



BUILDING HOUSTON'S  
**FUTURE**

## RECOGNITION

### Top 100 High Schools in the Nation

U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT  
(2007-PRESENT)

### Gold Ribbon District

CHILDREN AT RISK  
(2014)

### America's Most Challenging High Schools

THE WASHINGTON POST  
(2013-PRESENT)

### Best Places to Work

HOUSTON BUSINESS JOURNAL  
(2010-2013, 2015)

### Broad Prize for Public Charter Schools

THE ELI AND EDYTHE BROAD FOUNDATION  
(WINNER 2012, FINALIST 2016)

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## Dear Supporters & Friends,

YES Prep believes that genius is equitably distributed across all communities in our great city of Houston. The unfortunate reality is that access to excellent educational opportunities is inequitably distributed. In Houston today, a student from a low-income family has less than a 10% chance of earning any form of a college degree. By contrast, a child born into a family in the top quartile of income has about an 80% chance to graduate from college. We exist to eliminate this gap and give children from low-income communities the same quality education as children who grow up in more affluent communities. Even though 84% of our students are economically disadvantaged, YES Prep provides evidence that different outcomes are possible. Ninety-four percent (94%) of YES Prep alumni are matriculating within one year of high school graduation and earning their college degrees at four times the rate of their peers with similar socioeconomic backgrounds.

Yet, we recognize that there is more work to do in our city and nation to increase the number of students from underserved communities who graduate prepared to lead. Last year, YES Prep set a new vision— that every child in Houston has equitable access to a public school that delivers an excellent, college-ready education— and a new goal— to quadruple the number

of YES Prep college-ready graduates by 2020. This year, we made significant strides toward achieving this vision and goal. Throughout the report, you'll see examples of how we are **building upon our strong foundation**—a 6th-12th grade educational model with an excellent record of academic achievement— to drive not only the future of our organization, but our city.

To achieve YES Prep's goal of quadrupling the number of college-ready graduates, we determined what our students needed to be truly "college-ready." One component of college-readiness is the ability to use technology. In 2016, YES Prep committed to **building students' 21st century skills** by expanding their access to technology and piloting new learning models. Socio-emotional skills and enduring, supportive relationships with mentors and peers within the students' communities is another critical component of college-readiness. For this reason, YES Prep committed to **building opportunities** for students to network with each other and adult mentors and develop leadership skills. Additionally, we recognize that students' success in college and beyond will multiply if we deepen our engagement with families and communities. This year, YES Prep expanded its commitment to **building community** by partnering with organizations that will

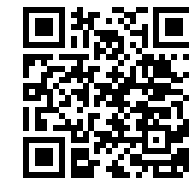
help us achieve our ambitious vision and goal. Lastly, YES Prep renewed its commitment to **building a support system** for our alumni so that they persist through college and graduate prepared to lead.

Next year, our 20th year of running high-performing charter schools, YES Prep will open its 17th campus, YES Prep Northline, bringing our enrollment up to nearly 13,000 students across Houston. We will celebrate this incredible milestone with a 20th Anniversary Breakfast benefiting YES Prep students on November 17, 2017 at The Houston Country Club. We invite you to join us as we honor our founder, Chris Barbic, and commemorate his incredible efforts that have led to

our remarkable growth and achievement throughout the years.

This is a defining moment for YES Prep and for our city, and we thank you for sharing our commitment to improving educational options in all of our communities. Your generosity and support make this possible and we are deeply grateful. In thanks, we've created a video found at the QR code below. We invite you to visit [yesprep.org](http://yesprep.org) to learn more about how you can continue to help us build Houston's future.

