

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

RELENTLESS



Perspectives Charter Schools

WEATHERING THE STORM

The widening economic gap in our city must not widen the educational gap. At Perspectives, we're relentless in ensuring that doesn't happen for our students, and it shows. We recently earned all Level 1 and 1+ schools across our entire network. To achieve a Level 1 rating for a single school is a great achievement, to receive this across the board is truly unique and positions us as an elite charter network in Chicago.

We live in a state with the most backwards education funding model in the nation. This leads to vast resource gaps in public schools, which impacts our ability to serve our students at Perspectives.

Last year, we experienced a mid-year budget cut of 4 percent, and then faced an additional 11 percent cut when the state failed to pass a budget for the second year in a row. Imagine what those cuts have meant for Chicago's students, teachers, classrooms, and schools. These injustices towards students have exacerbated the gap between haves and have-nots.

In the face of last year's draconian cuts, we redoubled our commitment to provide a high-quality education. We improved academic success, and then grew our offerings far beyond classroom learning. We maintained over 100 free after-school programs, offered enrollment in post-secondary classes providing students with college credits, and continued to offer Adobe professional certification in our High School of Technology. Those are just a few examples.

We did not do this alone. We benefited from stable partnerships with individuals and companies who are relentless as well: they believe as we do in our students' potential. We're proud to highlight our partnerships with New Schools For Chicago, Invest For Kids, Akuna Capital, and our decade-long partnership with EY.

Our landscape challenges us but our relationships encourage us. In our collaboration, our relentlessness multiplies and so does our impact.

We need your support and we are grateful.



Rhonda Hopps
Chief Executive Officer

Tony Anderson
Board Chairman



STAND AS ONE

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

Thanks to an innovative model, the culture of business charity is shifting.

Founded by Ron Levin and Ben Kovler, *Invest For Kids* is proving that charitable giving is also an opportunity for social and personal advancement.

Every year, Ron and Ben bring the brightest minds in investment management to Chicago for a one-day conference, where cutting-edge ideas are exchanged. Attendees pay to participate in this learning experience, and these donations are then given to local organizations serving children. Because *Invest For Kids* underwrites conference costs, all proceeds directly impact beneficiaries. The money stays in the community, and it changes lives for all involved.

We were selected as one of seven organizations to receive a \$200,000 donation from the program last year. This year, they made another investment of \$200,000 to support our future growth.

"Its approach is revolutionary, and reminds me of what we teach our students every day," says Diana Shulla-Cose. "The skills we teach center around excellence, pragmatism, and generosity—skills that I see perfectly mirrored in the business model of *Invest For Kids*."



Ben Kovler, left, and Ron Levin

\$400K
Donated to
Perspectives

Benefited Charitable Organizations **43**

Impacted Chicago Children **75,000**

Since 2009, the founders have kept their commitment to this model and the results are stunning: *Invest For Kids* has raised more than \$10 million to benefit 43 charitable organizations, impacting over 75,000 Chicago children.

This is social entrepreneurship—a charitable giving model that benefits children while giving donors an opportunity for growth. It's social good paired with personal advancement. As Ron Levin explains, "*Invest For Kids* encourages business charity to become innovative—to showcase the good that giving can do for not only recipients, but for donors themselves."

The founders hope this model helps philanthropy and generosity become second nature in business circles.

LET OUR LIGHT SHINE

PARTNERS IN PROGRESS

Hundreds came out to Shine On in support of Perspectives this spring at our annual gala.

The evening featured a celebration of our decade-long partnership with Ernst & Young LLP (EY)—a partnership that is revamping the corporate giving experience, the corporate/public school partnership model, and how we think about generosity in the 21st century.

For a decade now, hundreds of students' and employees' lives have changed because one company made a decision to invest time, talent, resources, and heart into a network of public schools on the South Side of Chicago.

Anthony Carmello, Partner,
Advisory Services, Ernst & Young LLP

This partnership began in 2006 when EY gave Perspectives a \$450,000 gift. Since then EY has generously provided over \$2 million in corporate sponsorship.

