



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.](#)

web: themapacademy.org phone: 508.830.9500 address: 11 Resnik Rd. Plymouth, MA 02360



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 here](#). 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

BUS NUMBER 1			BUS NUMBER 2		
7:15 AM	Depart Bus Lot (South Lot)		7:35 AM	Depart North Lot	
7:19 AM	165 Hedges Pond Road		7:41 AM	Summer Street & Russell Street	
7:27 AM	State Road & Clare Road		7:45 AM	Westerly Road & Royal Street	
7:30 AM	State Road & Mayflower DR		7:47 AM	Standish Ave & Savery Land	
7:33 AM	State Road & Manomet Beach BLVD		7:49 AM	Court Street & Forest Ave	
7:35 AM	State RD & Melix Ave		7:54 AM	Court Street & Allerton Street	
7:38 AM	Fresh Pond Cir & Fox RD		7:57 AM	Algonquin Depot	
7:45 AM	White Horse Road & Arboretum Road		7:59 AM	Samoset Street & Seneca Lane	
7:48 AM	Grey Apartment Star Program		8:04 AM	Federal Furnace Road & Hallick Road	
7:53 AM	Clark RD & Fairview LN		8:14 AM	Esta Road & Lascala Ave	
7:55 AM	6 Purchase Street/ The Market		8:19 AM	Map Academy	
8:02 AM	Long Pond Road & Martingale Lane				
8:10 AM	169 South ST				
8:15 AM	Map Academy				

Find your way here.

2018

ACADEMIC YEAR 2018-19 CALENDAR

2019

⁴ Independence Day Holiday

JULY 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JANUARY 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

18 Days
¹⁻⁴ Holiday Recess – No School
¹ New Year's Day Holiday – No School
²¹ Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday – No School

2 Days

AUGUST 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

FEBRUARY 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

19 Days
¹⁸ Presidents Day – No School

19 Days

³ Labor Day Holiday – No School

SEPTEMBER 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

MARCH 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

16 Days
¹⁸⁻²² Spring Break – No School

22 Days

⁸ Columbus Day Holiday – No School

OCTOBER 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

APRIL 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

20 Days
¹⁵ Patriots Day – No School
¹⁹ Good Friday

15 Days

⁶ Mid Term Election Day – No School Students
¹² Veterans' Day Observance – No School

NOVEMBER 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

MAY 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

22 Days
²⁷ Memorial Day Holiday – No School

15 Days

²⁴⁻³¹ Holiday Recess – No School

DECEMBER 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

JUNE 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

12 Days
*Teacher day will be added after the last day of school for students

SCHOOL DAYS	TEACHER PD DAYS	NO SCHOOL STAFF AND STUDENTS	EXTRA DAYS FOR UNANTICIPATED CLOSURES
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Welcome to Map Academy! We have totally redesigned high school and are thrilled that you're joining us. Based on questions we hear often from new students, here are some answers that might help you feel more prepared for your first day! You can find an [Academic Year 2018-2019 Calendar](#) here.

Top TEN Questions New Students Wonder

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 provides breakfast (8-8:30), lunch, and snack for all students, free of charge. 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 your first day.

3. How will I get to school?

Transportation is 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. There is parking available, so you can drive if you have your license.

4. What about my schedule and teachers?

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

Humanities: Maureen, Meg

Math: Cheryl, Kevin

Science: Heather, Laura, Marcy

Co-directors: Josh, Rachel

Social Workers: Mike, Maxanne

Outreach Coordinator: Lance

Special Ed. Coordinator: Ryan

Student Support Fellow: Anre

Nurse: Heather

Receptionist: Marisol

5. What will my day be like?*

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

8:30 – 9:30 Anchor Block- Advisory, Goal Setting, Personalized Learning

9:35 – 10:40 Studio Block A

10:45 – 11:50 Studio Block B

11:55 – 12:25 Lunch

12:30 – 1:30 Elective Block

1:35 – 2:40 Studio Block C

2:45 – 3:30 Anchor Block, Advisory, Personalized Learning Time

3:30 Dismissal

4:00 – 7:00pm Tuesday & Thursday: Drop In support available for Over 18 students on flexible schedules

During each Studio Block you will be assigned Humanities, Math or Science.

*At Map Academy we are committed to making high school work for each individual student, so while this schedule applies to most students, some students have individualized schedules that better meet their needs.

Every Wednesday is an early release, with the student day ending at 1pm.

Wednesday Schedule

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

8:30 - 9:15 Anchor Block

9:20 - 10:05 Studio Block A

10:10 -10:55 Studio Block B

11:00 - 11:25 Lunch

11:30 - 12:15 Studio Block C

12:20 - 1:00 Anchor Block

6. What classes will I take?

All students begin in the Map Academy Intro Course. This course introduces you to our online Tracker which is our blended, personalized learning management system and helps 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 Humanities (ELA & History), Math, and Science courses that will build your competencies and be based on your own individual needs. The classes are not your typical year long high school classes (for example: English 3 or US History II). Instead, you will take competency-based courses that vary in length but cover about the amount of work covered in a traditional semester. You'll work at your own pace and when you finish a course you'll get a credit and move on to another one. 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. Rather than the traditional once a year graduation in June, we hold a *full, equally important* graduation four times a year so that students can graduate when they're ready.

8. What electives do you offer?

Electives and enrichment opportunities are also personalized at Map Academy. Some activities you are already engaged in (CrossFit, local theater production, full time work) may count toward your electives with some guidance from your Anchor teacher and documentation and reflection by you. Other opportunities (Coding, Visual Arts, Music, Technology, Theater, etc.) are 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 dual enrollment college class.

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 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 a 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?

A minimum of:

- 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 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.