

a Salute to METCO

About METCO Inc.

The Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunity - METCO

The Metropolitan Council for Education Opportunity, Inc. founded in 1965 what has today become the largest and best known voluntary school desegregation program in the country. On September 6, 1966, the first 220 Boston METCO students rode their “yellow chariots” to classrooms in seven communities to gain better educational opportunities. Now, 3,289 Boston and Springfield students attend public schools in 38 suburban communities in Massachusetts through the METCO program.

METCO Inc. is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization.

Services provided by METCO Inc. to support the program include:

- Tutorial programs
- Academic test preparations
- Counseling/psychological services
- Summer enrichment programs
- Transportation coordination
- Community support
- Oversight and research
- Central administrative services
- Student referrals and continuation
- Legislative outreach/advocacy
- Guidance counseling
- College scholarships

How do METCO students perform compared to the state average?

- In the past three years, 87% of METCO graduates have matriculated into college (by comparison, the state average college matriculation rate was only 77%).
- Last year, every METCO senior passed the MCAS requirement and graduated with his or her class.
- METCO prepares our suburban students to compete in an increasingly diverse nation and rapidly expanding world.

Where do METCO students come from?

METCO Inc. provides its services to students from every neighborhood in Boston, including: Roxbury, Jamaica Plain, Dorchester, Allston-Brighton, South Boston, Mattapan, Roslindale, West Roxbury, the South End, and Chinatown.

Participating METCO school districts – Boston

| | | | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Arlington | Bedford | Belmont | Braintree | Brookline |
| Carlisle | Cohasset | Concord | Dover | Foxborough |
| Framingham | Hingham | Lexington | Lincoln | Lynnfield |
| Marblehead | Melrose | Natick | Needham | Newton |
| Reading | Scituate | Sharon | Sherborn | Sudbury |
| Swampscott | Wakefield | Walpole | Wayland | Wellesley |
| Weston | Westwood | | | |

Participating METCO school districts – Springfield

| | | | | |
|-----------------|---------|------------|-----------|---------|
| East Longmeadow | Hampden | Longmeadow | Southwick | Tolland |
| Wilbraham | | | | |

Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunity, Inc.
40 Dimock Street □ Roxbury, MA 02119 □ 617/427.1545 □ metcoinc.org

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Fact Sheet

Dedicated to Opening the Door to Educational Opportunity in Massachusetts since 1965

What: *A Salute to METCO: Dedicated to 41 Years of Opening the Door to Educational Opportunity for Urban and Suburban Students in Massachusetts*

The Salute to METCO will be our 4th annual September event celebrating METCO's success and beginning the discussion as to its future with an extraordinary evening of food, entertainment, and community. A prominent keynote speaker will deliver a special address.

Who: You, your company/organization, and hundreds of others who have benefited from or believe in the hard work and vision of the METCO program

Location: The Franklin Park Zoo – Beech Grove Pavilion
One Franklin Park Road – Giraffe Entrance
Dorchester, MA 02121

Date: Saturday, September 29, 2007
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Entry: Admission is free after 6 pm, but we encourage your support of the METCO program by becoming a sponsor (see the "Sponsorship Levels" page).

Benefits: Proceeds benefit the METCO program, the largest voluntary school desegregation program in the nation. METCO is a public school program created by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts through the Racial Imbalance Act of 1965. It affords better educational opportunities to urban children and it provides a more culturally diverse learning experience for suburban children. METCO Inc. provides services to support METCO students and their families.

Currently, METCO represents approximately 2,800 Boston families and over 100,000 suburban families. Through METCO, more than 10,250 Boston and Springfield students have graduated from participating suburban school districts and have matriculated into various universities and professions throughout the region, the country, and the world. METCO Inc. is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization.

Attendees: Hundreds of attendees are anticipated. Attendees are community leaders and supporters, and elected and appointed officials from the Greater Boston area and from the participating METCO school districts. Alumni, participating students and their parents, and their educators are also expected to compose a large part of those in attendance, as well as our sponsors that support the program. Among these groups, we look forward to seeing you there!

Sponsors: Among our sponsors are The TJX Companies Inc., Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, and many more large and small companies, organizations and foundations across the state.

Website: Please visit www.METCOinc.org.

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