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**Charter School Students Ace MCAS**

CAMBRIDGE, MA – Students at the Community Charter School of Cambridge exceeded all expectations on the MCAS. 100% passed the English portion of the test and 93% passed in math. Over 86% scored either proficient or advanced. This represents a dramatic improvement for many of the students compared to their previous scores while attending other schools.

The Community Charter School of Cambridge (CCSC), founded two years ago, is a public, tuition-free charter school. Now in its third year, it serves 240 students, primarily from Cambridge, in grades 7- 11. It will graduate its first seniors next year: the class that just aced the MCAS.

Associate Principal Emma Stellman said, “When these students entered our school, many were reading below grade level. They had never read a complete book and had never read for pleasure. Now they’re reading novels and college brochures as they think about a very different future.”

Paula Evans, Head of School, attributed the results to “great teachers and wonderful students who really want to learn.” She emphasized that CCSC did not simply reduce its curriculum to test preparation. “We offer our students a full, rich curriculum that goes well beyond MCAS,” she said, “but we made sure to give all our students the tools to do well on the test.” The school’s teachers, along with volunteer tutors, worked with students after school and on Saturdays to give each student the fundamental skills they needed.”

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