Sincerely,

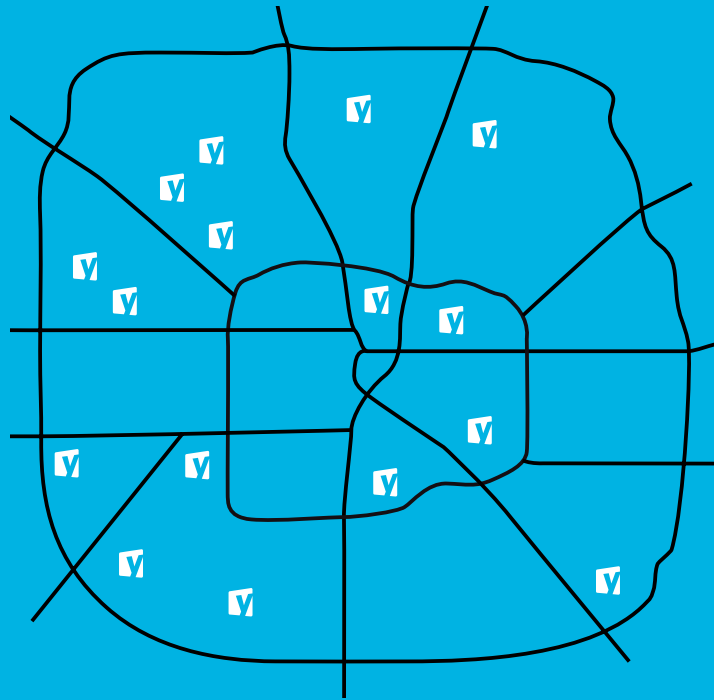


VIMEO.COM/YESPREP/  
GRATITUDE

**Mark Gregg**  
*Board Chair*

**Mark DiBella**  
*CEO*

# YES PREP AT A GLANCE



16  
SCHOOLS

11.6k  
STUDENTS

96%  
HISPANIC AND  
AFRICAN AMERICAN

84%  
ECONOMICALLY  
DISADVANTAGED

## OUR MISSION

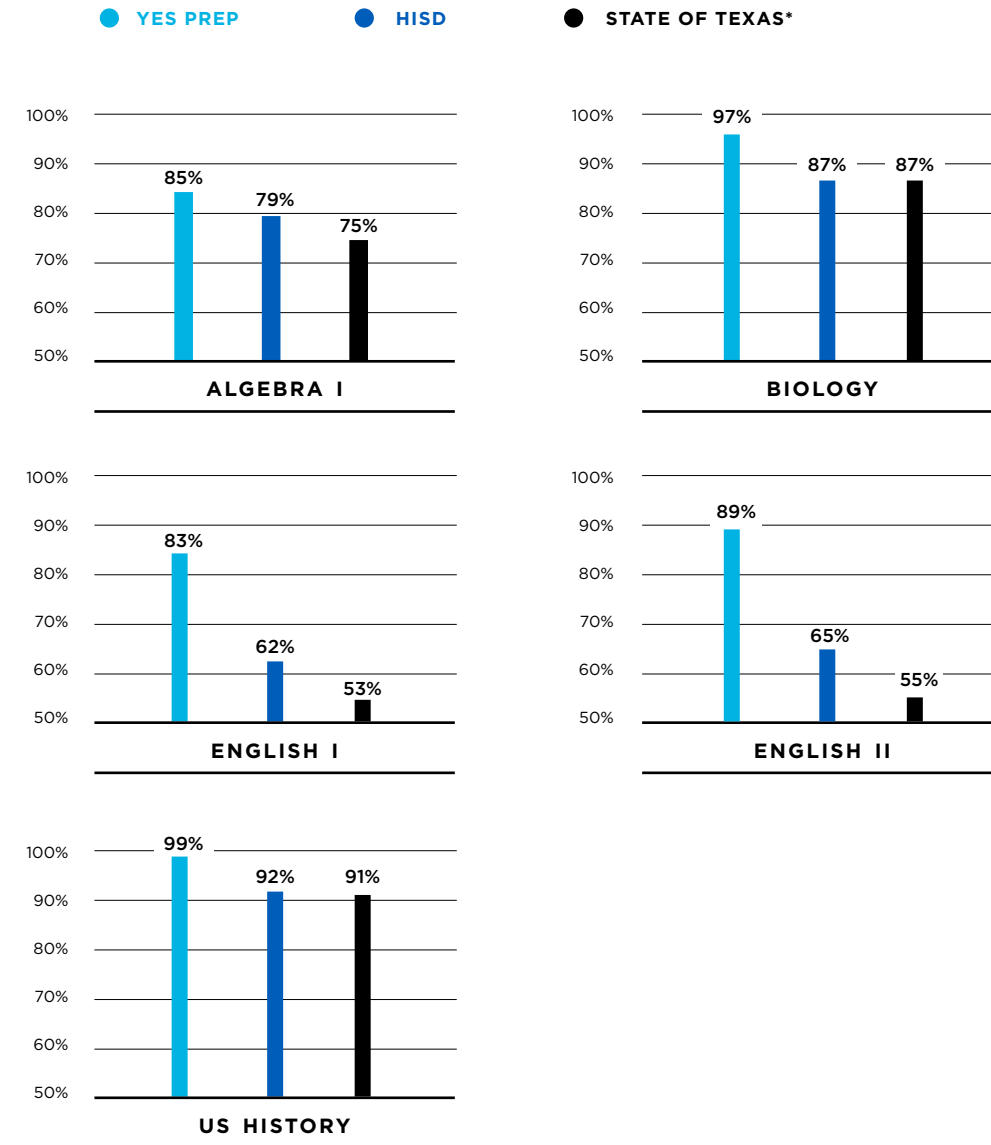
YES Prep Public Schools will increase the number of students from underserved communities who graduate from college prepared to lead.



