

METCO Mission

The mission of the METCO Program is to provide **urban and suburban students with opportunities to enrich their academic, personal, and interpersonal experiences.** At DS, we believe that the METCO experience should offer **rigorous academics**, afford opportunities for **personal growth**, foster **positive relationships** with peers, families and alumni, attend to **well-being**, build **leadership skills**, and provide a **strong academic foundation.**

Goals of METCO

The goals of the state-wide METCO program are to:

- **Increase diversity and reduce racial isolation** in suburban districts.
- Promote **cooperation and understanding between urban and suburban families** and educators.
- Provide a strong academic foundation, as well as an **academic environment rich in cultural, educational, ethnic and racial diversity.**
- Teach and foster leadership.

What is METCO?

The **Metropolitan Council** for Educational Opportunity (METCO) is a program funded annually by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the Racial Imbalance Act in order to increase racial diversity and reduce racial isolation in suburban districts. The Program was started in 1966 and currently has 3,183 students participating in 33 school districts in the Boston area.

Registration is free for any student residing in the Boston area. Matriculation is granted using a lottery system.

Dover Sherborn Public Schools

METCO Program



*Strengthening our
community through
diversity in
education*

Our District

Dover Sherborn Regional School District

Dover Sherborn Middle School
Dover Sherborn High School
Chickering Elementary School (Dover)
Pine Hill Elementary School (Sherborn)

METCO Leadership

METCO Director for Dover and Sherborn

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METCO in Dover and Sherborn

In our towns, the METCO grant enrolls **40 students in grades K through 12** in our four public schools. Student enrollment is based on number of seats available through annual program funding.

Family Friend Program

At Pine Hill and Chickering Elementary Schools, the CSA and the PTO run the Family Friend program. The program pairs families in Dover and Sherborn with families in Boston who have children in the same grade. It **helps build connections** between Boston families and the Dover Sherborn community. We encourage Boston students to spend time in Dover and Sherborn outside of school on shortened school days (“half days”) before the bus home. The Family Friend program **encourages frequent communication** between Boston and Dover and Sherborn families, and **hosts events for students and for families** throughout the year. The program also aims to **foster meaningful connections between parents and caregivers** and works with the District liaison and METCO Director to **ensure equitable access** to all local school-related and town events.

Other Highlights

- 100% of Boston seniors pass the MCAS.
- The Dover Sherborn METCO Scholarship Fund is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that aims to **award funds to graduating seniors** in the program.
- We work with a **transportation program** that allows middle school and high school students to participate in after school sports and activities.
- The DS METCO Scholarship fund matches DS METCO **alumni mentors** with current high school students.
- The Family Friend Program supports students and **builds lasting relationships** between families.
- Boston students and friends in middle and high school can participate in the **DS Affinity Group**.
- All students and caregivers have the opportunity to **meet with teachers and counselors regularly** in school and virtually.
- As part of our community, Boston students in elementary school are encouraged to participate in town sports and activities.