



Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School

10 New Bond St Worcester, MA 01606

CONTACT: Michelle Vigneux
Office: 508-854-8400 ext. 2694
Email: mvigneux@akfcs.org

April 28, 2022

Abby Kelley Charter School ranked as a top High School in the Country

Worcester – Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School has again been named as a top High School in the County in the U.S. News & World Report annual rankings released earlier this week.

Abby Kelley was ranked 941st nationally, putting them in the top 4% of all High Schools in the Country, having moved up more than 400 spots in their ranking from 2021. Abby Kelley was one of the Top 50 High Schools in the State (42nd out of 378) and locally, Abby Kelley ranked 3rd among 69 High Schools in Central Mass.

Mrs. Heidi M. Paluk, Executive Director of Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School, said “We are proud of the hard work and dedication that staff and students at Abby Kelley display daily. These rankings are an acknowledgement of what we all know- AKFCS is an excellent choice for so many students and families in Central Massachusetts. Our rigorous International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme, overall academic expectations, dedicated staff, and studious student body are the catalyst behind this success as acknowledged in these rankings.”

Abby Kelley is in its 23rd year as a Public Charter School. With an enrollment of 1,426 students in grades K-12, Abby Kelley has a student body that is 83% diverse. With a \$24 million budget and more than 200 faculty and staff, Abby Kelley has ranked among the best High Schools in the country for years with a current graduation rate of 98%.

Mrs. Celia J. Blue, Board Chair at Abby Kelley offered congratulations to the Abby Kelley community, “On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we send our gratitude and congratulations to the entire staff at Abby Kelly who show their passion and commitment for our students and families every day.”

About Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School:

Located in Worcester, Massachusetts and founded in 1998, Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School is named in honor of Abby Kelley Foster, a 19th century Worcester resident who was a leader in the abolitionist and women's rights movements. Charter schools are independent public schools that operate under five-year charters granted by the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and governed by a Board of Directors/Trustees. Abby Kelley has had its Charter renewed consistently, without conditions, since 2003. Currently, the school is in the third year of its most recent five-year Charter term.

Our student body is reflective of the minority populations in Worcester and 93% of our students are Worcester residents. Our community comprises 53% of students identifying as African American, 21% identifying as Hispanic, 20% identifying as White, and 6% identifying as other races. Abby Kelley has a K-12 student enrollment of 1,426, more than 200 faculty and staff and an annual budget of \$24 million. The school's campus includes four buildings and athletic fields.

Currently, in our twelfth year of offering the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB) for our High School students, the IB Programme develops inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who help to create a better world through intercultural understanding and respect. The Programme encourages students across the world to become active, compassionate, and lifelong learners. Students also participate in extracurricular activities, team sports, clubs, and musical activities ranging from electives to full orchestra

Abby Kelley's graduation rate is consistently at or above 96% and since 2019 the High School has consistently ranked among the top 10% in the nation by U.S. News & World Report, In the most recent U.S. News & World Report (2022) Abby Kelley earned a ranking in the top 4% of high schools in the Country.

###