## MEET MARK DIBELLA, CEO

In 2016, Mark DiBella celebrated his 17th year with YES Prep and his first full year as CEO. Mark was accepted into the highly selective Broad Center Superintendents' Academy. The Broad Academy helps experienced system-level leaders amplify their impact on urban public education.

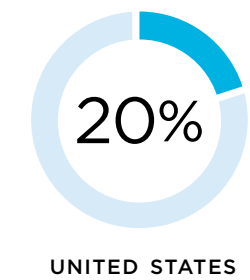
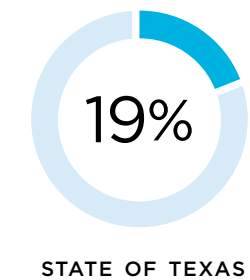
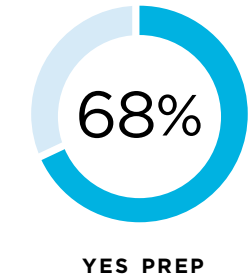
## 2015-2016 High School STAAR Passing Rates



\* Indicates economically disadvantaged students in Texas

## Advanced Placement (AP) Test Results

Percentage of graduates earning a 3 or higher on the AP exam



## BUILDING 21ST CENTURY SKILLS

YES Prep's goal is to quadruple the number of college-ready graduates by 2020. However, students will not be considered "college-ready" without 21st century skills such as the ability to find, evaluate, utilize, and share information from the internet. These skills are fundamental for students' college and career success. To build these skills, YES Prep is piloting several digital initiatives.

### LEARNING WITH TECHNOLOGY

YES Prep Eisenhower, an Aldine partnership school, is piloting our first 1:1 laptop program. Each ninth-grader is assigned a school-owned laptop that he/she will be able to take home all four years to complete homework, conduct research, and write papers. The laptops help to familiarize students with completing and submitting work digitally, a skill necessary for college. They also can help to increase engagement and improve critical-thinking skills—key predictors of college-readiness and completion.

*"The 1:1 laptop program has changed the way I do school-work and is preparing me for college. I use the laptop to keep track of my to-do list, complete and submit homework and classwork, and conduct research for presentations."*

Gabriel Sandoval, student at YES Prep Eisenhower

### PILOTING NEW LEARNING MODELS

Blended learning programs combine internet and digital media technology with traditional classroom teaching methods. YES Prep has adopted a blended learning model in Math Lab—a class for middle school students who were identified as needing more support. These classes have dedicated laptops for students to access ST Math, a program developed to boost math skills through animated representations of mathematical concepts. The program gives visual cues to teachers so that teachers can target individuals or small groups that are struggling to solve puzzles.

*"ST Math helps me understand algebra. When I get a puzzle wrong, it shows me how I made the mistake, and I get to try the question again."*

Nicole Campos, student at YES Prep West



### BUILDING ACCESS AT HOME

Many internet providers offer low-cost and high-speed bandwidth for those who qualify for free and reduced price lunch. However, accessing the information and completing the process can be difficult for families. YES Prep has partnered with the organization, everyoneon.org, to ensure that students have access to high-speed broadband.

