



Antonio Nesbitt

SABIS® is a global education network that operates Pre-K and K-12 schools in 16 countries on four continents. Around the world, in both the private and public sectors, SABIS® Network schools provide over 70,000 students a high-quality education that prepares them to achieve success.

SABIS® International Charter School (SICS), a SABIS® Network U.S. public charter school, was one of the first public charter schools to open its doors in the state of Massachusetts in 1995. The school, which was once one of the district's lowest performers, now has a 100% success rate in getting students accepted to college or university.

This is the story of a student who learned the meaning and value of hard work and determination.

Antonio Nesbitt joined SICS as a 7th grader. Having transferred to SICS from a religious school, he possessed a strong moral foundation and a desire to help others, which he continued to build upon at SICS in addition to learning the meaning and value of hard work. In fact, Antonio's teachers characterized him as *"one of the hardest working students"* they had ever met. *"He was always well-prepared for class and offered insights that helped enhance the entire class,"* they said.

Antonio's strong work ethic paved the way for his academic success. He developed strong study habits and a motivation to succeed. He opted for challenging courses such as AP® U.S. History and calculus in addition to taking more science, Spanish, and history courses than he needed to fulfill graduation requirements.

Beyond academics, Antonio was also a talented athlete. He was on the school's soccer and tennis teams. Even though he was not necessarily the most gifted on the pitch or court, he brought the same level of commitment to sports as he did to his schoolwork, eventually earning the status of league All-Star in soccer.

Antonio was also interested in track and field, but SICS did not compete in the sport. Instead of putting his interest on a shelf, Antonio and some of his friends set out to start the school's first interscholastic track and field program. Under Antonio's leadership, they found another local school interested in the sport and formed a cooperative arrangement with them. Thus began SICS's competitive track and field program, a program that developed into an independent, varsity team and is still going strong nearly 10 years later.

Antonio graduated from SICS in 2009. His academic performance had earned him a John and Abigail Adams Scholarship. He headed to Lasell College, where he completed a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and psychology. He then went on to complete a master's degree in criminology, terrorism, and security policy from American University.

Antonio is currently working as a research assistant at the Crime and Justice Institute and says that SICS played an important role in empowering him for the future: *"The combination of hard work, challenging curriculum, and innovative standards set by SABIS® was essential to my personal and professional growth and successfully prepared me for college and beyond."*

SICS

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