



# Anchor Academy

A School of JRI |



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## Special Points of Interest

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- Welcome New Employee
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## To Kill a Mockingbird at the "Z"

Anchor Academy students attended a performance of the classic, "To Kill a Mockingbird" at the Zeiterion Theatre in New Bedford, MA. The play brought to life the classic book by Harper Lee that the students read through out the quarter in English Language Arts class. The themes about racial injustice, gender roles, courage and compassion, and the loss of innocence helped anchor the students interest and connection to the novel. The students actively participated in a question and answer session with the cast after the show and learned about the career paths that the actors and actresses experienced to live out their dreams. This was the epitome of transformational learning from the classroom to the big stage!

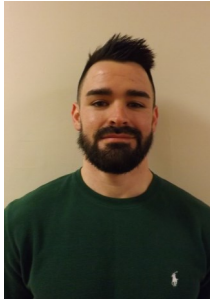




### Congratulations!

Lauren Kadesh has been promoted to Anchor Academy’s Director. Lauren is going into her 13th year working in various Justice Resource Institute (JRI) schools. Under Lauren's leadership, the students at Anchor Academy have thrived academically, socially and emotionally. Lauren embodies the mission and vision of Anchor Academy and JRI as a larger agency. Lauren is dedicated to helping the students and school continue to progress and succeed. Congratulations Lauren!

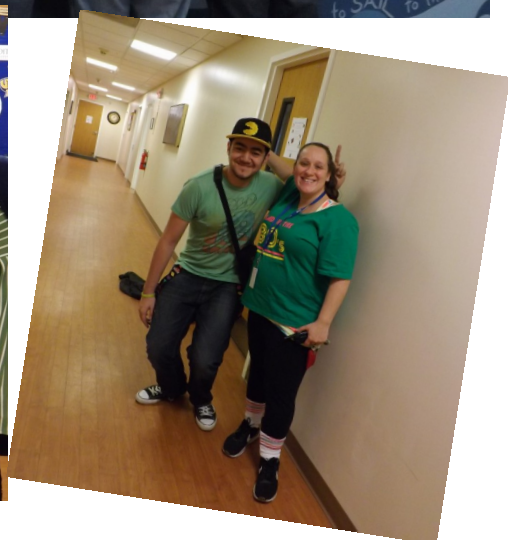
### Welcome to Anchor Academy



Anchor Academy is excited to welcome Classroom Counselor, Kevin Cabral. Mr. Cabral has years of experience working with students through a strength—based approach. Mr. Cabral’s non-judgmental personality has helped students build trusting and healthy relationships with him. He is passionate around helping students improve their daily life skills, explore their interests, and provide the tools for students to develop a stronger identity. Mr. Cabral is looking forward to sharing his knowledge and passion of health and fitness with the Anchor Academy community.

### Anchoring in the Spirit

Keeping the spirit sparked at Anchor Academy always makes school that much more enjoyable—besides who doesn’t love going to school in their pajamas or dressed for the 80’s?! The stakes were high during a week-long friendly competition to see who had the most spirit during mismatch day, pajama day, anchor gear day, twin day and favorite generation day. The week was filled with a lot of laughs, energy, and team work!



## Vocational Spotlight



Anchor Academy saddled up with the Bridge Center Therapeutic Horsemanship program in Bridgewater, MA. Through the program, students learn horse handling, equine nutrition, grooming and tacking, and equine anatomy. These competency skills help Anchor Academy students build self-confidence, social skills, executive functioning skills, and patience. The students volunteer their time, share their warm hearts, and build relationships with the animals. The students have shared their loving emotional relationships with the horses based on a primary factor of trust. In addition, Anchor Academy students thrive off of opportunities to learn how to safely manage freedom and independence.