*"Lack of access to technology has become a social equity issue for our kids as they matriculate to college. At YES Prep, we have the responsibility of tackling the socioeconomic digital divide."*

Richard Charlesworth, Vice President of Technology and Analytics



### MEET RICHARD CHARLESWORTH

*Vice President of  
Technology and Analytics*

As Vice President of Technology and Analytics, Richard Charlesworth leverages technology to help achieve YES Prep's mission and to empower teachers, students, and parents. Richard first started working at YES Prep in 2008 and later served as the Assistant Commissioner and Chief Information Officer of the Tennessee Department of Education. He returned to YES Prep in 2015 and focused his first year back on defining a strategy to address the organization's technology challenges, updating and replacing necessary equipment, and improving structures for IT support. As he looks to the future, Richard's passion is improving students' access to and use of technology so they have the necessary skills for college and beyond.

## BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES

In 2016, we revised our core values to better reflect the reason YES Prep was founded: to eliminate educational inequities and advance social justice. As part of this focus, we expanded our efforts to provide opportunities for students to develop pride in their identities and build relationships within the communities with which they identify. We believe that these efforts will strengthen students' support systems and build their self-confidence, increasing the likelihood of their success in college and beyond.

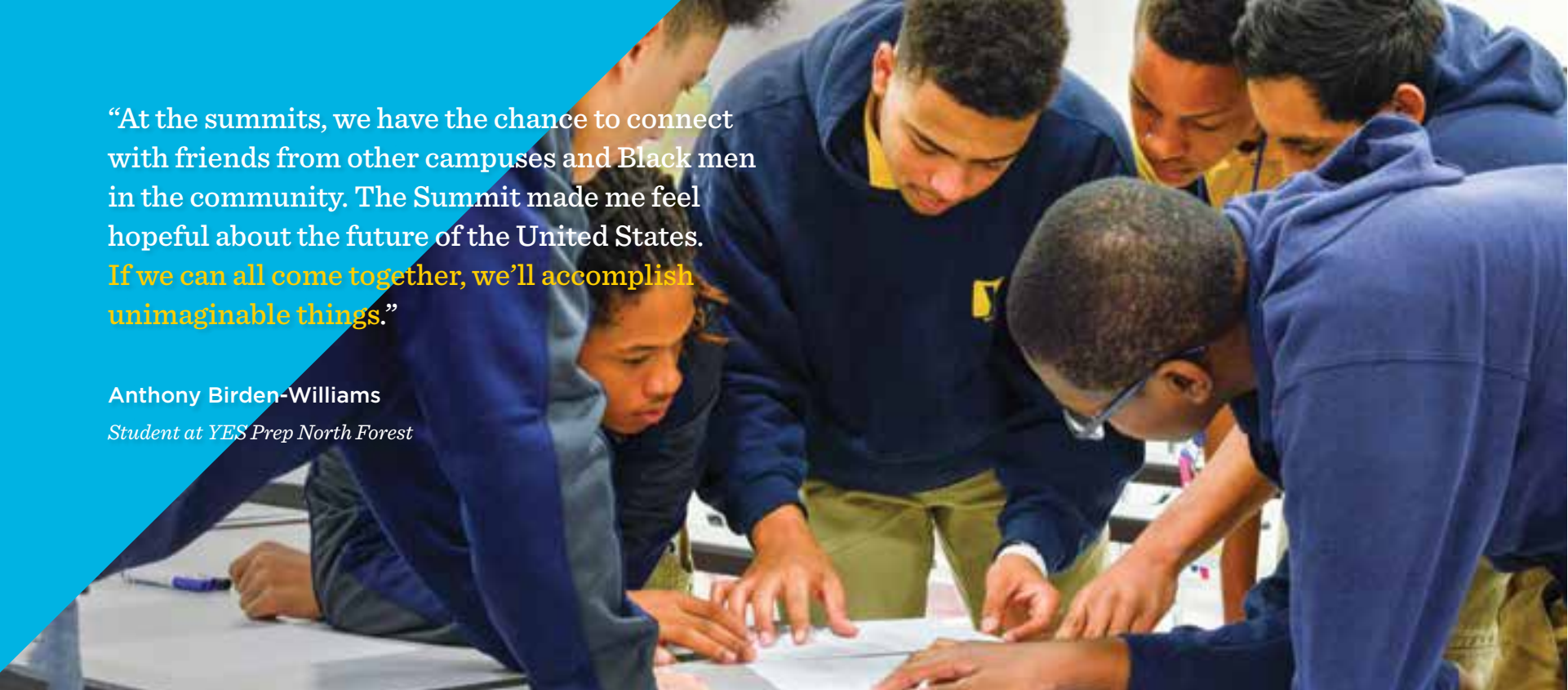
This year, YES Prep offered five affinity summits, including the Brotherhood and Sisterhood Summits for African American students and the LatinX Leadership Summit for students of Latin American, Hispanic, or Native American heritage. At these summits, YES Prep students from all campuses participated in discussions with mentors in their communities, learned about their cultural heritage, and developed skills to navigate the college environment. The goal of the summits is to ensure that students take pride in their identities and graduate prepared to lead, a key component of our mission.



