MASS ACADEMY SPONSORS TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY

On Wednesday, November 16, juniors from the Mass Academy had the opportunity to invite a teacher from their past to the Academy and honor them at Teacher Appreciation Day. Approximately 40 teachers from neighboring school districts reunited with their former students to catch up, share stories of success and enjoy a nice lunch. It was great to see students greet their teachers at the door with big smiles and hugs, and it was obvious that students and teachers were very happy to see each other. As Mr. Barney said in his opening remarks, we can all look back and remember a teacher who had a great influence on our lives. At Mass Academy, we are proud to take the time to recognize those teachers who have had a profound impact on our students’ development.

News coverage of the event, including photographs and a slide show, can be found in the November 17 edition of the Sentinel and Enterprise (www.sentinelandenterprise.com) as well as the Worcester T and G.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

I touch the future. I teach.

-Christa McAuliffe
On Friday November 18, Principals and Guidance Counselors from nine local school districts toured Mass Academy and the WPI campus to get a first hand look at the facility, instructional practices and to get a chance to talk to students, parents and teachers about the Mass Academy program, and how the Academy prepares students for the rigors of college level work. After breakfast and welcome remarks from Director Michael Barney, the guests were treated to an interactive panel discussion including Academy seniors, parents and teachers and had the opportunity to visit classes while in session. At the conclusion of their visit at the Academy, the group traveled to the main campus of WPI, where they visited the robotics lab, met with robotics professors (and Academy elective teachers Ken Stafford and Brad Miller) and were treated to a demonstration by Team 190 members. Several of our guests even got to drive the robot (successfully I may add!). The day concluded with lunch at Higgins house and a short presentation by WPI Associate Director of Admissions Bonnie Hall. Comments by attendees included, “I can’t believe how comprehensive the curriculum is—I was surprised—I expected just math and science—I loved the collaborative atmosphere in the classroom”. Another commented, “I have to have that Technical Writing program in my school”. Thanks to all the districts that attended. We certainly welcome visitors at anytime, and hope that if there is a student in your district that is a good match for Mass Academy, that you refer them.

Thanks to all the teachers, Mass Academy students, parents and WPI staff who made this day a big success.

THANK YOUs
Thanks to Ms. Reardon for all her efforts in organizing our teacher appreciation and Principal / counselor luncheon, and to the ongoing efforts of our Parent Support Group for the set-up and support!!! Thank you also to Christian Dimare and Conor Pappas for their musical entertainment during our events this week, to Grace, Arjun, Andrew, Conor, Haylee, Eileen Debenham, Jyothi Grama and Ms. Lang for serving on our panel, to Cai, Paul, Ken Stafford and Brad Miller for the robotics demo, to Ben and Joe for parking help, to any other seniors who I missed who helped support our event, and to our work study students, Kaitlin and Ijeoma, for their assistance in preparing for our events.