



Chicago Math and Science Academy Named one of Chicago's Top High Schools

Dear Neighbor,

I have some wonderful news to report. Chicago Public Schools recently awarded Rogers Park's **Chicago Math and Science Academy (CMSA Chicago)** a **Level 1 "Excellent"** status, the highest rating a school can achieve.

Of the 112 non-selective enrollment high schools in Chicago, only 10 schools received a Level 1 rating. CMSA thus joins the ranks of such well-regarded schools as Lane Tech College Prep and Lincoln Park High School. The report is based on school performance metrics, such as PSAT/ACT scores, drop-out rates, attendance rates and student growth in math and reading.

CMSA principal **Aydin Kara** attributes the school's rating to its college-centered focus. "Our goal has always been to prepare students for college, and raising ACT scores is a crucial step in this process," he says. CMSA graduates last year received over \$6.1 million in college scholarships, including seven "full ride" scholarships.

Unlike selective enrollment high schools, CMSA is open to any Chicago student. Most CMSA students live in Rogers Park and the vast majority (94%) are from low income families. CMSA currently has a waiting list of 400 students and admits students on a first-come, first-served basis.

The school boasts a 92 percent senior graduation rate, far above the CPS citywide average of 63 percent.

Located at 7212 N. Clark Street (just south of the Chicago firehouse), CMSA focuses on preparing students for college by creating an environment of high expectations and a rigorous curriculum focused on math, science and technology. This focus on science technology, engineering and mathematics includes **Project Lead the Way** for pre-engineering classes, award-winning robotics teams, and 90-minute math and English classes.

Rogers Park parents are fortunate to have CMSA as an option for their children. Congratulations to the faculty, staff and students of CMSA!

Sincerely,

Joe Moore

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