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****For Immediate Release****

32 SICS Students Awarded College Scholarships

The 2007-08 academic year was a very notable one for the SABIS® International Charter School (SICS) in Springfield, Massachusetts, USA. The school's accomplishments included a consistent rate of improvement on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) exams, continuation of a remarkable university admissions rate, and a ranking in *Newsweek's* list of top US high schools.

Now in the 2008/09 academic year, SICS is maintaining its momentum. The school's long-standing success on the state's MCAS exams has continued with impressive results, thus qualifying SICS students for more John and Abigail Adams scholarships than at any time in the past. From a total of twelve students qualifying for the scholarship program in AY 2004-05, the number of SICS students earning the honor climbed this year as 32 John and Abigail Adams Scholarship awards were passed out to students for their outstanding performance on the MCAS.

The John and Abigail Adams Scholarship Program is a program of the Massachusetts Department of Education that awards merit-based state-supported undergraduate tuition waivers to students who score in the top 25% in their school district on the Grade 10 MCAS. Among other objectives of the Adams Scholarship Program, the program strives to reward and inspire student achievement and help attract more high-performing students to Massachusetts public higher education, among others.

SICS students received their awards in a brief ceremony held at the school and attended by Maretta Thomsen, the School's Director, as well as other members of the SICS administration. *"We are extremely proud of our students' academic accomplishments. It shows that, through the SABIS® educational system and a high degree of student commitment and determination, we can make a real difference in the lives of the students we serve,"* stated Thomsen.

Scholarship recipients, who represent 40% of the SICS Class of 2009, will be able to attend any Massachusetts public institution of higher education on a renewable four-year full tuition scholarship. This high rate of success is due to the college preparation provided by the SABIS® Educational System, which has helped a higher percentage of SICS students earn this award than students attending other Springfield public schools.

A member of the SABIS® School Network, SICS opened in 1995 with 450 students. Today, SICS is a K-12 school with an impressive student body of 1500+ students and a waiting list of thousands more. Over the years, SICS has been able to provide Springfield students with a safe learning environment that allows them to grow academically and socially and achieve their full potential.

For more information on SICS, please visit www.sics-sabis.net.

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