**MEET**  
**JAISA SWASEY**  
*Senior at YES Prep Gulfton*

Jaisa Swasey is the president of Student Council and leads service events on her campus including the Louisiana Flood Drive and the annual blood drive. Next year, she plans to enroll in the Peabody College of Education and Human Development at Vanderbilt. After college, she plans to join Teach For America “because there’s not a YES Prep everywhere.” Jaisa attended YES Prep’s Sisterhood Summit and walked away with the determination to succeed in college.

*“At school, I’m not around a lot of girls like me, but at the Summit, I met a lot of people from different schools and found out that they were going through similar struggles. I also saw what black women have accomplished throughout history and walked away feeling like I can be a person who accomplishes great things.”*



“At the summits, we have the chance to connect with friends from other campuses and Black men in the community. The Summit made me feel hopeful about the future of the United States. **If we can all come together, we’ll accomplish unimaginable things.**”

Anthony Birden-Williams  
Student at YES Prep North Forest



“The summits gave me pride in my identity as a Mexican immigrant. We discussed what it means to be Hispanic in mostly white spaces so that we feel prepared to go to colleges where Hispanic people are the minority.”

José Duran  
Student at YES Prep Brays Oaks



“At the summits, we learned we have to come together to **spread awareness about the issues that we face as people of color.**”

Yurai Benitez  
Student at YES Prep Brays Oaks

## BUILDING COMMUNITY

Last year, we adopted the vision that every child in Houston will have access to a public school that delivers an excellent, college-ready education. We cannot accomplish this vision without the support of our Houston network. As we grow, YES Prep will continue to partner with like-minded organizations to share ideas, expand community support, advocate for equity and social justice, and make our vision a reality.

### LEGACY COMMUNITY HEALTH

YES Prep has expanded its partnership with Legacy Community Health to provide free or low-cost behavioral and clinical health services to YES Prep students. Seven campuses currently provide behavioral health services, and an additional two campuses offer clinical health services, from sports physicals to wellness exams.

### BAKERRIPLEY

This year, YES Prep's Teaching Excellence program embarked on a partnership with BakerRipley, formerly Neighborhood Centers Inc., to support BakerRipley's first-year teachers. Teaching Excellence, a premier first-year teacher development and certification program, also supports first-year and novice teachers in KIPP-Houston and Spring Branch ISD. Both organizations share the belief that a strong first year in the profession is pivotal to a teacher's future career.

### MI FAMILIA VOTA

YES Prep partnered with non-partisan, non-profit Mi Familia Vota and Go Neighborhoods to increase the number of registered voters in school communities. Students participated in phone banks and community canvassing, providing information about early voting and polling locations. Many campuses also registered family and community members to vote during campus events.



### PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS (PWC) + THE HOUSTON ROCKETS

PwC, in connection with the Houston Rockets, collaborated with YES Prep to create two mentorship programs. The first program, Clutching Accountability, pairs PwC associates with YES Prep Southeast seniors to provide stability and support as the seniors transition to and through their first year of college. The second program, Teaming with Teachers, matches PwC volunteers with 8th grade math teachers throughout the district to enhance the math curriculum and engage students in real-life applications for math problems.



### MEET MAUREEN ISRAEL

*School Director  
YES Prep Northside*

Community work is an important part of each campus's mission. School Director Maureen Israel stands out for her dedication to Houston's Northside neighborhood. Maureen sits on the Avenue CDC Leadership and Advocacy Committee, which works with Mi Familia Vota, Wesley Community Center, Collaborate for Children, the Kashmere Multi-Service Center, and more. Through this involvement, Maureen has become part of the Capital One Education Coalition, a group focused on providing strong educational options for students in the Northside community.

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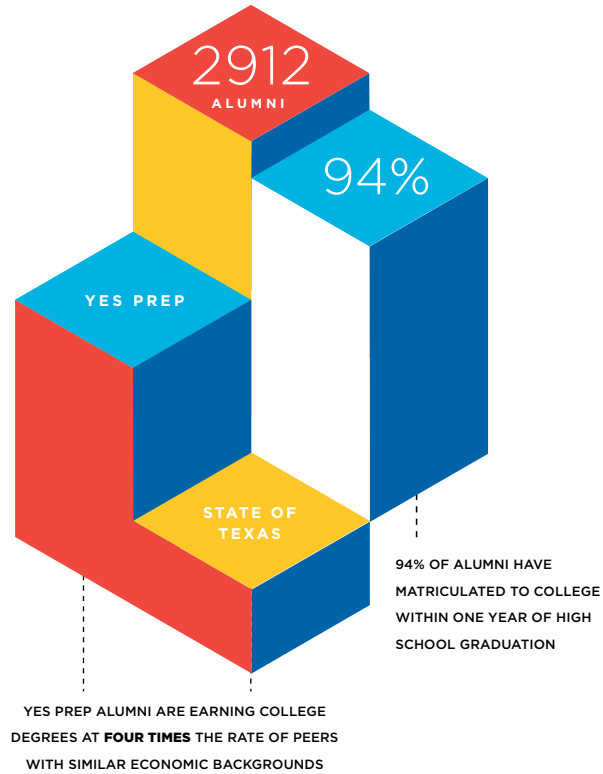
*"YES Prep Northside partners with these community organizations because it builds our students' pride in the community. It's very powerful when they see that there are people here who care about their families and that are working every day to make an impact on the world."*

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## BUILDING A SUPPORT SYSTEM

As YES Prep has grown from graduating classes of 100 students to graduating classes of nearly 1,000, we've continued to expand our support for alumni. Research has shown that simply being accepted into college does not guarantee graduation from college. Our first-generation, college-bound students often face a variety of challenges— academic, socio-emotional, cultural, and financial. As part of a portfolio of alumni support services, YES Prep continues to develop two critical programs: IMPACT and Alumni Success Teams.



### PARTNERING FOR SUCCESS

We celebrated the 10th anniversary of the IMPACT Program, which matches eligible YES Prep juniors and seniors with highly selective, supportive colleges and universities. As IMPACT partners, colleges and universities agree to attend a summer institute to inform students and parents about the application process. Partners also agree to meet the financial need of YES Prep students accepted as IMPACT scholars. Since the program's inception, the list of participating institutions has grown to 28 partners and seven affiliates. This fall, IMPACT representatives also attended YES Prep and KIPP's first joint college fair, which drew over 150 colleges and was attended by 3,000+ students.

### BOOSTING COLLEGE PERSISTENCE

In 2014, the Alumni Success Program, funded by a grant from Enbridge Inc., formerly Spectra Energy, began as a way to boost college persistence for YES Prep graduates matriculating to public institutions in the Houston area, roughly one-third of every graduating class. Our alumni-support staff members host alumni socials on campuses and check in with students. The participating college and universities provide space, resources, and individuals who can offer on-campus support for YES Prep students.