Yet, the partnership is much more than a financial one. Over 100 EY employees have become mentors. EY's College MAP program (Mentoring for Access and Persistence) has helped over 150 students navigate their journey to college. The firm has hosted five inspiring annual in-school LGBTQ days. They help fund international summer study programs for over 25 students, and held seven college send-off parties, donating thousands of dollars worth of personal care necessities many take for granted.

What would Chicago look like if more companies, big and small, made the decision that EY did to invest in young people from under-served communities? What might happen if more businesses invested in schools that care for their students and provide experiences to allow them to realize their potential?

BUILDING NEW BONDS

Perspectives has a new strategic partner in Akuna Capital and CEO, Andrew Killion.

Andrew and his wife Sandy attended our 2016 Shine On gala, not really knowing what to expect. Sandy recalls that they "were blown away by the poise and maturity of the students leading the evening. It was unlike any gala we have attended before—so inspiring."

They were so inspired that they scheduled a tour of the High School of Technology in Auburn Gresham within days to begin learning more and exploring ways to partner.

*"WE WERE BLOWN
AWAY BY THE POISE
AND MATURITY OF
THE STUDENTS."*

—Sandy Killion, Akuna Capital

"Chicago has been good to us. We are now in a position to give back." Andrew explains, "This is not just charity; this is a partnership. At Akuna, we are excited to give our talent and time, and in return, learn so much from the students at Perspectives."

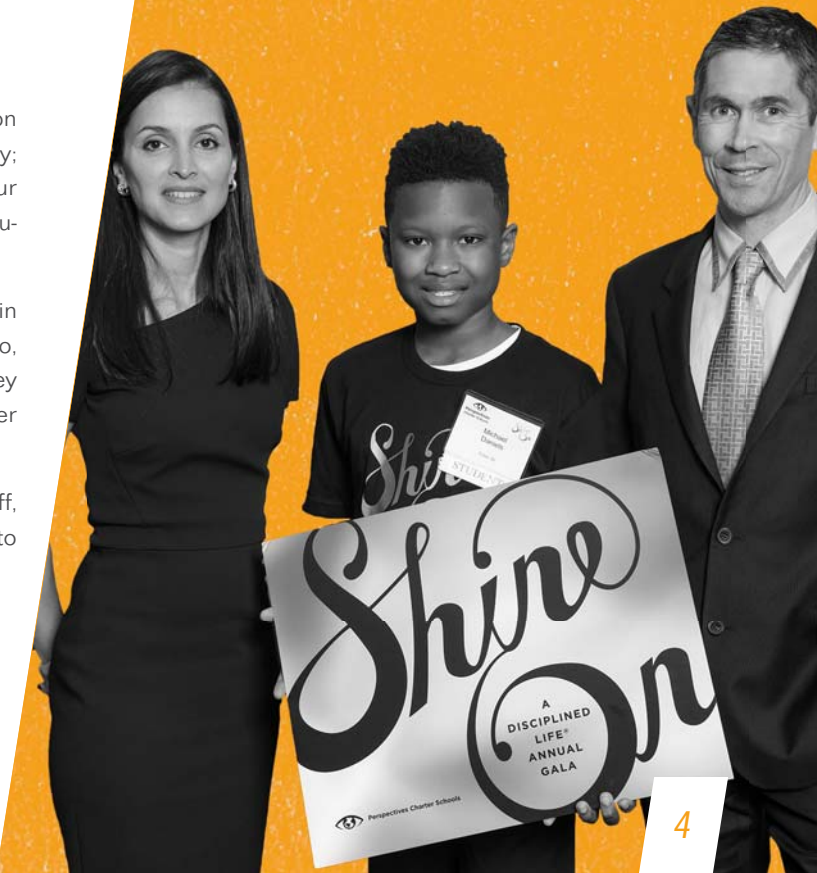
Akuna Capital, a proprietary trading firm specializing in derivatives market making, is headquartered in Chicago, with offices in Cambridge, MA and Shanghai, China. They have generously committed to providing \$600,000 over the next three years.

