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University of Massachusetts Boston Upward Bound

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University of Massachusetts Boston Upward Bound

Boston Public School Partners: Dorchester Academy, Burke High School, Excel High School, Madison Park High School

Summary/Abstract

- Upward Bound is an intensive, year-round college-prep program. Our mission is to assist low-income and/or first-generation college bound high school students in the successful completion of secondary education.
- We strive to prepare our students academically and socially towards the enrollment and completion of higher education. Upward Bound offers services to students through an after-school program at UMass-Boston during the school year and a six-week summer residential academic program.

Goals and Objectives

To prepare high school students academically and socially for enrollment and completion of higher education.

Academic Year

During the academic year Upward Bound students participate in a variety of interdisciplinary courses that involve hands-on projects. They take field-trips to expand their knowledge beyond the classroom. After-school Tutoring is offered daily.

Summer Residential Component

During the summer program students live on a college campus for six weeks. During this six weeks they take courses, explore new interests through workshops and participate in cultural events.

Results/Impact

- Over the past 5 years, 98% of program graduates have enrolled in college
- Over the past 5 years, students have completed two intensive service-learning projects and accumulated 700 service hours.
- 79% of the graduating class of 2011 received a score of proficient or higher on the ELA MCAS, compared to 64% for the BPS district.
- 72% of the graduating class of 2011 received a score of proficient or higher on the Math MCAS, compared to 62% for the BPS district.

Approaches and Methods

- Rigorous, relevant, & nurturing academic courses
- Individual and small-group tutoring services
- College-preparatory workshops
- Personal, college, & financial aid advising
- Career exploration
- Leadership development & community service
- Cultural enrichment
- 6 week summer residential program: Simulated College Experience

Contact Information

For more information please contact upward.bound@umb.edu or 617-287-5845.