26A	<p>Confidentiality and student records</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In accordance with federal and state requirements, the district protects the confidentiality of any personally identifiable information that it collects, uses or maintains. 2. The district maintains and provides access to student records in accordance with federal and state requirements. <p>FERPA: 20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99; M.G.L. c. 71, § 34H; 603 CMR 23.05, 23.07</p>
	<p>Rating: Implemented District Response Required: No</p>

Coordinated Program Review Final Reports are available at:

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