



LIGHTING THE PATH

A CAMPAIGN TO TRANSFORM KIPP

CAMPAIGN REPORT



**APRIL
2024**

Executive Director

MARSHA REEVES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LETTER FROM
OUR LEADERS 3

KIPP BALTIMORE
OVERVIEW 4

FUNDRAISING
HIGHLIGHTS 5

CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENTS 6

PROGRAM
IMPLEMENTATION 7

PARTNER
SPOTLIGHT 8

IN STUDENTS'
OWN WORDS 10

ALUMNI
LEADERSHIP 11

COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT 12

JOIN US
CONTACT INFORMATION 13

FROM OUR CAMPAIGN CHAIRS

In the heart of West Baltimore, KIPP's unwavering commitment to nurturing the next generation of leaders is more evident than ever. This year, our community has witnessed transformative achievements that underscore our shared vision: *Every child grows up free to create the future they want for themselves and their communities.*



**PAIGE &
ALYSSA DAVIS**

T. Rowe Price
Johns Hopkins Hospital



JIT SINHA

Resolve Growth Partners

Reflecting on this past year, we've seen our dreams materialized through the tireless dedication of our staff, the resilience of our students, and the unparalleled support of our donors and community partners like you. The completion of the PreK wing—a monumental step in our campus evolution—stands as a testament to what we can achieve together. This new space embodies our commitment to early education, providing an environment where our youngest learners can thrive.

Our journey doesn't stop here. The upcoming summer heralds the next phase of our campus transformation with the construction of two state-of-the-art school libraries. These spaces are designed not just as repositories of knowledge, but as vibrant hubs of learning and exploration, symbolizing our investment in student literacy and success.

Our resolve to light the path for our students remains steadfast. **Together, we're not just changing the landscape of education in Baltimore; we're setting a new standard for what's possible when a community comes together for its children.**

3,000+

Students & Alumni Served

20+ YEARS

as a leader among Baltimore
City public charter schools

70%

KIPP Alumni go on to attend college
outpacing the national average of 46%



KIPP BALTIMORE OVERVIEW

The largest public charter school in Baltimore, KIPP Baltimore enrolls approximately 1400 prekindergarten through eighth grade students in two schools on our West Baltimore campus: KIPP Harmony Academy (PreK-5) and KIPP Ujima Village Academy (grades 6-8). Including our signature KIPP Forward (formerly KIPP Through College) program, we support nearly 4000 students and alumni as they pursue individual paths that lead to their highest aspirations. Since its founding in 2002, KIPP Baltimore has built a legacy of rigorous academics, whole-student development, and individualized preparation for success in high school, college, career and beyond. Today, KIPP Baltimore works together with families and communities to affirm students' identities and gifts, challenging students' minds while nurturing their joy of learning.

OUR MISSION

Together with families and communities, we create joyful, academically excellent schools that prepare students with the skills and confidence to pursue the paths they choose — college, career, and beyond — so they can lead fulfilling lives and build a more just world.

FUNDRAISING HIGHLIGHTS

The generosity of our community has been the driving force behind our ability to pursue ambitious improvements and expansions at KIPP Baltimore. In 2023, our fundraising efforts have achieved remarkable success, thanks in large part to the early Foundation donors who saw the potential in our vision and acted swiftly to support it.

Leading the charge, the **France-Merrick Foundation**, the **Middendorf Foundation**, the **Abell Foundation**, and the **Sherman Family Foundation** each made significant contributions that laid the groundwork for our campaign's success. These early commitments - in concert with the unanimous investment of KIPP Baltimore's Board of Directors - has inspired a wave of support which allows us to set ambitious fundraising goals. Thanks to our community's belief in our mission, we were able to kickstart crucial projects, including the completion of our PreK wing and the upcoming construction of our school libraries.



*In 2024, we were honored to join the cohort of Baltimore Schools united by the **Baltimore Library Project**: a transformational investment in our elementary and middle school library media centers.*

Our campaign's achievements to date are more than just milestones; they are a reflection of the collective belief in the transformative power of education. As we celebrate the generosity of our donors, we also look ahead to the continued impact of their support on the lives of our students and the broader community.



