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For Immediate Release

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June 3, 2019

***BART Charter Public School Will Apply to Become a Massachusetts
21st Century Community Learning Center***

ADAMS, MA – Berkshire Arts & Technology (BART) Charter Public School is applying to the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to become a Massachusetts 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC). If awarded, BART would be able to offer expanded after-school programming and extended programming.

A Massachusetts 21st CCLC funds would help greatly expand out-of-school time opportunities for BART students. The Learning Center will operate Monday-Thursday during after-school hours (3:45-5:45pm) during February and April vacations, and for three weeks during the month of July. (If funded, programming would begin in the fall of 2019.) The program will provide high-quality educational experiences that engage students in activities that support and enrich the learning that occurs during the school day, and will include academic support and enrichment; STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) electives; health and wellness; art, music, and drama; and school clubs and affinity groups.

In addition to programming on campus BART intends to create out-of-school-time programming that would connect BART students to Berkshire County cultural organizations.

BART is a nationally recognized award-winning tuition-free public middle and high school focused on preparing students for college. One hundred percent of BART's graduates have passed a college course and have been accepted into college prior to graduation. BART does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, homelessness, or age.

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