Akuna is an ideal strategic partner, with leaders, staff, and culture embodying the ethical leadership we strive to teach in our classrooms each day.



akuna capital

Sandy and Andrew Killion of Akuna Capital



PEACE IN OUR PURSUIT

PEACE IN THE STREETS

In the last two years, 10 of our Perspectives alumni and current students were shot and killed in our city. In the past 15 months over 600 people in Chicago have been killed due to gun violence. Our students experience unthinkable violence in their daily lives.

Somehow, this unimaginable pain that we experience has inspired a relentless student-led movement for peace. Our students are empowered in their pursuit of social justice. They are emboldened to be the voice of change to their peers as young ethical leaders.

1
ANNUAL PEACE MARCH

3,000
PEOPLE MARCHED WITH US IN 2016

75
STUDENT PEACE AMBASSADORS

100
PEACE SCREENINGS AROUND THE GLOBE

6
PEACE STEPS TAUGHT AT PCS

22
MEDIA PLACEMENTS IN THE PAST YEAR

FAIRWAYS TO PEACE

Top executives and world-famous athletes hit the links in Las Vegas to connect for pleasure and their shared passion to invest in peace. In the evening, participants discussed the reality of violence in Chicago and how our students are an active part of the solution.

PARTICIPATING CELEBRITIES

Mark Aguirre
DePaul University & NBA Star

Marcus Allen
College Football Hall-of-Famer
& Pro Football Hall-of-Famer

Richard Dent
Pro Football Hall-of-Famer
& Chicago Bears Legend

Ken Griffey, Jr.
MLB Hall-of-Famer
Class of 2016

Bo Jackson
NFL & MLB All-Star

Alonzo Mourning
NBA Star & Naismith Memorial
Basketball Hall-of-Famer

Anthony "Spud" Webb
NBA Star

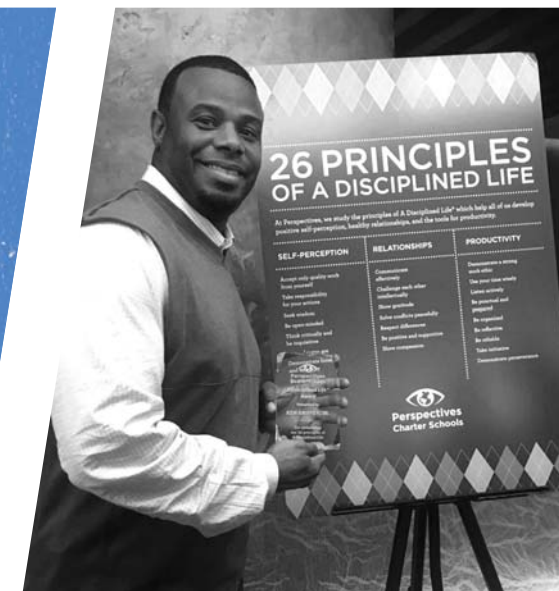
PARTICIPATING CORPORATIONS INCLUDE

Avery Dennison

Exelon Corporation

AAR Corp.

First American Financial
Corporation



MLB Hall-of-Famer Ken Griffey Jr. graciously accepted the *A Disciplined Life* award for embodying the 26 principles in his everyday life.

SCORECARD

Celebrities **7**

Participants **22**

Corporations and Businesses **13**

\$175K

MONEY RAISED FOR PCS STUDENTS

STAY THE COURSE

DRESSED FOR SUCCESS

Four years ago, Manuel Whitfield, a graduate with big plans to be an entrepreneur, headed to Boston for college. Today, the graduate of Babson College is working at Blank Label, a leading men's fashion firm.

There are some keys to this success story: Whitfield worked hard and stayed the course, and had a generous and visionary family's support. This opportunity came in the form of a full-tuition scholarship from the President and CEO of Baldwin Richardson Foods, Eric Johnson.

Johnson's scholarship, which now provides other young people with the opportunity to attend college without worrying about debt, is a recurring gift. "We make it our responsibility to help young people," Johnson notes. "It's an honor for our family to support this annual scholarship for a Perspectives Charter Schools' student."

Whitfield always had an interest in business and fashion during high school. The energetic learner admits he also struggled academically. "It was a rocky road," he says. "But I was able to hang on to the 26 principles of *A Disciplined Life* to stay afloat." His personal rock in rough times has been the principle Demonstrate Perseverance.

