Mission

To reduce high rates of relapse associated with teens in recovery by providing a safe, sober, and supportive school environment where students and their recovery efforts are understood, valued, and fostered.

Overview

Recovery High Schools are four year, non-traditional public high schools that will serve approximately 30-50 students, who have been diagnosed with a substance abuse or dependence disorder. Students must be willing to commit to a program of recovery prior as a condition of admission.

The schools provide a comprehensive academic curriculum consistent with Massachusetts State Standards, MCAS testing protocols, and course requirements of their respective sending school districts. All of the schools have the capacity to serve students who have IEP’s.

Student receive active support in their recovery by providing smaller class sizes (approximately 7:1 student/teacher ratio), individualized attention, an on-site recovery counselor, recovery support groups, health and wellness activities and daily group meetings where students will have the opportunity to process issues related to both education and recovery.

The schools strongly encourage and provide opportunities for parent involvement as this has been identified as a key element in an individual’s recovery.

The Massachusetts schools are located in Beverly, Boston, Springfield, and Brockton with the newest school opening in Worcester in Fall 2015. They are jointly funded by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and local school districts.

The schools are utilizing several referral sources to identify appropriate candidates for admission including, but not limited to:

- Adolescent inpatient and outpatient treatment providers
- Public Schools
- Parents
- Clinicians
- Department of Youth Services
- Department of Children and Families
- Juvenile Courts
- Behavioral Health System
- Other area school systems
- Students
Referrals must be supported by the student’s local school district and are subject to a review of academic records and/or recovery plans as well as an in-person interview with Recovery School personnel.

For individuals interested in learning more or referring students to one of the Recovery Schools please utilize the contact information as listed below:

William J. Ostiguy High School
Roger Oser, Principal
19 Temple Place
Boston, MA 02111
617-348-6070 x 7530
www.bostonabcd.org

Liberty Preparatory Academy
Mike Ellis, Principal
39 Alderman Street
Springfield, MA 01108
(413) 750-2484
www.sps.springfield.ma.us

Northshore Recovery High School
Michelle Lipinski, Principal
502 Cabot St. Beverly, MA 01915
978-922-3305
www.nsedu.org

Independence Academy
Ryan Morgan, Principal
460 Belmont St. Brockton, MA 02301
(508) 510-4091
www.northrivercollaborative.org

Rockdale Recovery High School
MaryEllen McGorry, Principal
121 Higgins Street
Worcester, MA 01606
(508) 538-9102
www.cmasscollaborative.org