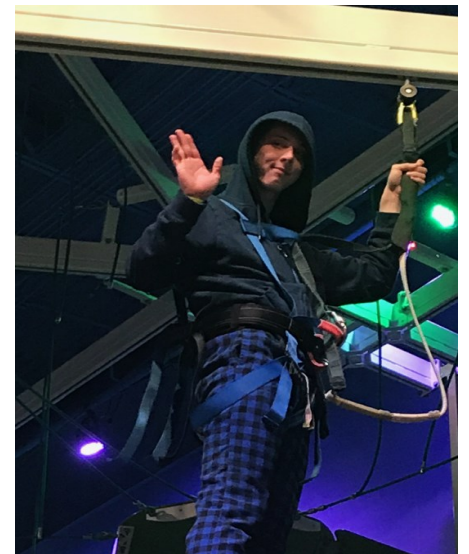
## Purgatory Chasm



Anchor Academy student participated in a wellness and educational field trip to Purgatory Chasm in Sutton, MA, where they learned about glacial activity that may have contributed to the mysterious and intriguing rock formations. Hiking posed both physical and emotional challenges, but the students were up to the task with the support, encouragement, and team work. Physical activity is infused throughout the school day at Anchor Academy on and off campus to help students focus, regulate their emotions, and to release energy.

## Indoor Ropes Course

At an indoor ropes course, Anchor Academy students tested their balance and improved their agility throughout this challenging endeavor. Students learned the value of teamwork and supporting their peers as they completed the course. The elements of the ropes course were valuable tools for experiential education. Through personal and group challenges, the students were immersed in a physically demanding learning environment filled with teachable moments. The positive attributes that helped facilitate the experience were some that Anchor Academy's students may not encounter elsewhere.



## Note from Educational Director

During the third term at Anchor Academy, teachers developed lesson plans that provided students varied project based learning opportunities. The teachers focused on the important role women and African-Americans have had in the fields of mathematics, literature, and science and technology. Students also learned first hand about African-American history during an educational field trip to the Museum of African American History in Boston, MA. As the weather gets warmer throughout the fourth term, students will have increased opportunities to learn in “nature’s classroom” through the exploration of local ecosystems, historical sites, and natural resources.

The teachers, administration, and students are looking forward to celebrating the school year at the End of the Year celebration on June 28, 2018 at Anchor Academy!

Anchor Academy’s Summer Program is facilitated from July 5, 2018 through July 30, 2018. The summer program, which consists of licensed and trained school employees, offers students further academic, social, emotional, and vocational supports. The program focuses on credit recovery, academic retention, and consistent routines which help students remain on track and focused. Students have opportunities to learn through hands-on experiences, while participating in structured summer fun. Some examples of academic field trips include: Cape Cod Canal Boat Tour, whale watching, Massachusetts Maritime Tour, beach clean-up projects, biking trips, and a week of sailing with the New Bedford Community Boating Center!

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### Nurse’s Corner

Health class kicked off to a great start for Term 3 at Anchor Academy. Students learned about substance abuse prevention, safety and first aid, healthy eating, anatomy and physiology, diseases and disorders, human development, and the list goes on!

Wally, the school’s therapeutic dog is Nurse Annie’s teaching sidekick. Students with a specific passion for safety and first aid will have the opportunity to earn their CPR/AED and First Aid certification by the end of the academic school year.



In addition, the school nurse will be implementing SBIRT screening before the end of the school year. SBIRT is Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) that focuses on prevention, early detection, risk assessment, brief counseling and referral for assessment that can be utilized in the school setting. The screening focuses on substance abuse prevention and is being used across Massachusetts by school nurses and administrative teams to best foster a healthy learning environment. A letter will go home to caregivers/guardians prior to the implementation of the screening.



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### Anchor Academy Mission Statement

Anchor Academy exists to provide challenging academics in a safe and supportive therapeutic rich environment. Through a strength-based approach, we offer a transformational learning experience that fosters resiliency and prepares students to become skilled, informed and responsible citizens. We design our program around anchoring our students with the supports they require to successfully achieve their academic, social and emotional goals.