** SICS Ranked Among America's Best High Schools in *Newsweek* **

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Can education be for profit and still be driven by a humanitarian vision?

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For Immediate Release



Just a few weeks after being ranked amongst the best high schools in the U.S. by U.S. News and World Report, the SABIS[®] International Charter School (SICS) in Springfield, Massachusetts, has once again made headline news by landing on **Newsweek's** rankings of "2013 America's Best High Schools."

To produce the rankings for 2013, *Newsweek* invited over 5,000 public high schools in the U.S. to participate in the survey. Data was gathered from the participating high schools and analyzed to identify the ones that best prepare students for college. High schools were ranked according to what *Newsweek* considers the best indicators of college readiness: graduation rates, participation in college-level classes such as Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) programs, and acceptance into a two- or four-year college program. The study then ranked the top 2,000 high schools in the U.S.

Among the top 2,000 high schools, SICS ranked 1611th nationally. Of the 378 high schools in Massachusetts, SICS came in at a very impressive 45th place, placing it in the top 12 percent of schools in the state. *"The fact that SABIS® International Charter School landed on the list means that it ranks among the top 7% of high schools in the USA!"* said Mr. George Saad, Vice President-Operations at SABIS® Educational Systems. *"This is an amazing achievement for an inner city school with a non-selective admissions policy and a great testimony to the effectiveness of the SABIS® Educational System."*

According to the study, among the schools that have 50% or more students receiving free or reduced lunch, SICS has the second highest graduation rate with 94%, just behind Boston Latin Academy, a school with selective admissions. As is the case with all SABIS[®] member schools, SICS implements a non-selective admissions policy. More impressively, SICS was one of only 5 charter schools among the 48 high schools in Massachusetts to have made the list.

"We are thrilled to have been recognized as one of the best high schools in the nation once again," said Ms. Karen Reuter, SICS School Director. "The good news just keeps rolling in and motivates us to keep doing what we do best – educate our students and get them ready for success in college and beyond!" she added.

SICS was established in 1995 and currently enrolls 1,570 students in grades K-12. SICS implements the SABIS[®] Educational System, a rigorous program that prepares its students for success in college, fosters a lifelong interest in learning, and develops responsible world-class citizens.

To view the full *Newsweek* listing, visit <u>http://sab.is/americabest</u>. To learn more about the SABIS[®] Educational System, visit <u>www.sabis.net</u> or <u>www.sabis.net/licensing</u>.

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