



**ESSEX NORTH SHORE**  
AGRICULTURAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



October 11, 2019

Massachusetts Department of Higher Education  
Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
Early College Joint Committee  
75 Pleasant Street  
Malden, MA 02148

Dear Early College Joint Committee Members:

On behalf of North Shore Community College (NSCC) and Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School (ENSATS), we are pleased to submit this letter signifying our intent to partner on Early College (EC) Designation. Over the years, Essex North Shore and North Shore Community College have partnered on several initiatives supporting the success of Essex Tech students, including but not limited to the Commonwealth Dual Enrollment Partnership, STEM Starter Academy and Early College. Most recently, NSCC partnered with Essex North Shore, Peabody High School and Salem High School on a DESE Career and Technical Education Partnership grant focused on increasing training and higher education opportunities for students in the Construction/Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing pathways.

At ENSATS, leadership on Early College programming is vested in the Superintendent/Director's Office through the Superintendent/Director Heidi T. Riccio, Ed.D. and Principal Shannon Donnelly. Operationally, a team of Essex North Shore staff, including the Director of Guidance, Sandra Goldstein and Director of Academic Programs, Thomas O'Toole. Several ENSATS Academic and Student Support staff provide support for dual enrollment programming and will assume these responsibilities for the Early College program as well.

NSCC's Early College team is led by Vice President of Academic Affairs Karen Hynick, Dean of Strategic Partnerships Jill Thornton, and Director of Early College Partnerships Susan Curry. Several NSCC Academic and Student Affairs staff provide support for dual enrollment/Early College programming and students.

We look forward to growing and deepening our partnership as the Early College Designation process unfolds and brings new opportunities for our students to realize their goals and aspirations. Thank you for your consideration of our Early College Designation Part A proposal.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Gentile, Ed.D.  
President  
North Shore Community College

Heidi T. Riccio, Ed.D.  
Superintendent-Director  
Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical  
School District