Commissioner’s Year-End Report
Our singular focus is on ensuring that public higher education system continues its historic mission of serving as a catalyst for social mobility and as a bulwark against social and income inequality. Policy decisions are driven by the expectation that students’ academic progress is our prime consideration. To that end, Massachusetts must achieve these objectives:

1. **Make college more accessible and affordable** for all Massachusetts residents
2. **Close gaps** in student opportunity and achievement
3. **Improve** college completion rates
Commissioner’s Year-End Report

How We Are Achieving These Objectives

- **Fostering a more integrated system** of public higher education capable of responding to local & statewide needs
- **Elevating performance** of public higher education
- **Developing better integration** with P–12 & workforce sectors
- **Enhancing appreciation** of higher education as a central asset & competitive advantage for state
- **Incubating innovation** to ensure higher quality, better access, more affordability & alignment to needs of learners throughout life

—Board of Higher Education Goals for FY2018
1. Making college more accessible and affordable for all Massachusetts residents

- MassTransfer / Commonwealth Commitment
- Financial Aid Redesign (including Business Process Review)
- Food Insecurity and Homelessness Among College Students
- Online Learning / State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement
- Open Educational Resources
Major Initiatives Supporting BHE Goals

2. **Closing gaps** in student opportunity and achievement

- Early College High Schools
- High Quality College and Career Pathways
- 100 Males to College
- Competency-Based Approach to Early Childhood Education
Major Initiatives Supporting BHE Goals

3. Improving college completion rates

- Remediation Reduction
  - Placement Standards
  - Co-Requisite at Scale
  - Developing Math Pathways
- Performance Measurement System and System-Level Data Analytics Platform
- STEM Starter Academies
Commissioner’s Year-End Report

Supporting FY2018 Initiatives

- **Occupation-Specific Initiatives**
  - Revision to Criminal Justice Programs and Alignment with Police Academies
  - Diversifying the Teacher Workforce

- **BHE Committee-Specific Initiatives**
  - Revisions to the Program Approval Process
  - Continued Evolution of Campus Strategic Planning Process

- **Enhancing Efficiencies in DHE Operations**
  - Development of Internal Control Plan
  - New Strategic Capital Investment Methodology
  - Development of New Policies on Closures, Mergers, and Acquisitions
  - Improving the Presidential Search Process
Commissioner’s Year-End Report

Supporting FY2018 Initiatives

- **Additional K-12/Higher Ed Alignment**
  - Addition of Computer Science as part of MassCore and its relation to Higher Ed Admissions Standards
  - Dual Enrollment

- **Continuing Campus-based Initiatives**
  - Student Learning Outcomes Assessment
  - Civic Learning and Civil Discourse on Campus
  - Massachusetts Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Initiative (MAICEI)
  - Tuition waivers for Puerto Rican / USVI students impacted by Hurricane Maria
Discussion