

# HENRY L. HIGGINSON K0-GRADE 2

Principal: Marie Mullen

**FULL INCLUSION SCHOOL**



**LAUNCH, LIFT, AND SOAR...**

## Higginson Elementary School

The Henry L. Higginson School opened in September 2013. The school serves students in K0–grade 2 with and without disabilities, including English language learners, in a full inclusion setting. Our mission is to support our students in reaching their highest potential academically, and socially and emotionally. The experiences and lessons the students will learn at the Higginson School will help them to develop into responsible and confident students, which will carry with them both inside and outside the classroom.

**Principal:**  
Marie Mullen

**Address:**  
160 Harrishof Street  
Roxbury, MA 02119  
United States

**Phone:**  
617-635-8909  
**Fax:**  
617-635-8911

**School Hours:**  
9:30 am - 3:30 pm  
**Early Dismissal:**  
1:30 pm

**Grades:**  
K0-2  
**Level:**  
Early Childhood  
**School Type:**  
Traditional

We provide a safe and positive learning community that is developmentally appropriate to the special needs of our children. Our staff focuses on the abilities and skills of each child, and builds upon their strengths. With parents' support and participation, we are ensuring the success of the students' academic career. We support each student by monitoring progress, making decisions to lead, and creating an environment that enables him/her to reach his/her full potential.

## **What Makes Our School Special**

- Newly established school in a neighborhood setting
- Full inclusion of students with disabilities and students in regular education
- Very small classes: the teacher to student ratio for K0/K1 is 2:15 and the ratio for K2-Gr.2 is 2:20
- ESL inclusion classrooms
- Highly qualified and committed staff: All teachers hold their Masters' degrees and several hold multiple teaching certificates and licensure
- Highly qualified paraprofessionals who hold an Associates or Bachelors' degree
- Diversified staff who speaks the various languages of the students we serve: English, Spanish, Cape Verdean Creole, French, Portuguese, Cantonese and Haitian Creole
- Strong inclusion intervention team to support our varied learners
- Specialists in physical education, visual arts, and yoga
- School nurse on sight 5 days per week
- K-8 Pathway: Higginson 2nd graders are guaranteed assignment to an inclusive classroom at the Higginson/Lewis K-8 school for grade 3.

## Special Academic Programs:

- Full inclusion of general education, special education and English language learner students

## Our Partners

- **Higher Ground** – Higher Ground is a non-profit organization and a neighbor of RoxComp committed to collaborating with community-based organizations, stakeholders and residents to connect, children, youth and families in Boston's underserved communities to solutions and services that continue to improve and empower and inform lives from cradle to career.
- **Language and Reading Research Consortium - SAIL Program (LARRC)** – This Consortium is funded by the Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences (IES) and is conducting a 5-year national study focused on comprehension development and understanding for children from preschool through third grade. The goals of the LARRC project are: 1.) To understand the role of language skills in reading comprehension and 2.) To understand risk factors that makes reading comprehension particularly difficult for some children and 3.) To develop effective ways to improve reading comprehension.
- **Friends of the Children** – Boston creates generational change by engaging children from high-risk communities in 12 years of transformative mentoring relationships. We call the children we serve Achievers to show our belief in their potential, and our long-term goal is for Achievers to graduate from high school and succeed in college. Friends-Boston selects students in kindergarten, starts working with them in 1st grade, and provides them with holistic support until they reach high school graduation. Friends-Boston's program consists of 20 hours per month of intensive wrap-around services, including mentoring, advocacy and family support.

## Before School Program in Our Building

The before school program is from 7:30 to 9:10 AM daily and the fee is \$35.00 per week. If a child is not enrolled and a family is in need of the before school program a 24 hour notice in advance is required and the fee is \$10.00 per day.

## Facts & Figures

Total Enrollment:	165
Students with Disabilities:	25%
English Language Learners (ELL):	30%
Classes Per Grade (Inclusion):	3
Student Mobility Rate: (% of students who moved in and out of school during the school year)	25%
Core Academic Courses Taught by "Highly Qualified Teachers": (those with a bachelor's and/or master's degree, full state certification or licensure, and subject matter competency)	100%
Student to Teacher Ratio (# of students to teachers)	
K0/K1:	15:2
K2-Grade 2:	20:2
Languages Spoken by Staff:	English Spanish Cape Verdean Creole French Portuguese Cantonese Hatian Creole

## About Boston Public Schools Student Assignment

Boston Public Schools has a new student assignment plan!

A new **Home-Based student assignment policy for kindergarten – Grade 8** is going into effect for the 2014-15 school year. Students already attending Boston Public Schools (BPS) can stay in their current schools. Sibling assignment remains a priority; younger brothers and sisters of current students will be able to select the school that their older sibling already attends. All of our high schools remain citywide options. The policy does not apply to exam school admissions.

**The New Home-Based plan uses a student's home as the starting point.**

BPS will offer a **customized list of school choices** for every family based on their home address. It includes **every school within one mile** of their home plus, as needed, nearby schools that have the highest levels of MCAS performance and growth. This ensures that every family has **access to high quality schools**, no matter where they live.

The list may also grow, as needed, to include schools offering K0, Advanced Work Class (AWC) and more, and to ensure we can offer every child a seat in a school on his or her list. These are called "Option Schools".

Families may also select any citywide school. Some families may have regional options, as well.

Every family will have a choice of at least six schools; most will have between 10 and 14 choices. After learning about each school, families complete their student's application, ranking the schools they prefer their child to attend. Students are assigned to a school based on seat availability, sibling priority, and random number (lottery).

### How, When, and Where to Apply for School

[www.bostonpublicschools.org/register](http://www.bostonpublicschools.org/register)  
[www.discoverbps.org](http://www.discoverbps.org)

Call or visit any BPS Welcome Center

Dorchester: 1216 Dorchester Ave.  
(next to Burger King)  
617-635-8015

East Boston: 312 Border St.  
(Umana Academy)  
617-635-9597 (limited hours)

Roslindale: 515 Hyde Park Ave.  
(near Cummins Hwy.)  
617-635-8040

Roxbury: 75 Malcolm X Blvd.  
(Madison Park)  
617-635-9010