



## QUINCY'S EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL PATHWAY

### CELEBRATION OF QUINCY'S ECHS PATHWAY AT 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL ECHS SYMPOSIUM

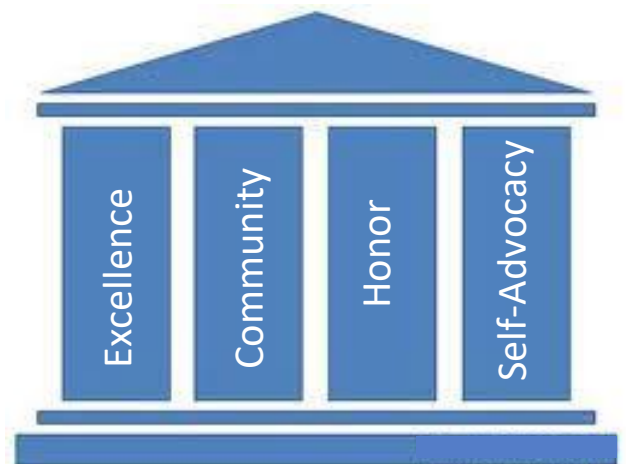
Quincy's Early College High School (ECHS) Pathway is a cohort-based program that provides students the opportunity to earn up to 22 college credits while still in high school, at no cost to families. ECHS students receive robust academic support during their ECHS experience that will better position them to be successful in college and their future career. ECHS begins in grade 10.

The program is made possible by the partnership between Quincy College, Quincy Public Schools, State Street Foundation, and Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.



On Feb. 10, over 200 Quincy Early College High School (ECHS) Pathway students gathered with ECHS teachers and staff, community partners, elected officials and other special guests for the Second Annual ECHS Symposium at Marriott Boston Quincy. Highlights included QHS senior Janai Johnson who served as Master of Ceremonies and NQHS senior Cassidy Plante who spoke to the audience about her experience in the ECHS program and how it has changed her approach to school and increased her motivation for college preparedness. For more information on the event please see page four. *Click on the image above to view part of Cassidy's remarks.*

Four pillars of Quincy's ECHS pathway have been developed to represent the foundational elements of identity and accountability for all ECHS students. To view a video explaining the pillars please click [here](#). Special thanks to the following students for their participation in the video: **Anastasiya Bielova, Kevin Blido, Oscar Castro-Feliz, Harun Chaani, Lauren Ebong, Jessica Li and Denny Tan.**



# TEACHER'S TIP

## CHRIS COMER



Above: Comer (right) with his wife Emily

B.S. in Social Studies Education

Fifth year teaching science at QHS

**ECHS Course: Introduction to Environmental Science**

I grew up nearby, in Milton, Massachusetts, and my love of science started early, when I was introduced to Bill Nye (the Science Guy!) and Ms. Frizzle with her Magic School Bus. When I got to Boston University, I had a hard time deciding whether to go into teaching history or science, though, and was lured away into social studies by my soon-to-be mentor in Education, Professor Dan Davis. But fate follows a winding path, and here I am teaching science after all that! I absolutely love it, and this year I will be finishing up my Master's in Physics Education.

Outside of school, I love reading books with my wife and camping around New England with my friends. I also have a half-blind Whippet/Labrador mix who likes to hang out and play video games, and am excited to report that I have almost caught all 1008 Pokemon.

My advice to you is some that I've taken to heart myself from Physicist Émilie Du Châtelet: ***"Let us choose for ourselves our path in life, and let us try to strew that path with flowers."***



## GRADE 12 ECHS PATHWAY STUDENTS GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

On December 2, grade 12 ECHS students from NQHS and QHS participated in the second of four full-day visitations to the Quincy College campus. Their afternoon was dedicated to participating in one of the following community service projects:

- Preparing lunches for Father Bill's & Mainspring;
- Helping the Germantown Neighborhood Center plan new and creative ways to better serve the community; and
- Participating in a presentation by D.O.V.E related to dating and relationships focusing on empowering students to become leaders and agents for change in their communities.

Students incorporated concepts that they learned in their English Composition and Statistics classes from the morning, including graphing, describing, and drawing conclusions from data on homelessness, hunger, and income, both locally and nationally.

The schedule for the remaining grade 12 Quincy College visitations is as follows:

- Friday, March 3, 2023
- Friday, April 28, 2023



# QUINCY COLLEGE CORNER

## QUINCY COLLEGE TO OPEN NEW RADIOLOGICAL TECHNOLOGY LAB

Construction has begun on Quincy College's new **radiologic technology lab** which will feature state-of-the-art x-ray equipment identical to that used in hospitals and clinics. The college's Radiologic Technology Program is a five- semester program offering an Associate of Science Degree.

Students are educated in radiography equipment operations, production, and evaluation of diagnostic radiographic images, patient care skills, radiation safety, and communication with health care professionals and the public. The program prepares students for entry-level imaging positions in hospitals, clinics, imaging centers, orthopedic/physician offices, mobile imaging companies, and pain management centers.



*Dr. Servet Yatin (left), Provost and Chief Academic Officer of Quincy College and College President Dr. Richard DeCristofaro.*



Former MA Education Secretary James Peyser wrote an opinion piece in support of early college high school programs that appeared in *The Boston Globe* on Feb. 13. Peyser emphasized the need for these innovative programs and explained why the legislature should fund them. Please click [here](#) to view the piece.

