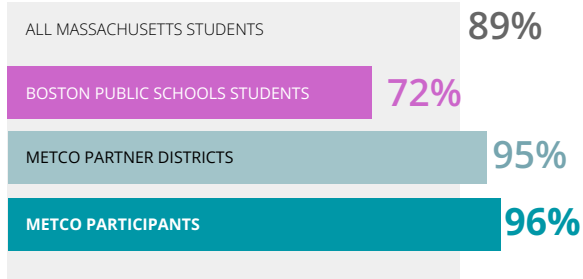




#### 4-YEAR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE, 2019



## What is METCO's impact?

### METCO's track record speaks for itself.

The graduation and college attainment rates of METCO students are far above state averages. But METCO's impact extends beyond the classroom:

- Students, parents, and teachers of different backgrounds appreciate diversity and find common ground through shared experiences
- Lifelong friendships form between diverse students
- Young people are prepared to become global citizens
- Tens of thousands of METCO alumni are community leaders in business, government, and non-profit organizations, and proud parents of next-generation METCO students

## What is METCO, Inc.?

METCO, Inc., referred to as headquarters (HQ), is a hub for resources, support, and advocacy for students, families, schools, and communities.

Working with METCO Directors, district administrators, teachers, community groups, and external partners, we provide year-round programming to fulfill METCO's mission and purpose.

- **ENROLLMENT** Student recruitment, application assistance, and referral to partner districts
- **STUDENT & FAMILY SUPPORT** Social-emotional and academic support, youth leadership, enrichment, higher education and career exploration, advocacy, and resources for families and students
- **RACIAL EQUITY INITIATIVES** Professional development for educators and access to resources to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion
- **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT** Opportunities to connect urban and suburban families, and alumni through educational, artistic, and social events
- **FUNDRAISING & ADVOCACY** Mobilizing constituents to sustain state funding and securing financial resources for innovative programming



@MetcoIncHQ



Metco, Inc. Headquarters



metcoinchq

11 Roxbury Street, Roxbury, MA 02119  
(617) 427-1545 fax (617) 541-0550

[METCOinc.org](http://METCOinc.org)



**Together we are better.**



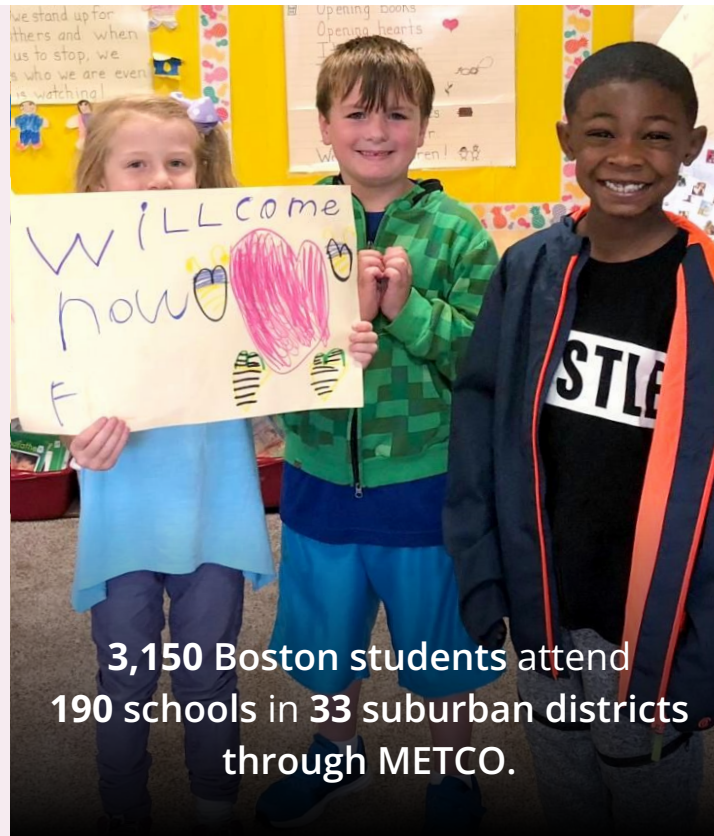
## What is METCO?

METCO is the nation's largest voluntary school desegregation program.

Founded in the peak of the Civil Rights Movement, METCO places students from racially segregated Boston neighborhoods into racially isolated suburban schools—creating learning environments rich in cultural, educational, ethnic, and racial diversity.

**Any Boston resident entering Kindergarten through 10th grade may apply to be enrolled in METCO.**

- Districts select eligible students by lottery every year based on the number of slots available in each grade and their integration goals
- No preference is given based on academic or athletic performance, personal relationships, or financial need



## How did METCO start?

In the 1960s, a grassroots movement led by Black women fought for their children's right to equitable education in Boston.

Fed up with the refusal of Boston's School Committee to acknowledge the negative impact of racial segregation, they organized boycotts, educational programming, and unofficial busing programs to send their children to majority-white schools in other neighborhoods.

Still, many white activist parents and officials in Boston continued to resist legislative efforts to address racial imbalance, and refused to adopt any proposals to enroll African-American students in better schools.

**In neighboring suburbs, white parents became concerned with the injustice and their own children's racial isolation.**

A group of suburbs formed a coalition with Boston parents that would allow other towns to enroll Boston students in their public schools, naming it the **Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunity.**

In 1966, 220 students, aged 5 to 16, rode buses from Boston to schools in seven suburbs: **Arlington, Braintree, Brookline, Lexington, Lincoln, Newton, and Wellesley.**

Dozens of other towns joined the network within the first ten years. Massachusetts adopted General Law Chapter 76, Section 12A, which gave town school committees and districts the right to **"help alleviate racial isolation"** and **"racial imbalance"** by enrolling students from across district lines. METCO, Inc., was established as the vehicle for this placement, funded by the state and administered by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

**METCO is now a Boston-area institution, expanding opportunity and breaking down educational barriers for more than 50 years.**

## How does METCO work?

**METCO students are full and equal members of their suburban school community, and receive the same supports.**

- Suburbs arrange transportation between Boston neighborhoods and suburban schools, in designated stops
- Suburbs are reimbursed from a state line item and receive Chapter 70 funds for each student
- **METCO Directors** and staff work for suburban districts, advocating for student success
- **METCO, Inc.** in Boston manages the application process; offers academics, enrichment, and social work for students; professional development, parent education, and engagement events for adults; and advocacy for the mission of integration