Gifts + Pledges to Date
\$3.9M April 2024



KIPP's Investment
\$1.2M



Progress to Goal
78%



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

In August 2023, KIPP Baltimore proudly unveiled its new PreK wing, a cornerstone of our Phase II enhancements at the Walbrook Campus, to welcome our first class of PreKindergarten students. This addition underscores our commitment to early learning, featuring four specialized PreK classrooms designed to foster a nurturing and interactive learning environment for up to 80 students. Each classroom offers tailored facilities including early childhood restrooms, individual cubbies, sinks, and ample storage, interconnected through internal doorways to support seamless small group activities. A dedicated playground - safely enclosed within our campus's inner courtyard - ensures that play is our students' priority.

INTEGRATED SPACES: KINDER TO CAREER

Beyond the classrooms, the wing hosts a versatile gathering space compliant with COMAR regulations, serving multiple purposes: accommodating full-class activities, providing a venue for KIPP Harmony Academy's staff development, and hosting community events like KIPP Parent Association meetings. The wing also integrates KIPP Forward program offices with private meeting areas, a dedicated teacher workspace complete with essential office and instructional supplies, a Teachers Lounge featuring a lactation room and break-out spaces, and a conference room, making it a comprehensive hub for educational and community engagement.

INAUGURATING PREK

The first year of our PreK program has been a resounding success, setting a strong foundation for early learning and development. Our tailored curriculum, focused on play-based learning and social-emotional growth, has created a vibrant learning community where our youngest KIPPsters can explore, learn, and grow.

In SY24-25, we will open a second classroom - and double our PreK program.



LIBRARY VISION DEVELOPMENT

In line with our strategic vision, the upcoming library media centers are designed to be more than just libraries; they will be dynamic learning environments where students can engage deeply with literature, develop critical digital literacy skills, and explore their interests through diverse and inclusive resources.

Our program strategy, informed by best practices and research, emphasizes the crucial role of libraries in enhancing educational outcomes, particularly in literacy. With dedicated spaces for individual and group learning, technology integration, and a rich collection of texts, the new library media centers will be instrumental in advancing our mission to prepare students for a bright future.

Looking Ahead ►►

We are excited to embark on the construction of two library media centers during summer 2024. These libraries, envisioned as central hubs of learning and exploration, will offer KIPP students access to books, digital media, and spaces for collaborative learning. This investment is not just in the physical infrastructure but in creating environments that stimulate curiosity, foster a love of reading, and support our students' academic and personal growth.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT



Theo Rodgers, a beacon of civic leadership and philanthropy in Baltimore, **sees his support for KIPP Baltimore as more than a donation—it's an investment in the city's future.** With a focus on impactful interventions, Rodgers is particularly drawn to the PreKindergarten program and library enhancements, believing in the foundational role of early education and literacy in children's lives.

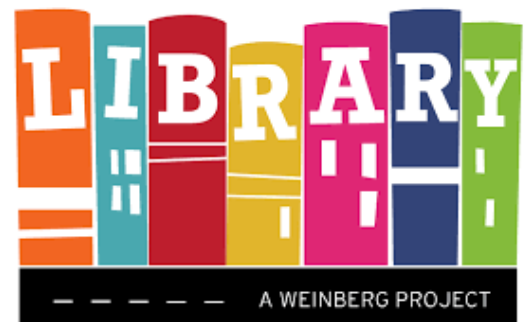
THEO RODGERS

The William L. and Victorine Q. Adams Foundation and the Rodgers Family Fund

"Providing children with access to high-quality early education and rich literary resources lays the groundwork for lifelong learning and success," he emphasizes. Rodgers envisions his contributions as sparks for wider change, reflecting his holistic approach to education that combines dignity with a nurturing environment. As KIPP Baltimore advances, he looks forward to milestones like the first library book checkouts—a symbol of academic curiosity and joy in learning. **Theo's commitment underlines a collective duty to empower every child to realize their potential, marking him as a steadfast advocate for educational excellence and uplifting communities.**



EARLY INVESTORS



We extend our deepest gratitude to our current donors, whose generous contributions embody the spirit of community and commitment that propels our mission forward.