Whitfield actively lives the principle Be Generous. He returned to Chicago last summer for the grand opening of the Blank Label store in Chicago's Loop and spent time talking with current students. He connected his success to the power of *A Disciplined Life*. "It really works," he reflected. "If you believe in yourself and in the principles, it won't be easy, but you'll get through anything."

We are relentless in our focus on this successful combination: the work of students like Whitfield with the vision and generosity of leaders like Eric Johnson. Whitfield is a beacon for other students to live their own versions of *A Disciplined Life* and become tomorrow's leaders.

Photo Credit: Jerris Madison for jerrismadison.com

LEARNING ALONG THE WAY

It isn't every day that a high school student from Chicago's south side finds himself having an epiphany while struggling down a snow-capped Colorado mountain.

But that's what happened to Emanuel when the rising senior at the High School of Technology was at Cheley Colorado Camps.

His a-ha moment came as he labored to continue hiking and another expedition member circled back to help. "There was this moment of inner learning," Emanuel explains. "I realized that I can't just be stubborn, and it's not just about me."

He experienced struggles and triumphs during the month-long camp and he brought that learning back to Chicago—along with a more open mind and less dependence on technology, he says.

The transformative experience Emanuel had isn't uncommon for students returning from Cheley, founded nearly 100 years ago in 1921. Youth discover independence, self-reliance, and confidence, while growing closer with their peers and realizing they are part of a greater social fabric.

Emanuel is our first student to receive Cheley's generous annual scholarship and it provided him with the opportunity to apply the 26 principles of *A Disciplined Life* outside the classroom.

Emanuel reflects that Cheley offered a different kind of education—one that transcends classroom walls and flourishes outdoors, teaching students about unity, beauty, humility, and teamwork. Emanuel now applies those lessons back home as he progresses through his senior year.



"I REALIZED THAT
I CAN'T JUST
BE STUBBORN,
AND IT'S NOT
JUST ABOUT ME."

—Emanuel



HEAD OF THE CLASS

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

leads to all Perspectives schools receiving Level 1 or Level 1+ ratings — the two highest achievable — from the Chicago Public Schools accountability system.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

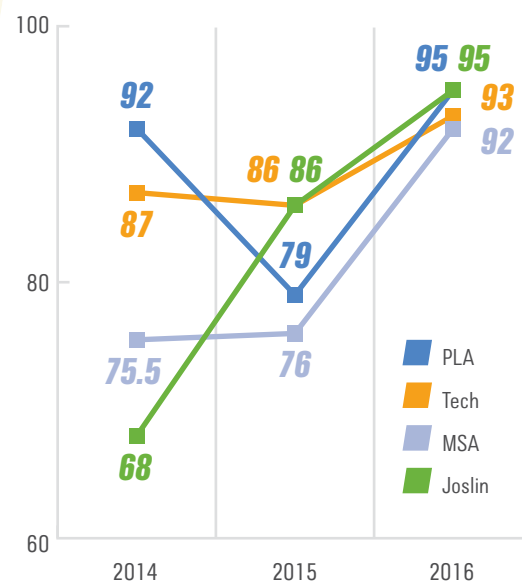
90%
of students graduated in four years

65%
of students improved their GPA's from 2015 to 2016

50%
of students are earning college credits or professional credits in high school

