

# HSEFP

High School Extension Program



## High School Extension Program

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[www.cpsd.us/HSEP/](http://www.cpsd.us/HSEP/)

*HSEP at a Glance*

# HSEP at a Glance



## ■ ■ ■ Mission Statement

The mission of the High School Extension Program is to provide a rigorous academic program designed to advance the achievement of all students especially in the areas of reading, writing, and mathematics within a small school environment. Rooted in the community values of trust, honesty, kindness, loyalty, faith, citizenship, courage, integrity, respect and pride, the school is dedicated to developing habits of mind that lead to college or the world of work, upon graduation.

## ■ ■ ■ Philosophy

HSEP believes all students can achieve excellence in a positive, challenging educational environment that stimulates their interests, channels their energies, and develops their abilities. HSEP is committed to providing a nontraditional learning environment for students with distinct needs for these educational services.

HSEP is committed to ensuring opportunities for all students to increase skills in both academic and employment environments. HSEP concentrates on increasing students' academic and career/life skills by offering opportunities not only to earn a high school diploma with credits equal to the same levels of difficulty and standards offered in CRLS, but also to receive personalized career counseling for school-to-college and school-to-work transitions.

**HSEP at a Glance** is published by the Office of Public Information of the Cambridge Public School District.

## ■ ■ ■ Cambridge School Committee

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## ■ ■ ■ Administration

Superintendent of Schools: Dr. Thomas Fowler-Finn  
Deputy Superintendent: Dr. Carolyn L. Turk  
Executive Director of Curriculum Development:  
Dr. Jo Sullivan

### Cambridge Public School District Administrative Office

159 Thorndike Street  
Cambridge, MA 02141  
School Department Main Number:  
617-349-6400

### Emergency School Closings

- Announced on local TV and Radio stations
- Posted on [www.cpsd.us](http://www.cpsd.us)
- Listed on the CPS Link Line: 617-349-6513

The Cambridge Public School System is committed to equal employment opportunity for staff and to the provision of quality educational programs for all students. The school department will maintain an educational environment and workplace where bigotry and intolerance, including discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, disability or age, are not tolerated.

## ■ ■ ■ Frequently Asked Questions

### **What courses will I take at HSEP?**

Students follow the same core courses as at CRLS (English, Social Studies, Math, Science, World Language, Health, Physical Education, Art) and have limited options for electives.

### **When can I apply?**

You may apply at any time. The program has a rolling admissions process.

### **If I attend HSEP can I still do after school activities at CRLS?**

In general, yes.

### **Can I take RSTA classes and attend HSEP?**

It depends on schedules. We will be working on this question. However, if you are primarily interested in a vocational or technical education, RSTA is a better choice.

### **Will HSEP provide special education services for students?**

Yes, although the special education plan will determine whether these services can be provided to the extent necessary.

### **Will HSEP students earn a Cambridge Public School diploma?**

Yes.

### **Will HSEP have mostly boys?**

No, the goal is to have a balanced and diverse school, and the current enrollment is evenly split by gender.

### **What makes HSEP different from Cambridge Rindge & Latin?**

HSEP is a small school with no more than 100 students

Highly individualized attention to students

Class size is limited to 15 students

There are fewer electives than at CRLS

Opportunity for credit recovery

## ■ ■ ■ Message from the Principal



The High School Extension Program is based on the idea that some students need a small school environment to experience academic success and personal growth. At the high school extension program, faculty and students are committed to building a school community that emphasizes personal attention, academic achievement, and preparation for the worlds of work or higher education. HSEP is also a place of “second chances” for students who have

dropped out of school or who need an opportunity to recover their credits for graduation. I look forward to reviewing applications and meeting with Cambridge students who would like to learn more about the High School Extension Program.