EARLY INVESTORS

The Abell Foundation
Anonymous (2)
Brittany Ballentine '12^
Rheda Becker & Robert E. Meyerhoff
The Blake-McDowell Family^
The Blanket Fort Foundation
Kendall Brewton '12*
Clayton-Baker Trust
Melissa and Jonathan Cordish
Paige and Alyssa Davis*

Quiana Dunn-Gordon^^
Cecil E. Flamer
The France-Merrick Foundation
Martha & Patrick Hastings^
Amy Kiesel**
Lockhart Vaughan Foundation
The Manger Family Foundation
The Middendorf Foundation
Yehuda and Anne Neuberger^
Offit-Kurman
Shanika Paul '15*
Joshua Perry
Brian Riewerts & Rebecca Gilliam**

Gloria & Tony Romeo^
E. Curtis Rountree^
Ken & Betsy Rutherford
The Sawyer Family^
Charlie Scheeler & Mary Pease
The Shawe Family Foundation^
The Sherman Family Foundation
Jit and Swati Sinha*
Jennifer St. Germain*
Anne Swett^
T. Rowe Price Associates
Hutch & Susan Vernon
Kathie and Jon Wachs^

*CAMPAIGN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS

IN STUDENTS' OWN WORDS



EVERY MORNING, I HOLD MY DADDY'S HAND WHEN WE WALK TO SCHOOL. I SEE MY FRIENDS, AND OUR TEACHERS ARE WAITING FOR US.

IT'S A BIG DAY, EVERY DAY!

-NOEL, PREKINDERGARTEN

IN SEVENTH GRADE, WE'RE TAKING AN AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES CLASS WITH MS. WAKEFIELD, AND WE DO A LOT OF RESEARCH.

I'm excited to have a library in our school where I can learn more about my own history - and also read in a safe environment. I can't wait to have more books to read. We need a variety of books, because not everyone likes to read the same thing.

-QUANIERA, 7TH GRADE

When my teacher told me that we were going to have a library, I was imagining reading my favorite books about animals. I like cats. Reading makes you smarter! Also, when I read I feel calm and happy, like

I'M IN MY HAPPY PLACE.

-ELIJAH, 1ST GRADE

ALUMNI LEADERSHIP

SHANIKA PAUL '15

MBA CANDIDATE, EMORY UNIVERSITY

“ KIPP instilled a love of learning in me from the time I set foot in the building.

In the 6th grade, I would grab a Sci-Fi novel from the small library in my English classroom and sit on a bean bag, immersing myself in a different reality from my own. I can't imagine how impactful it'll be for the students to have a big library they can explore. Being involved with the campaign allows me to solve a challenge that KIPP has faced since I was a student - and allows me to give back.



Shanika and Kendall both serve on KIPP's Campaign Executive Committee as organizers, cheerleaders & advocates for *Lighting the Path: A Campaign to Transform KIPP*.

KENDALL BREWTON '12

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER, NAVAL SEA SYSTEMS COMMAND (NAVSEA)

“ When I started at KIPP in fifth grade, I found out that even though I had passed with one of the highest percentiles in elementary school, I was significantly behind in core academic skills.

KIPP not only identified these gaps but gave me the tools to surpass grade level, which in turn made pursuing my degree a lot easier.

This campaign aims to provide our students with the facilities to succeed and thrive; a school that helps bring out the best in our youth—built through the investment of our whole community in the education we all believe in. I'd like to see KIPP become a beacon of hope for Baltimore, where every student can—and will—excel.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



QUIANA DUNN-GORDON

U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia
Parent of Serenity, Grade 3

Quiana's journey with KIPP Baltimore from Parent Association President to a pivotal member of the Board of Directors and Campaign Executive Committee underscores her profound commitment to enhancing the educational environment for KIPP students. Motivated by her desire to amplify parent leadership and ensure the direct impact of fundraising efforts on students, Quiana has been a driving force behind the "Lighting the Path" campaign.

Quiana's passion is particularly evident in her advocacy for the library project, seeing it as a critical tool for fostering a love of reading and providing essential resources to students beyond the school day.

“ I think the library is an opportunity to create additional social-emotional learning spaces – especially for our middle schoolers. The plans for the library include huddle rooms, and children having spaces like that available to work with small groups (or even by themselves) creates important opportunities for them. **This library is going to be for them**, and students will respond to our building something special and important just for them. What if we were able to have a coding group or a gaming club after school? These opportunities will be so special.

**AT KIPP, WE ARE TEAM
AND FAMILY.**

**TOGETHER WITH FAMILIES &
COMMUNITIES, WE ARE
LIGHTING THE PATH.**

JOIN US.



KIPP BALTIMORE

Phone/

+1 443 457 3140

Email/

lightingthepath@kippbaltimore.org

Website/

www.kippbaltimore.org/[LightingThePath](https://www.kippbaltimore.org/LightingThePath)

Address/

2000 Edgewood Street
Baltimore, MD 21216