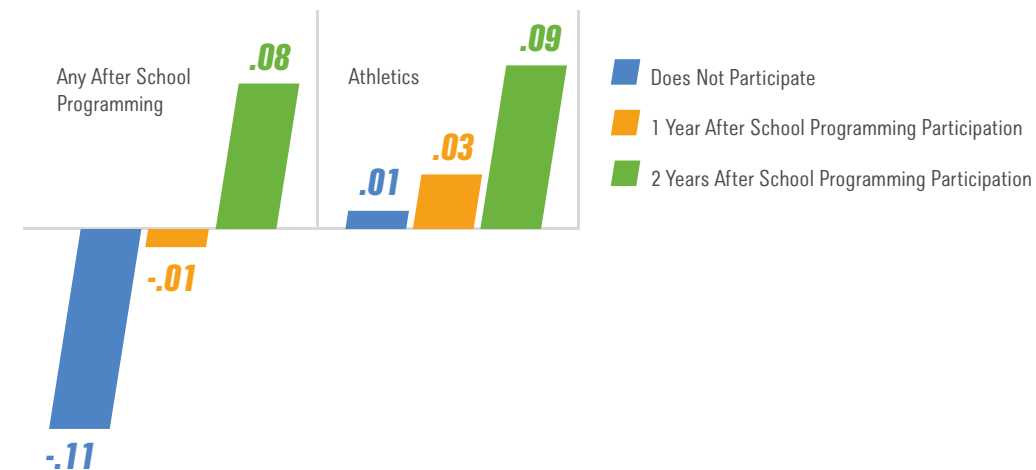
FRESHMEN ON TRACK

Percentage of students who show that they are on pace to graduate in 4 years after their freshman year.



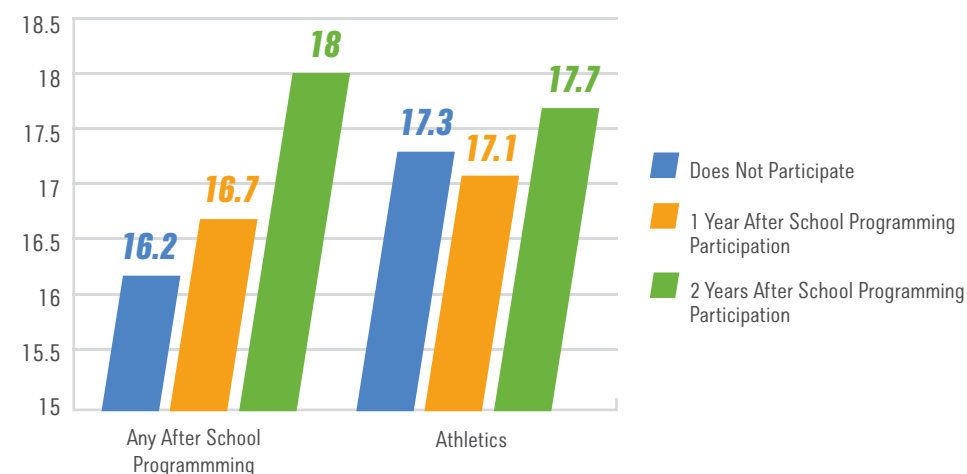
GPA GROWTH WITH AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMMING

Students participating in After School Programs at Perspectives experience stronger cumulative GPA growth over two years.



AVERAGE ACT SCORE WITH AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMMING

Students in After School Programs outscore those that are not by about 2 ACT points.



STUDENT RETENTION

Our year-over-year student retention rate continues to increase due to improved grade performance and operations.

2014 **93%**

2015 **95%**

2016 **98%**

LITERACY RATE

Middle School National Literacy Growth Percentile

88%
Joslin

92%
MSA

91%
PMA

DONORS

\$100,000 and Above

Akuna Capital LLC
Larry and Doris Ashkin
Baldwin Richardson Foods
Ernst & Young LLP
Invest For Kids
New Schools for Chicago
Searle Family Trust

\$50,000-\$99,999

AAR CORP.
Bill Nygren Foundation
Citi Community Development
ConopCo Project Management (In-Kind)
Illinois Institute of Technology (In-Kind)
William and Sandy Sterling

\$25,000-\$49,999

Allstate Insurance Company
Anthony Anderson
Anonymous
Avery Dennison Corporation
CSC Learning (In-Kind)
Cubs Charities Diamond Project
Exelon Corporation
Michael and Rosalind Keiser
Andrew and Sandy Killion
Lundbeck, Inc.
The Satter Foundation
The Skilling and Andrews Foundation
Winston & Strawn LLP

\$10,000-\$24,999

Hall and Julie Adams
Edgar and Elisabeth Alvarado
CNA
The Deratany Firm
Jay Paul Deratany and Curt Smith
DIGITAS
Dr. Scholl Foundation
First American Financial Corporation
Ikram and Joshua Goldman
Grosvenor Capital Management