## ■ ■ ■ Program Information

The High School Extension Program (HSEP) serves between 60 - 100 students. It is part of the Cambridge Public School District and is located at the former Longfellow School at 359 Broadway. Modeled on other successful, non-traditional high school programs in the nation, this program allows students to learn in an alternative setting and for many, to participate in CRLS after school and club activities.

*“It’s so much smaller... I feel like I’ve learned so much in so little time.”*

-HSEP Student  
Winter 2005

Course curriculum, graduation requirements are in alignment with Massachusetts state guidelines and CRLS. The small setting permits students who have not performed well in school elsewhere an opportunity to succeed, stay engaged with their educational community, graduate with a high school diploma, and earn for themselves a future made brighter with new options for the years after high school.

## ■ ■ ■ Admissions

Admission to HSEP is through a rolling application process that extends throughout the year. The Cambridge Public School District strives to represent the diversity of our community in all its schools; therefore the selection of the students will be based on a variety of factors. The significant factors for acceptance will include the results of the applicant's interview with the HSEP Principal, and the student's expressed sincerity and commitment to graduate and go further in life.

If you are interested in applying for the High School Extension Program, please complete an application at your earliest convenience. Mail or hand deliver the application to: Family Resource Center, 459 Broadway, Cambridge, MA 02138 (617-349-6551). Further documentation may be required upon review of application.

## ■ ■ ■ School Hours

The High School Extension Program runs from 8:00a.m. - 3:00p.m.

## ■ ■ ■ Program Highlights

Some of the school's distinguishing characteristics include:

- Flexible scheduling to meet individual needs
- Small class size; 90-minute class periods
- Emphasis on thinking and problem solving skills
- High expectations for all students
- Focus on individual learning styles and life skills
- Variety of instructional approaches
- Dedicated staff who recognize students' special circumstances and talents
- Support system to assist student achievement and success
- School to Work Program

## ■ ■ ■ Faculty and Staff

### **Dr. Joseph R. Dolan, Principal**

Dr. Dolan is the Principal of the High School Extension Program (HSEP). He was formerly the Director of the High School at the Frederick Douglass Charter School in Boston, and prior to that he worked as Assistant Director of the Lowell Middlesex Academy School and the Director for Charter School Accountability for the Massachusetts Department of Education. He has an Ed.D in Educational Policy, Planning, and Administration from Boston University; MA in Foundations, Curriculum and Teaching from Fairfield University in CT; and a BA in History and Social Science from Eastern Connecticut State University.



The faculty of the High School Extension Program bring a variety of experiences as educators to the task of building a new educational program. Two members of the faculty are former teachers in the Peace Corps in China and Paraguay; one is a practicing artist, and another is developing a non-profit organization designed to build the literacy skills of students

through tutoring. Our teachers are graduates of: Cornell University, University of Michigan, UMass-Amherst, Massachusetts College of Art, Tufts University, University of Wisconsin, Boston University, Williams College, Brown University, Louisiana State University, Bryant College, Middlebury College and Columbia University.





# High School Extension Program

# APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

## SCHOOL INFORMATION

Please complete either **A.** or **B.** and all of **C.** including your written statement.

**A.** If student is currently enrolled in the Cambridge Public School District:

Current School \_\_\_\_\_

CRLS LC \_\_\_\_\_ Guidance Counselor \_\_\_\_\_

**B.** If student **does not** attend CRLS, please indicate the previously attended school(s) and contact information.

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**C.** Has student ever been expelled from his/her school?

YES NO

If **YES**, please state the reason for expulsion.

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## SPECIAL EDUCATION & BILINGUAL INFORMATION

Is student currently receiving special education services?

YES NO

If **YES**, please circle:

Speech Physical Resource Help Self-Contained Classroom

Is student currently attending a **Sheltered English Immersion** classroom or receiving **Bilingual Services**?

YES NO

## EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Student \_\_\_\_\_

*“[HSEP] is helping me. It’s a good environment. They push me to have good attendance, and I’m passing all of my classes.”*

-HSEP Student  
Winter 2005