### MEET YOLAINE MFINYOM

*IMPACT Scholar at  
Vanderbilt University*

Yolaine Mfinyom graduated from YES Prep North Forest in 2015 and is a recent recipient of the Eugene H. Vaughan Family Scholarship in Entrepreneurial Excellence. Yolaine decided to attend Vanderbilt after an IMPACT Saturday, an event for students and families to meet with IMPACT institution representatives. Yolaine, a sophomore, is majoring in political science and minoring in corporate strategy. In her spare time, she volunteers with Habitat for Humanity to give back to an organization that built her childhood home.

*"I'm very thankful to be an IMPACT scholar. The financial package made Vanderbilt accessible to me and my family, and there are so many people here that want us to succeed and that can offer support."*

# FINANCIAL REPORT

Fiscal Year Ending June 30 and August 31

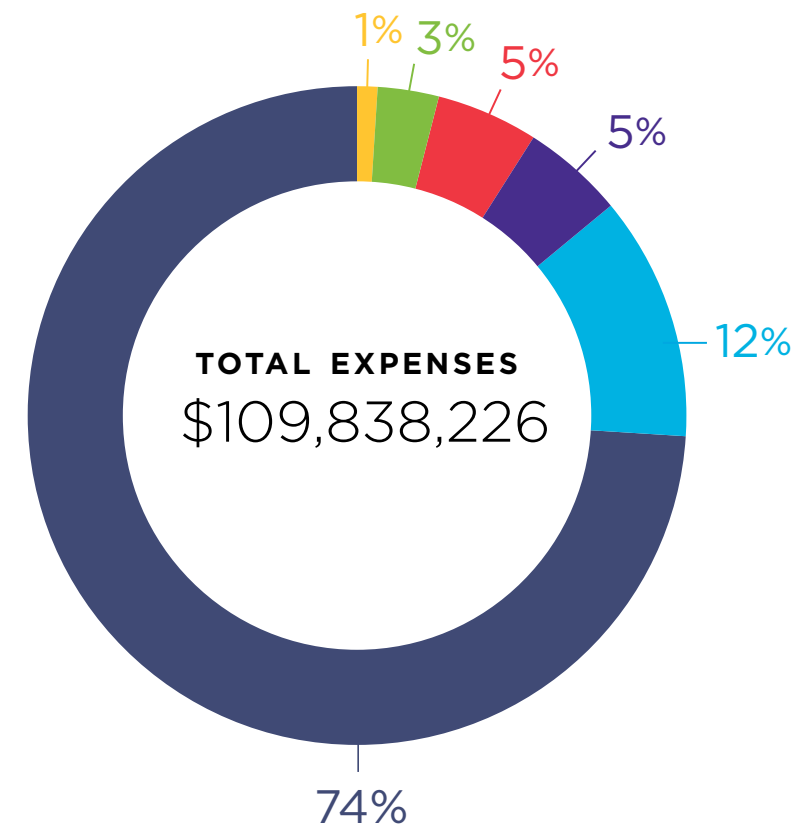
Revenue, Grants, And Support	2016	2015*	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Governmental	99,692,385	85,168,270	74,632,481	61,105,351	51,025,759	43,410,455	32,801,285	24,305,431
Fundraising	6,968,123	12,823,021	12,790,487	6,842,985	8,834,541	12,810,726	9,031,556	11,833,456
Other	3,114,048	3,029,172	2,848,559	2,833,063	1,519,185	1,261,639	925,520	669,883
<b>Totals</b>	<b>109,774,556</b>	<b>101,020,463</b>	<b>90,271,527</b>	<b>70,781,398</b>	<b>61,379,485</b>	<b>57,482,820</b>	<b>42,758,361</b>	<b>36,808,770</b>

Expenses	2016	2015*	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
School Program	81,568,390	60,748,519.79	69,538,452.17	51,088,118.36	41,857,372	33,899,374	25,671,880	19,043,324
Transportation	5,187,968	4,370,509	4,384,811	3,773,999	3,356,247	2,901,053	2,597,343	2,026,461
Food Services	3,570,691	3,051,242	3,054,511	2,840,659	2,428,470	1,756,916	1,241,102	955,182
Facilities	12,993,741	8,928,262	10,102,977	8,575,879	7,387,329	5,525,650	4,370,067	2,879,114
Home Office	5,634,047	4,125,675	1,313,979	3,731,662	2,637,563	2,475,068	3,463,693	1,680,865
Fundraising	883,388	876,459	927,166	678,540	616,462	874,572	719,867	720,726
<b>Totals</b>	<b>109,838,226</b>	<b>82,100,666</b>	<b>86,693,938</b>	<b>70,688,857</b>	<b>58,283,443</b>	<b>47,432,633</b>	<b>38,063,952</b>	<b>27,305,672</b>