The John Buck Company Foundation
KPMG
Loop Capital Markets, LLC
John and Cheryl Neal
Paul and Cathy O'Kelly
The Slaven Family
Speh Family Foundation
Sutton Ford Lincoln
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Loren and Diane Weil

\$5,000-\$9,999

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Josephine Bahl
Bruns Foundation
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Chicago Sinfonietta
Clune Construction
Michael T. and Loretta Clune
Anthony Davis (In-Kind)
Donors Choose (In-Kind)
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Cecil Flamer
Douglas Gray
HealthScape Advisors
Illinois Institute of Technology
ITW
Tom Jones, McDermott Will & Emery LLP
Steven Koch
Martin and Cathie Kolinski
Ron and Fifi Levin
M.R. Bauer Foundation
Butch and Janice MacVicar
Northern Trust Company
Nuveen Investments
Private Bank and Trust Company
Anthony and Regina Robinson
Donald and Julie Rocap
Doug and Stefanie Ryan
Robert Segal
Skadden, Arps

Deborah Stevens
Stout Risius Ross, Inc.
Mark Strebel
Svoboda Capital Partners LLC
LaMarr Taylor
Andrew Ward
Wells Fargo

\$1,000-\$4,999

36 Foundation
Ron Aeschliman
The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship
Michael and Ellen Alter
David and Susanne Baker
Evan Ashkin and Cheryl Baker
Jon Barfield
Sheldon Baskin and Judy Wise
Eric and Janet Beatty
Stacia Beyl
Big Brothers-Big Sisters of Metropolitan Chicago
Jeffrey Bilek
William Bloom
Dan and Kris Blouin
The Boeing Company
Marcus Bradshaw
Andrew Brickman
Brown Paper Tickets LLC
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Costco Wholesale (In-Kind)
Kim Day
Alexander Evers (In-Kind)
Jonathan Flaum
Rand Griffin
Glenn Harris
William Heard
Ann-Marie and Dan Hession
Rhonda and Keith Hopps
Cara Hughes
Jonathan Hyun
Ivy and Bob Jacus (In-Kind)
Ryan Johnson
Michael and Lisa Kornick
Jay Levine and Mary Ann Childers
Jennifer Lind
Macy's

Samuel Mendenhall
Bill Merten
Mesirow Financial
Paul Mokdessi
James and Alison Moriarity
Terrence and Gina Mullen
David and Nancy Napalo
Peter Nicholas
Ostrow Reisin Berk & Abrams, LTD
Tal and Kimberly Pendo
Perkins + Will
Bobby and Johanna Rahal
Retired Professional Football Players of Chicago (In-Kind)

Daniel Rosenthal
David and Kitty Rothschild
Rella and Peter Shulla
Kimberly Simios
Skyline Building
Elenne Song and Soheil Esmailzadeh
Thomas J. and Nancy B. Campbell Charitable Foundation
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United Healthcare
USA Football (In-Kind)
Scott Weisenberger and Adrienne Hepworth

\$101-\$999

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Howard and Marcia Aduss
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Christopher Aluce
Anonymous
Ashland Lock
Angela Ashley
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Art and LoriLee Bielski
Kamna Bohra
Bo Jackson's Elite Sports
Joshua Brass

Andrew Brice
Frances Bronet
Kevin Brower
Lauren Byrd
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James Cernugel
Anthony Coletta
Rachelle Cooper
Dan Coyne
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Thomas Desmond
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Hedwig and Robert Golant
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Andrea Grabemeyer
Mike Grabowski
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Andrew Keller
Patrick Kelley
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Laner Muchin
Kevin Larson
Cindy Lazard-Hunt
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Tarick Loutfi
Jennifer Lukas-Bourgeois
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Dinai and Derek Yelverton
Karen Yencich and Kyle Davy
Steven and Betsy Young
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Peter Zaldivar and Jean Choi
Hank Zanarini

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Gary Aupont
Brent Baccus
Dena Bachenheimer
Kristine Barabas
Barnes & Noble Booksellers
Melissa Borom
Meredith Brooks
Rooselie Brutus
Bartholomew Bullock
Monika Buska

