



For Immediate Release

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***Berkshire Arts & Technology Charter Public School Will Apply to Become a
Massachusetts 21st Century Community Learning Center***

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ADAMS, Ma – Berkshire Arts & Technology Charter Public School (BART) is applying to the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to become a Massachusetts 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC). If awarded, BART would be able to offer expanded afterschool programming and extended programming through February and April vacations along with a three-week summer program.

CCLC funds would help greatly expand out-of-school time opportunities for BART students. The afterschool programming would run one to two hours daily. Enrichment activities would include classes with visiting artists and technology professionals offering students greater exposure to possible career paths.

In addition to programming on campus, BART intends to create out-of-school-time programming that would connect BART students to Berkshire County cultural venues.

During the last fiscal year, \$15.7 million was awarded to 180 sites in more than 50 Massachusetts communities, according to DESE. The grants are paid for by the No Child Left Behind Act and distributed by the state.

BART is a nationally recognized, award-winning, tuition-free public middle and high school focused on preparing students for college. One hundred percent of BART's graduates have passed a college course and have been accepted into college prior to graduation. BART does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, homelessness or age.

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