



IBM's Commitment to Education

As one of the leading technology corporations in the world, IBM depends on a talented future workforce to have continued success. Nothing is more fundamental to economic growth than building 21-century skills for all students. IBM's longstanding commitment to education has evolved over the years to anticipate the needs of a changing world. Service and volunteering have always been essential elements of what it means to be an IBMer. As a result, IBM has been participating in business-education partnerships throughout its history. In Massachusetts IBM is proudest of its long lasting collaborations with Boston Latin Academy and with Cambridge Public Schools. Both of these long standing relationships emphasize STEM and career exploration, in alignment with IBM's commitment to education.

IBM and Boston Latin Academy School Partnership

Boston Latin Academy is one of three public examination schools in Boston providing students in grades 7th through 12th grade with a rigorous classical preparatory education. The school partnership formed between IBM and Boston Latin Academy 40 years ago has endured, with activities supported by the Boston Private Industry Council engaging hundreds of students each year emphasizing college and career readiness and academic achievement.

- **Mock Interview Workshop:** Over the course of a two-day workshop IBM volunteers offer the entire junior class of approximately 300 student advice on resume building, college and career interview preparation and techniques, as well as career and internship guidance.
- **Job Shadow Day:** Each Spring IBM hosts a group of Boston Latin Academy juniors at their Cambridge office where the students are paired with an IBM employee and spend the day engaged in job shadowing in a STEM field.
- **Honor Roll Luncheon:** As a way to recognize students who excelled by making the honor roll during the entire academic year, IBM hosts an honor roll lunch for over 300 students onsite at Boston Latin Academy, recognizing each student with a certificate of achievement.

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IBM MentorPlace in the Cambridge Public Schools

IBM MentorPlace is an online mentoring program that links the knowledge, dedication, and enthusiasm of teachers and students with the talent, skills and volunteering spirit of IBM employees. In over 35 countries, more than 6,000 IBM employees are providing academic assistance and career guidance to over 7,000 students. MentorPlace provides a real-world framework to support employee volunteerism, and connects IBM mentors to students using online activities that correspond directly to their classroom learning.

- For over 20 years, in collaboration the Cambridge Public Schools and Cambridge School Volunteers, IBM has provided mentors for hundreds of middle school students.
- IBM mentors and students work together on projects such as writing a mentor biography project demonstrating choices leading to career paths while emphasizing writing skills.
- IBM supports the City of Cambridge's goal to provide a STEM mentor for every Cambridge 7th grade student, and invites other companies to join in this effort.

IBM is proud of the partnerships they have been able to maintain with Boston Latin Academy and Cambridge Public Schools. Part of what makes these enduring partnerships successful is the strong and open communication between the schools and IBM, and the commitment to adapting programs to meet the changing needs of the students and schools. In addition, the programs benefit from strong leadership where experienced volunteers are offered the opportunity to develop their leadership and organizational skills by serving as program coordinators. IBM takes pride in its partnerships with local schools and is proud of the work that its employees do to excite Massachusetts' future workforce in STEM related fields.