



The Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education Announces Survey of Massachusetts Parents, Finding Concerns About Student’s Readiness for College and Careers

Boston, MA, January 22, 2025 – The Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education (MBAE) released "[The State of Educational Opportunity in Massachusetts](#)", a survey of parents of school-aged children. The survey provides insight into the educational opportunities available to children across Massachusetts.

The survey finds Massachusetts parents are generally very pleased with the state’s education system, but it can be strengthened to better prepare students for college and careers. Findings of the survey include:

Many parents don’t believe that their students are prepared for college. Massachusetts ranks at the bottom nationally in the percentage of parents who say that their students are ready for college. Further, just 15% of parents said their students participate in dual enrollment compared to 25% nationally. However, among those that do participate, satisfaction with these programs is quite higher here than the national average.

Parents are also concerned about their student’s readiness for the workforce. The Commonwealth ranks in the bottom tier of states in the view of parents on preparing students for workforce opportunities. Just 26% of parents said they are extremely confident their child is equipped for the workforce compared to 34% nationally.

“These findings are consistent with what we’ve heard from business leaders across the state,” said Ed Lambert, Executive Director of MBAE. “We’ve got to broaden access to opportunities for students to earn college credits, credentials, and career-connected learning experiences in order for students to graduate ready for the future.”

The report is part of the "[The State of Educational Opportunity in America: A Survey of 20,000 Parents](#),” one of the largest education-focused surveys of parents in the past decade. This survey explores the ecosystem of educational opportunities inside and outside of school, and how they interrelate and impact a child’s success.

"With such a large sample size, we are able to dig into the findings by state and across a range of important audiences. By making the findings publicly available, this is a gift of data

that can inform conversations among communities and elected officials." said Pam Loeb, Principal at Edge Research.

For more information about the survey or to access the full Massachusetts report, please visit mbae.org or contact: Tricia Lederer, tlederer@mbae.org. For more information about the national survey, and to access the full results and data set, please visit 50can.org or contact: Ned Stanley VP of Communications, 50CAN 415.654.4292, ned.stanley@50can.org.

About MBAE

The Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that, together with our members, promotes and supports continuous improvement in our schools and innovation that is needed to ensure that EVERY student receives a high-quality education that prepares them for success in college, career, and citizenship.

The MBAE Affiliate Network, made up of 43 chambers of commerce and business and industry associations from around the state, work together to present a unified voice of business on education policy issues. Network members share MBAE's commitment to ensuring every student gets the education they need to be successful.