



August 16, 2018

Founders' Welcome

Dear Map Academy Students and Families,

A lot of people ask if Map is an acronym - it is not. The name Map Academy was born at the beginning of our journey to bring a new school model from idea to reality while working for Plymouth Public Schools. During a presentation to a group of local community stakeholders about the need for a new high school option, we focused on a physical map of Plymouth. On that map, we placed a red dot on the home address of every student who had dropped out of high school in the last four years; a green dot for every student who was enrolled in an alternative program; and a yellow dot for every middle school student identified as high risk of dropping out of high school according to the Massachusetts Early Warning Indicator System data. This map, which now hangs in lobby of Map Academy, has 398 dots on it. To us, those dots weren't just stickers on a map; they were real kids and families, many of whom we knew personally through our roles with the district and many of whom will be in our first cohort of Map Academy students. 398 students who needed and deserved a new option.

We knew that these students and families didn't want to give up on high school, but we also knew that they didn't fit the mold of an educational model that was created centuries ago and hasn't fundamentally changed much since then. We knew that if given the choice, most of these students would elect to attend a school that provides support and an opportunity for a better future rather than drop out or walk across the stage with a diploma but without an actionable plan for life beyond graduation. We knew that kids shouldn't progress based on what year they were born. We knew that we couldn't punish away attendance and behavior issues. We knew that telling kids they failed classes and making them double up in core academics to "catch up" did nothing more than push them further away from school. We knew that far too many kids were graduating with no plan and far too many more were not graduating at all. We knew that social emotional needs had to be met before academic progress was expected. We knew that families were increasingly frustrated and at a loss for how to help their children succeed.

And finally--we knew that we could help.

In creating Map Academy we had a single goal: to put students at the center and to make all decisions about teaching and learning, curriculum, systems, supports, schedules, staffing, and environment with the student experience as the sole focus. When the focus remains squarely on the needs and the experience of the student, all of the traditional constructs that push so many students away from school fade into the background. The 398 dots on that original map and countless other students deserve a high school experience that is tailored to their needs and allows them to thrive.

Essentially, we knew that we needed to do high school differently. So it is with great pleasure that we welcome you to Map Academy.

We're so glad you found your way here,

Rachel Babcock and Josh Charpentier
Co-founders and Co-directors

[Find your way here.](#)



MAP ACADEMY

11 Resnik Road
Plymouth, MA
508-830-9500



OPEN HOUSES

for students and families

Thursday, August 23 from 5-7 pm
Saturday, August 25 from 10am-2pm
Monday, August 27 from 3pm-5pm

Find your way here.



MAP ACADEMY

Bus Transportation

As we have communicated, transportation is provided for students in the towns of Plymouth, Carver, and Wareham. Additionally, the GATRA Plymouth lines connect at the Kingston MBTA Station and will bring students to the Industrial Park, a short walk from Map Academy. We have student GATRA passes available. For more information about other GATRA lines that may be helpful, visit their [schedule and routes page](#). For all GATRA lines, in addition to the scheduled stops, students may board/depart anywhere along the bus route by flagging down the bus driver.

GATRA Freedom Line		GATRA Liberty Line		GATRA Freedom Line		GATRA Liberty Line	
8:00 am	Plymouth Center	8:00am	Plymouth Center	3:20 pm	Industrial Park	3:15 pm	Market Basket
8:10 am	Cordage Park	8:07 am	Shaw's	3:25 pm	Walmart	3:20 pm	Walmart
8:15 am	Kingston Train	8:10 am	Algonquin Heights Apt.	3:30 pm	Market Basket	3:25 pm	Industrial Park
8:20 am	Kingston Collection	8:15 am	Market Basket	3:33 pm	Algonquin Heights Apt.	3:30 pm	Kingston Collection
8:25 am	Industrial Park	8:20 am	Walmart	3:36 pm	Shaw's	3:38 pm	Kingston Train
8:30 am	Walmart	8:25 am	Industrial Park	3:50 pm	Plymouth Center	3:48 pm	Cordage Park
8:35 am	Market Basket					3:57 pm	Plymouth Center

Carver and Wareham

For residents of Wareham and Carver, the Map Academy GATRA line will go down the main roads stopping at three central locations. If you live anywhere along this route you can flag the GATRA line down, however it is scheduled to stop at the following locations.

GATRA P-7		GATRA P-5	
7:45 am	7-Eleven 3 Barker Rd, E.Wareham	3:30 pm	Map Academy
8:00 am	7-Eleven 2196 Cranberry Hwy, W. Wareham	3:58 pm	Our Lady of Lourdes , 130 Main St., Carver
8:11 am	Our Lady of Lourdes 130 Main St., Carver	4:12 pm	7-Eleven 2196 Cranberry Hwy, W. Wareham
8:30 am	Map Academy	4:22 pm	7--Eleven 3 Barker Rd, E.Wareham

Plymouth

For students living in Plymouth, the bus should pick up near your home. If one of the following stops is not near you please email Josh at jcharpentier@themapacademy.org ASAP.

