



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION of Southeastern Massachusetts

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Contact: Andrea A. Rodrigues, andrea.rodrigues@bankfive.com, 774-888-6176

Community Foundation BankFive Foundation Fund Awards Grant to Argosy Collegiate Charter School for High School Gymnasium

The BankFive Foundation, a fund of the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts, recently awarded \$25,000 to Argosy Collegiate Charter School for construction of a gymnasium at its new high school on Dover Street in Fall River.

Argosy Collegiate's mission is to prepare scholars with the academic foundation and character skills necessary for success in college, career, and life. Argosy Collegiate, a tuition-free public school that was established for Fall River students, opened its middle school in 2014. After three successful years, Argosy Collegiate is preparing to open a college preparatory high school in August to ensure a seamless transition for its advancing middle school scholars. Argosy Collegiate is conducting a \$2.3 million capital campaign to fund a state-of-the-art STEM Lab, Robotics Lab and Culinary Arts Lab as well as a new gymnasium for the high school.

Argosy Collegiate High School will deliver a structured college preparatory academic program and a pioneering four-year dual enrollment program with Bristol Community College that will provide one full year of college credits upon graduation.

BankFive's contribution to help fund construction of a gymnasium at the high school is the first matching grant toward a \$100,000 challenge issued by the Amelia Peabody Foundation of Boston.

"Providing a quality education to our children is of paramount importance to the BankFive Foundation," noted William R. Eccles Jr., President and CEO of BankFive. "That's why we're getting behind Argosy Collegiate's efforts to establish a new high school in Fall River that will focus on preparing students for college and beyond. We applaud this dynamic, exciting project and wish Argosy Collegiate great success."

"By establishing this charitable fund, the BankFive Foundation has made an extraordinary investment in our region," said Community Foundation President John Vasconcellos. "Their mission is in perfect alignment with our efforts to increase educational attainment in Southeastern Massachusetts, and we are proud to partner with them in support of Argosy Collegiate Charter School."

“We are truly honored to be the recipient of this remarkable contribution,” stated Kristen Pavao, Founder and Executive Director of Argosy Collegiate. “BankFive’s support is instrumental in providing a lasting benefit for our scholars. We cannot be more excited to continue the academic journey with our scholars as they transition into the new high school.”

For more information, or to make a tax-deductible contribution to Argosy Collegiate, please visit www.argosycollegiate.org or contact Bethany Therriault at 508-567-8413.

About the Community Foundation

Since 1995, area residents have been turning to the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts to make their philanthropic giving as effective as possible. The Community Foundation is a public charity serving thousands of people who share a common concern – improving the quality of life in Southeastern Massachusetts. To date, the Community Foundation has distributed more than \$25 million to humanitarian, educational and cultural organizations in the region. More information about the Foundation can be found at www.cfsema.org.

About BankFive

Since 1855, BankFive has been serving the communities of the SouthCoast with a steadfast commitment to provide local individuals, families and businesses with outstanding products and services designed to meet their financial needs. With 15 offices conveniently located throughout the SouthCoast, BankFive is one of the top regional banks in Massachusetts. For more information, visit us online at www.bankfive.com.

About Argosy Collegiate

Argosy Collegiate Charter School is a Fall River nonprofit public school serving 300 thriving middle school scholars in grades 6-8 and 100 high school scholars in our inaugural high school program. The high school will expand by one grade each year until it enrolls 350 scholars in 2021. Our mission is to prepare scholars with the academic foundation and character skills necessary for success in college, career, and life. Argosy Collegiate believes all scholars, with hard work and support, can excel academically, prepare for, and graduate from college. The \$2.3 million campaign to build the new Argosy Collegiate High School will provide scholars with seven new technology-based classrooms to include a STEM Lab, Robotics Lab, Culinary Arts Lab, and Creative Arts Lab. For more information, please visit www.argosycollegiate.org.

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