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

### Naiara Bautista-Minaya

#### ECHS Pathway Student at NQHS

#### Grade 12

What I like the most about the Early College High School Program are the classes. Since they are structured just like college courses they give me a good idea of what I can expect from a college class. The program has helped me choose a path I'd like to take after high school which eliminates a lot of stress and makes all the decisions less difficult. I am very grateful to all my teachers and counselors because, thanks to them, I am very excited and less worried about my future and decisions.



*Naiara plans to attend Quincy College and would like to be a high school Spanish teacher.*



## CELEBRATION OF QUINCY'S ECHS PATHWAY AT 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL ECHS SYMPOSIUM *(continued)*



Quincy College Professor Dr. Debra Panasuk works with students to draw conclusions from a graphical display during an interactive session on Statistics.



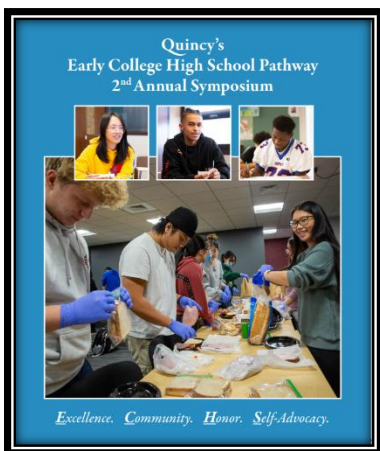
Left to right: Master of Ceremonies Janai Johnson (QHS '23) and student speaker Cassidy Plante (NQHS '23).



Quincy High ECHS College Transition Coach Eli Stewart with (from left to right) Devonate Soto (QHS '22), Alexandria Monteiro (QHS '22), Kiara Ebanks (QHS '22) and Brandon Pham (QHS '22) during an alumni panel session.

At the symposium, which celebrated the second year of Quincy's ECHS Pathway, Johnson introduced a variety of speakers including those pictured below. Those guests touted the value and potential of the ECHS Pathway and the opportunities that it provides Quincy Public Schools' students. Additionally, Quincy College President Dr. DeCristofaro made a surprise announcement that grade 12 ECHS students would receive a full one-year tuition scholarship for the 2023-2024 academic year at Quincy College.

After the speaking portion, students participated in grade-specific breakout sessions featuring interactive discussions between students, staff and invited guests. ECHS Pathway teachers also attended their own breakout sessions focused on evaluating key elements of the program. *Please click on the symposium booklet below to view more information on the event.*



### The Patriot Ledger

Click [here](#) to view an article and photos in *The Patriot Ledger* on the symposium.



*Pictured left to right: MA Secretary of Education Dr. Patrick Tutwiler; Katherine Craven, Chair of the MA Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; Erika Giampietro, Executive Director of the MA Alliance for Early College; MA House Speaker Ron Mariano; City of Quincy Mayor Tom Koch; and Quincy College President Dr. Richard DeCristofaro.*



# TOPICS

Over the past two months, the ECHS school counselor and college transition coaches have worked with students on the following topics during ECHS support blocks:

- **SMART Goals** – Students set goals for terms 2 and 3 that were specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound.
- **Elevator Pitches** – Students created their own elevator pitch by introducing themselves to the class, providing a quick overview of their skills and making a request.
- **Backpack Cleanout** – Managing papers, folders and notebooks is a common challenge for students. They cleaned out and organized their backpacks since keeping organized will help them become more efficient and successful in school.
- **Time Management** – Students learned how to establish their priorities to better manage their time.

## JOIN THE EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL PARENT ADVISORY TEAM!

Quincy's Early College High School (ECHS) Pathway Parent Advisory Team is an initiative that will provide awareness to the Early College High School Pathway program offered at both Quincy and North Quincy High Schools. Through this initiative parents will have the opportunity to connect with fellow parents of current and prospective ECHS Pathway students, make program recommendations, coordinate events with ECHS Pathway staff members, and immerse themselves in the Quincy Public Schools high school community.



*For more information, please contact*

*Eli Stewart at*

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**SPREAD THE WORD**

**QUINCY'S ECHS PATHWAY IS GROWING!** Combined enrollment in the program at both NQHS and QHS has increased 30% this year. For students in grades 9, 10 and 11, we are accepting applications for the fall. *Please contact the ECHS Pathway school counselor or college transition coach at your school for more information!*



For ECHS seniors interested in taking advantage of the full one-year tuition scholarship for the 2023-2024 academic year at Quincy College, please contact your ECHS college transition coach.





# WHAT'S COMING UP?



February 28	Parent Academy on Quincy's ECHS Pathway
March 10 – March 21	Course Selection Period
March 2	College Information Night for Juniors and Families at QHS
March 3	Grade 12 ECHS Visitation to Quincy College
March 8	Early Release Day
March 11	SATs at NQHS and QHS
March 14	Course Selection Night at QHS
March 15	Course Selection Night at NQHS
March 17	Cordis Ensemble's Condition Blue: The Acoustics of Aquatics Performance at NQHS
April 7	No School
April 11	Term 3 Ends
April 12	Early Release Day
April 14	Term 3 Report Cards Posted on Aspen
April 17-21	April Recess – No School
April 28	Grade 12 ECHS Visitation to Quincy College

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