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## Getting college-ready: Haverhill High School expands Advanced Placement® courses through MIE

HAVERHILL, Mass., July 19—Haverhill High School students will have greater access to college-level coursework and earn college credits as the school expands its Advanced Placement® (AP) curriculum this coming school year through a program administered by Mass Insight Education (MIE).

Haverhill High School will broaden its AP coursework in several STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) disciplines. In preparation, five Haverhill High teachers will attend a training program, the AP Summer Institute, later this summer at Bridgewater University to prepare to teach AP courses in chemistry, statistics, and English literature.

Haverhill High joins 70-plus schools statewide that participate in MIE's AP STEM program, designed to dramatically increase students' participation and performance in AP math, science and English courses. Annually, MIE's AP STEM and English program reaches more than 10,000 students at partner schools across the Commonwealth with a mission of raising educational standards and expanding higher education opportunities.

"It's important that we provide all of our students with the best educational opportunities such as access to Advance Placement courses," said former State Representative Brian S. Dempsey. "This program will help close the achievement gap and ensure that more Haverhill students leave high school prepared for the challenges of college."

Advanced Placement courses offer entry-level college coursework to high school students to prepare them for success throughout their college experience. At the conclusion of the course, students are tested on their knowledge of the subject area and are given a score ranging from 1-5. Typically, scores of 3, 4 or 5 are awarded college credit, but simply enrolling in AP courses makes students more favorable to colleges looking for students with academic rigor and experience.

"We are excited about our new partnership with Haverhill High School, and with community leaders like Representative Dempsey, who helped bring this program to Haverhill," said Susan Lusi, president and CEO of MIE. "We know that the school's AP faculty is committed to expanding rigorous AP classes, improving results, and helping more students receive college credit for classroom excellence."

The MIE program has a long track record of expanding college opportunity for high school students. Of the 23,000 students who participated in MIE's AP STEM program and graduated from high school since the 2008-2009 school year, 78 percent have gone on to attend college – 90 percent of those students have persisted through two years of college, and 81 percent have either graduated from college or are on track to graduate. The numbers are similar for students of color – 88 percent have persisted through two years of college, and 78 percent have either graduated from college or are on track to graduate. The program is funded through a combination of state, district and philanthropic support.

*About Mass Insight Education:*

Founded in Boston in 1997, Mass Insight Education (MIE) is a national nonprofit at the forefront of education reform. It is dedicated to improving student achievement and increasing college success through bold district restructuring and rigorous academic programs. To close the achievement gap and prepare the leaders of tomorrow, MIE inspires students to go to college, and gives them the academic tools and training they need to thrive and earn a degree. For more information, visit [www.massinsight.org](http://www.massinsight.org).