Paris Butler
Shayla Butler
Kia Carter
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Erica Chandrasekhar
Anastazja Ciszek
Ashley Coleman
Sean Connolly
Mark Current
Bart Darfler
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Chris and Isabella Day
Dana Dodzik
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Ricardo Garcia
Brandi Gordon
Brett Gordon
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Lauren Gottlieb
Ricardo Griffith
Laura Grisolano
James Grodecki
Michael Gutman
Jauwan Hall
Lois and Martin Hauselman
Kristil Hayes
Dayton Hoell
Lauren Jackson
Christopher James
Lupe Jimenez
Callise Johnson
Sizwe Kamara
Gina Kapusta
Lisa Kapusta
Aman Kathuria
Kathryn Korn
Maryellen Leneghan
Imani Lewis
Rob Liss
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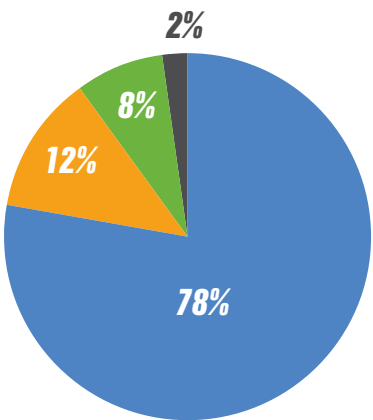
Greg and Stephanie Lowe
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Alonzo Mourning
Nestle Waters
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Additional In-Kind Donors

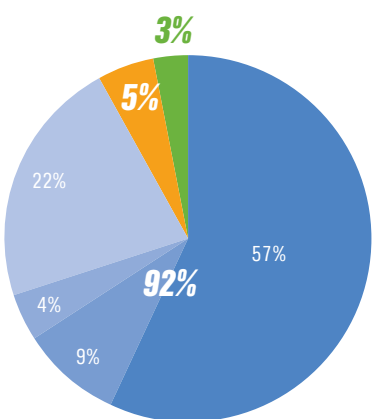
FINANCIALS

REVENUES



78% City & State
12% Federal
8% Philanthropy
2% Other

EXPENSES



92% Direct School Costs
57% Salaries & Benefits
9% CPS In-Kind Rent
4% Depreciation
22% Other Program Expenses
5% Management & Expenses
3% Fundraising

CAMPUSES

PERSPECTIVES
RODNEY D. JOSLIN CAMPUS
1930 S. Archer Avenue
Chicago, IL 60616
Grades 6-12
p 312.225.7400 | f 312.225.7411

PERSPECTIVES
MIDDLE ACADEMY
8131 S. May Street
First Floor
Chicago, IL 60620
Grades 6-8
p 773.358.6300 | f 773.358.6399

PERSPECTIVES
HIGH SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY
8131 S. May Street
Second Floor
Chicago, IL 60620
Grades 9-12
p 773.358.6120 | f 773.358.6129

PERSPECTIVES
LEADERSHIP ACADEMY
8131 S. May Street
Third Floor
Chicago, IL 60620
Grades 9-12
p 773.358.6100 | f 773.358.6199

PERSPECTIVES/IIT
MATH & SCIENCE ACADEMY
3663 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago, IL 60653
Grades 7-12
p 773.358.6800 | f 773.358.6055

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Civic Leader
LaMarr C. Taylor
Goldman Sachs & Co.
Andrew Ward
Stout Risius Ross, Inc.
Loren Weil
Jones Day

For more information or to learn more about our schools, please visit pcsedu.org or call 312.604.2200.



26 PRINCIPLES OF A DISCIPLINED LIFE

SELF-PERCEPTION

Accept only quality work
from yourself

Take responsibility for
your actions

Seek wisdom

Be open-minded

Think critically and be
inquisitive

Love who you are

Demonstrate honesty
and integrity

Be generous

Be a life-long learner

Live a healthy lifestyle

RELATIONSHIPS

Communicate effectively

Challenge each other
intellectually

Show gratitude

Solve conflicts peacefully

Respect differences

Be positive and supportive

Show compassion

PRODUCTIVITY

Demonstrate a strong
work ethic

Use your time wisely

Listen actively

Be punctual
and prepared

Be organized

Be reflective

Be reliable

Take initiative

Demonstrate
perseverance

