

Wayland High School Futures Team

# The Met School

Providence, RI

*January 27, 2009*

# The Met: History

- Founded in 1994 and opened doors Fall 1995
- State / private partnership to create a “school for the 21<sup>st</sup> century”
- Widely-recognized for innovation
- #1 in state for Parent Involvement, Teacher Availability, Social Climate & Instruction
- 1,100 site visits in 2005 alone from across U.S. and abroad
- Gates Foundation grants to found 50+ Met Schools across country
- Over 36 Met Schools now in operation in 16 states

# The Met: Core Tenets

- **Learning in the Real World** – Mentors and 2-Day a week Internships
- **Advisory & Assessment** – 15 students with 1 advisor for all four years
- **Applied Academics** – Analysis & evaluation skills / Project-based
- **College Transition Program** – College-level courses / Visits / Portfolio
- **Health & Wellness** – Social workers integrate with advisory groups
- **Travel Opportunities** – Multiple school-sponsored learning trips

# The Met: Difference

- **Individualized study plans** – no two students have same curriculum plan
- **Involvement** – Parents, teachers, mentors, advisor help student build plan
- **Non-traditional structure** – no bells, no 45-minute classes
- **Rigor** – 75-page autobiography and senior thesis required to graduate
- **Small size** – 700 students in six small schools on three campuses

# The Met: Relevance

- **Scalability** – How to scale concept to 1,000+ students?
- **Setting** – How to translate to suburban setting (mentors, internships, etc)?
- **Resources** – How to achieve student to advisor and social worker ratios?