Statement Of Financial Position	2016	2015*	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Current Assets	49,765,851	47,861,898	21,461,568	19,433,329	22,242,806	29,289,167	31,018,204	12,876,936
Bond Sinking Fund	11,369,121	8,449,614	6,494,624	4,559,855	2,698,120	1,098,148	-	-
Note Receivable	10,422,800	10,422,800	10,422,800	10,422,800	-	-	-	-
Furniture And Equipment	7,261,727	7,419,278	7,226,957	6,883,869	6,409,745	4,708,806	3,495,694	2,745,315
Land And Buildings	119,161,300	108,307,412	98,726,434	89,583,801	78,298,331	69,075,482	43,850,021	33,934,618
Accumulated Depreciation	(25,880,716)	(21,261,979)	(17,903,774)	(13,685,453)	(9,987,681)	(6,768,104)	(7,359,550)	(5,281,422)
Other Assets	5,023,637	1,297,445	989,948	845,168	789,223	652,289	652,593	34,362
<b>Totals</b>	<b>177,123,720</b>	<b>162,496,468</b>	<b>127,418,557</b>	<b>118,043,369</b>	<b>100,450,544</b>	<b>98,055,788</b>	<b>71,656,962</b>	<b>44,309,809</b>

Liabilities And Net Assets	2016	2015*	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Current Liabilities	14,494,044	12,178,421	6,575,342	6,855,117	5,550,456	7,265,848	5,423,208	4,425,715
Debt	80,940,609	80,929,194	65,036,896	58,759,522	42,563,899	41,578,044	26,270,000	4,614,750
Net Assets	81,687,067	69,388,853	55,806,319	52,428,730	52,336,189	49,211,896	39,963,754	35,269,344
<b>Totals</b>	<b>177,123,720</b>	<b>162,496,468</b>	<b>127,418,557</b>	<b>118,043,369</b>	<b>100,450,544</b>	<b>98,055,788</b>	<b>71,656,962</b>	<b>44,309,809</b>

\*YES Prep changed from an 8/31 to a 6/30 fiscal year end in FY 2015; therefore, only 10 months of activity is reflected.



- **School Program**  
\$81,568,390
- **Facilities**  
\$12,993,741
- **Transportation**  
\$5,187,968
- **Home Office**  
\$5,634,047
- **Food Services**  
\$3,570,691
- **Fundraising**  
\$883,388



**MEET**  
**MILLICENT CHANCELLOR**  
*Chief Financial Officer*

As Chief Financial Officer, Millicent Chancellor provides system-wide oversight of YES Prep's financial and accounting operations. Prior to YES Prep, Millicent worked in public accounting with PricewaterhouseCoopers and held the positions of Director of Finance and Accounting at Brown & Root, Vice President of Finance and Administration and CFO at Landmark Graphics Corporation, and Director of Investor Relations and Vice President of Finance Operations at Halliburton. In her first year at YES Prep, Millicent implemented SunGard, a new accounting system that will address YES Prep's growing accounting needs. Millicent also secured competitive external financing for YES Prep's next campus. As part of YES Prep's strategic initiative, she and her team are working to improve the budget process with a specific focus on allocating resources proportionally to meet system needs.

*"After I'd retired from the financial industry, I wanted something that I could focus on and commit myself to on a daily basis that would help the community. When I learned about YES Prep, I was driven toward the mission and the idea of helping kids achieve their educational goals."*

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# BUILDING A LEGACY

Thank you to our 2015-16 Annual Fund Donors\*

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Jennifer and Jaime Cleveland  
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Lana and Chip Cureton  
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David Garrett  
GE Foundation  
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