Bus Number 70		Bus Number 71		Bus Number 72		Bus Number 73	
7:38 am	165 Hedges Pond Rd	7:33 am	Samoset St & Seneca Ln	7:51 am	South St & Sandwich St	7:19 am	47 Valley Rd
7:40 am	Long Pond Rd & Lunns Way	7:38 am	32 Yale Ave	7:52 am	Market St & Pleasant St	7:30 am	State Rd & Barnfield Dr
7:47 am	710 Ship Pond Rd	7:41 am	Esta Rd & Lascala Ave	7:53 am	Summer St & Russell St	7:35 am	State Rd & Manomet Bch Blvd
7:52 am	Clark Rd & Fairview Ln	7:43 am	Carver Rd & Lisa Ave	7:54 am	Oak St & Margerie St	7:36 am	State Rd & Kathleen Dr (Shallow Pond Est)
7:56 am	Long Pond Rd & Martingale Ln	7:46 am	Carver Rd & Flintlocke Dr	7:57 am	Algonquin Depot	7:37 am	State Rd & Melix Ave
8:06 am	South St & Welch St	7:47 am	Carver Rd & Montgomery Dr	7:59 am	Westerly Rd & Royal St	7:39 am	Fresh Pond Cir & Fox Rd
8:07 am	76 South St	7:51 am	47 Jan Marie Dr	7:59 am	Westerly Rd & Duck Plain Rd	7:45 am	State Rd & Bartlett Ave
8:11 am	Bradley Ln & Greener Pastures Ln	7:52 am	Jan Marie Dr & 2nd Jacqueline Ln	8:00 am	Westerly Rd & Oak Ridge Rd	7:49 am	Bartlett Rd & Earl Rd
8:13 am	169 South St	7:59 am	Kings Pond Plain Rd & Knight Ave	8:02 am	Standish Ave & Savery Ln	7:53 am	27 White Horse Rd
8:20 am	Map Academy	8:03 am	Federal Furnace Rd & Hallick Rd	8:03 am	Standish Ave & Bourne St	7:54 am	White Horse Rd & Arboretum Rd
		8:09 am	Palmer Rd & Guild Rd	8:04 a,	Spooner St & Park Rd	7:55 am	White Horse Rd & Robbins Hill Rd
		8:15 am	Summer St & Marc Dr	8:05 am	Court St & Forest Ave	8:01 am	Beaver Dam Rd & Bogside Dr
		8:20 am	Map Academy	8:06 am	Court St & Hedge Rd	8:06 am	In front on the Market parking Lot
				8:07 am	Court St & Magoni Ter	8:20 am	Map Academy
				8:08 am	262R Court St		
				8:09 am	Court St & Olmstead Ter		
				8:10 am	Court St & Allerton St		
				8:12 am	11A Standish Ave		
				8:18 am	61 Industrial Park Rd		
				8:20 am	Map Academy		

Find your way here.



Welcome to Map Academy! We have totally redesigned high school and are thrilled that you're joining us. Based on questions you have asked, here are some answers that might help you feel more prepared for **Thursday, August 30th** which is **Opening Day!** All materials in this packet can be found on the school website under Student and Family Resources.

Top TEN Questions Students are Wondering

1. What do I need to bring?

Honestly you don't *need* anything but yourself. But we recommend a bag to transport the Chromebook you'll be getting from Map Academy. While your coursework doesn't require binders and notebooks, you may find that having something to write with and something to write in is helpful. And finally, we recommend anything that makes it easier for you to learn: headphones, music, gum, snacks, water bottle, stress ball, etc.

2. Will you feed me?

Yes! Map Academy will provide all students breakfast (8-8:30), lunch, and snack. You are welcome to bring food of your own. Unlike many schools, you are welcome to eat what you want, when you want. For students over the age of 18 you may sign yourself out to get food during lunch. Food fuels your brain and is a necessity for learning. If you have any food allergies please let your Anchor teacher and the nurse know on the first day of school.

3. How will I get to school?

Transportation will be provided for all Plymouth residents. If you live in Carver or Wareham you can take a GATRA bus provided by the school. You can get picked up at one of the designated stops or flag the bus anywhere along the route. You can drive if you have your license, but please make sure you have let us know through the transportation survey so we can plan parking because space is tight. If you have not yet submitted the incoming student survey, please check your email and do so ASAP. This information helps us plan transportation.

4. What about my schedule and teachers?

Your schedule, in terms of the order of your studios, will be available on the first day of school. In line with breaking the mold of traditional school, you will not have assigned teachers. Each studio has three content specialists that you will work with depending on the skills and competencies you are working on. Additionally, our support staff will always be available when you need them. * You'll notice that we are a first name basis school.*

Humanities: Emily, Maureen, Meg

Math: Cheryl, Liz, TBD

Science: Heather, Laura, Marcy

Co-directors: Josh, Rachel

Social Workers: Mike, Maxanne

Outreach Coordinator: Lance

Special Ed. Coordinator: Ashley

Partnerships Coordinator: Emily

Nurse: Bonnie

Special Ed. Fellow: Ryan

Wellness Fellow: Anre

Operations: Leslie

5. What will my day be like?*

7:45 - 8:30 Building open, student arrival, breakfast served

8:30 - 9:25 Anchor Block- Advisory, Personalized Learning Time, Electives

9:30 - 10:55 Studio Block

11:00 -11:25 Lunch

11:30 - 12:55 Studio Block

1:00 - 2:25 Studio Block

2:30 - 3:30 Anchor Block, Advisory, Personalized Learning Time, Electives

3:30 Dismissal

3:30 - 5:30 Monday, Tuesday & Thursday: Optional Extended Day--Academic and Enrichment opportunities; may be required for students on flexible schedule.

