

## **Press Release**

### **Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School, Haverhill, MA**

*-- Serving the cities and towns of Haverhill, Newburyport, Amesbury, Georgetown, Ipswich, Groveland, Merrimac, West Newbury, Newbury, Rowley and Salisbury*

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### **Class of 2009 is third Whittier Vo-Tech class to all graduate passing MCAS**

HAVERHILL – The Class of 2009 will be the third class in a row at Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School to graduate with 100 percent passing the MCAS, but the Class of 2010 is right on their heels and may soon come out with the best school record yet.

The senior class, set to graduate on May 28, got all of its students over the state-mandated testing hurdle during re-tests in math and English in November.

“Our students have worked hard and done a wonderful job,” said Katrina Jensen Hunter, coordinator of data and assessment. “These results would not be possible without our staff being highly dedicated to every students’ success. The evidence of their hard work is demonstrated by our continued improvement on the MCAS exam; specifically in the proficient and advanced categories.”

Students first take the tests in their sophomore year and if they do not pass, they are given the opportunity to re-test twice in their junior year and again during senior year.

The Class of 2010, this year’s juniors, is required to pass standardized tests in English, math and biology to receive their high school diplomas and trade certifications. So far, the percentages of students who have passed these tests are:

English 99.6%

Math: 99.2 %

Biology: 98.8%

Re-tests will be given next November and February.

Sophomores recently hunkered down and took the English Language Arts MCAS for their first time March 31 to April 2. The remainder of their school year is filled with the state tests, as they will take the math MCAS May 19-20 and the biology MCAS on June 4-5.