*Your **Anchor** assignment will be available at the Open Houses. During each Studio Block you will be assigned Humanities, Math or Science.*

*As you know, at Map Academy we are committed to making high school work for each individual student, so while the schedule above will apply to most students, some of you will have individualized schedules that better meet your needs.

7:45 - 8:30 Building open, breakfast served

8:30 - 9:15 Anchor Block

9:20 - 10:05 Studio Block

10:10 - 10:55 Studio Block

11:00 - 11:25 Lunch

11:30 - 12:15 Studio Block

12:20 - 1:00 Anchor Block, snack provided

Every Wednesday is an early release.

The schedule will generally remain the same, but the times will change.

6. What classes will I take?

All students will begin in the Map Academy Intro Course. This will introduce you to our online Tracker which is our blended, personalized learning management system and help your teachers get to know you and how you learn best. The Tracker will be your access point to the curriculum, but this is not traditional online learning. In addition to the Intro Course you will be enrolled in a Humanities (ELA & History), Math, and Science course that will build your competencies and be based on your own individual needs. The classes are not your typical high school classes that are year long (for example: English 3 or US History II). Instead, you will take courses that vary in length but tend to be about the amount of work covered in a traditional semester, and are based on skill competencies. In addition, you will work with your Anchor and other teachers to identify your interests and will have access to a range of Elective and Career Development opportunities.

7. What grade will I be in?

We don't have grade levels. Each student has an individualized pathway and we will meet you at your level of engagement and preparedness. Your Tracker will tell you how many credits you have already earned, as well as how many you need to graduate. Unlike traditional schools, you are in charge of your learning at Map Academy. You can move through your remaining credits at a pace that works for you and meet graduation requirements when you are ready. We will hold a *full, equally important* graduation four times a year.

8. What electives do you offer?

Electives and enrichment opportunities are also personalized at Map Academy. Some activities you are already engaged in (CrossFit class, local Theater Production, full time Landscaping work) may count toward your electives with some guidance from your Anchor teacher and documentation and reflection by you. Other opportunities (Coding Class, Visual Arts, Pilates, etc.) will be offered based on student interest and demand. You might also choose electives in the Tracker, from other online course providers or, when you're ready, take a course at Quincy College.

9. Do I get to (or have to) do PE?

If you still need to earn Health and Wellness credits, which includes Physical Education, or if you want to earn additional credits as electives we will definitely have opportunities for you! Opportunities may include: basketball at the Boys & Girls Club, working out at a local gym, yoga taught by certified instructors, running/walking clubs, and more. If you already engage in physical activity outside of school hours (training for a 5K, attending a fitness class, taking dance, playing on an men's league baseball team) we can award credit for that as well, with proper documentation and reflection.

10. What will I need to do in order to graduate?

8 credits in both ELA and Math

6 credits in both History and Science

4 credits in Health and Wellness

2 to 4 credits in Career Development

10 elective credits

In addition to the 46 or 48 Credits required you need:

A **capstone project** (1 credit)

A **post-secondary plan** (1 credit)

And **passing scores on MCAS** ELA, Math, and Science.

Find your way here.



JULY 2018							JANUARY 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31					27	28	29	30	31		
⁴ Independence Day Holiday							¹⁻⁴ Holiday Recess – No School ¹ New Year's Day Holiday – No School ²¹ Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday – No School						
18 Days							18 Days						
AUGUST 2018							FEBRUARY 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4						1	2
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30	31		24	25	26	27	28		
2 Days							¹⁸ Presidents Day – No School						
19 Days							19 Days						
SEPTEMBER 2018							MARCH 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1						1	2
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
30							31						
² Labor Day Holiday – No School							¹⁸⁻²² Spring Break – No School						
19 Days							16 Days						
OCTOBER 2018							APRIL 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31				28	29	30				
⁴ Columbus Day Holiday – No School							¹⁵ Patriots Day – No School ¹⁹ Good Friday						
22 Days							20 Days						
NOVEMBER 2018							MAY 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3				1	2	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	28	29	30		26	27	28	29	30	31	
⁴ Mid Term Election Day – No School Students ¹² Veterans' Day Observance – No School							²⁷ Memorial Day Holiday – No School						
15 Days							22 Days						
DECEMBER 2018							JUNE 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1							1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31						30						
²⁴⁻³¹ Holiday Recess – No School							² Teacher day will be added after the last day of school for students						
15 Days							12 Days						
SCHOOL DAYS							TEACHER PD DAYS						
							NO SCHOOL STAFF AND STUDENTS						
							EXTRA DAYS FOR UNANTICIPATED CLOSURES						