

2015 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

ABOUT THE DC PUBLIC EDUCATION FUND

DC Public Schools is making tremendous progress. Locally and nationally, education leaders point to DCPS as a model for improvement and innovation. Since DC Ed fund's founding in 2007, we have raised over \$100 million in private investments to support DCPS' transformation from a historically underperforming school district to one that is nationally recognized for its student achievement growth.

Private support is essential to DCPS' success.

DC ed fund partners with the philanthropic community to support and accelerate DCPS' trajectory as the fastest-improving urban school district in the nation. Read on to learn more about this unique partnership and how philanthropic investments are making an important impact on students in our nation's capital.

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND PRESIDENT

Dear DC Ed Fund Supporters and Friends,

It is with great excitement that we share our reflections on Fiscal Year 2015 and deep appreciation for the broad community of supporters that made last year such a resounding success. This was a banner year for the DC Public Education Fund with significant new programming and partnerships that helped DC Public Schools solidify its trajectory as the fastest-improving urban school district in the nation.

Since our founding in 2007, the DC Ed Fund has developed a reputation for seeding the most innovative and effective initiatives that accelerate student achievement growth in DCPS. This year proved our model's effectiveness. In 2015, the DC Ed Fund continued our close and collaborative partnership with Chancellor Henderson and DCPS leadership and determined the next phase of our work that will continue to accelerate DCPS' progress.

As a result of this strategic process, we launched two new funding priorities that are shifting perspectives and changing outcomes for students across the district. Detailed in this year's annual report you will learn more about the groundbreaking **Cornerstone Assignments**, the high-quality, teacher-designed Common-Core aligned curriculum that increases equity and excellence districtwide. You will also find updates about the exciting new **Empowering Males of Color Initiative** which devotes significant resources and attention to improving African-American and Latino male student achievement, ensuring that all young men in our nation's capital can realize their full potential.

In just nine years, DC Ed Fund has **raised over \$100 million** in private investments to support DC Public Schools' transformation from a historically under-performing school district to one that is nationally recognized for its student achievement growth. We are incredibly grateful for the many philanthropic, business, and civic partners who have helped us reach this significant milestone and who make DCPS' incredible transformation possible. For all that we have achieved to date, we know that the best is still yet to come.

Sincerely,

Mark Ein
Chairman

Jessica Rauch
President and Executive Director



CORNERSTONE ASSIGNMENTS

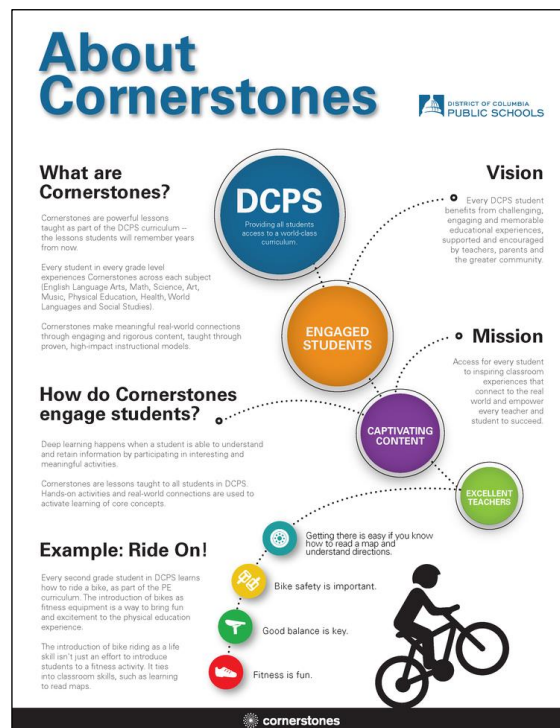
DC PUBLIC SCHOOLS' COMMITMENT TO EQUITY

This year, DC Public Schools launched Cornerstones Assignments, thanks to the generosity of Bloomberg Philanthropies and the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation. Developed by DC Public Schools' top teachers over summer 2015, Cornerstone Assignments are DCPS' next big step toward creating a consistently high-quality academic experience for all students. The true power of Cornerstone Assignments is three-fold:

Students engage with the most rigorous and relevant content. Through the Cornerstone creation process, expert teachers sourced the highest-quality content and lessons, including materials like engaging novels, primary source documents, project-based math lessons, and lab experiments.

Student assignments are varied and students are producing meaningful work. All Cornerstone Assignments lead to engaging work products designed to prepare students for post-secondary coursework or careers. In DCPS, students are asked to show what they know through essays, oral presentations, lab reports, poetry, musical pieces, or art products. Shared rubrics and exemplar student work enable educators to align expectations across every Ward and in every classroom.

Teachers implement the varied Cornerstone Assignments via high-impact instructional models. The success of the Cornerstone Assignments adoption is steeped in the aligned professional development strategy. All Cornerstone Assignments exemplify the best instructional models nationwide.



EMPOWERING MALES OF COLOR PROVING WHAT'S POSSIBLE

Lauded by many education leaders as the most comprehensive plan in the United States, the *Empowering Males of Color* initiative includes targeted strategies that will dramatically improve educational outcomes for Washington, DC's young men of color. To support and engage students across all grade levels, DCPS launched the city's first all-male public high school and the first round of *Empowering Males of Color* Innovation Grants.

EMPOWERING MALES OF COLOR INVESTMENTS INCLUDE

RON BROWN COLLEGE PREPARATORY HIGH SCHOOL

DC Public Education Fund leads the fundraising efforts for the Empowering Males of Color initiative, which includes Ron Brown College Preparatory High School, the city's first all-male public high school. Thanks to generous investments from The Lois and Richard England Family Foundation, CityBridge Foundation, and the Committee of 100, a group of DC business and civic leaders, Ron Brown College Prep will open its doors in August 2016.

Located in Ward 7, Ron Brown College Prep represents a historic opportunity for young men in our nation's capital to attend a unique public school focused on building character, fostering scholarship, and promoting community service. DCPS believes that the school's single-gender, comprehensive approach to education will position all of its graduates for post-secondary success, and will be instrumental in reversing low graduation rates and increasing college completion rates among young men of color in Washington, DC.

EMPOWERING MALES OF COLOR INNOVATION GRANTS

The Empowering Males of Color Innovation Grants enable individual schools to implement targeted programs that support their male students of color. In School Year 2015-16, DC Ed Fund awarded 16 grants across 25 schools with a focus on academic enrichment, social and emotional well-being, or community engagement.

Examples of programs made possible through innovation grants include:

- Domestic and international service learning for Eastern High School's young men of color to explore culture and identity;
- The launch of a robotics club at Noyes Elementary School in partnership with neighboring McKinley Technology High School whose students will act as mentors and coaches; and
- Therapeutic arts programming to address trauma, loss, and emotional stress at a consortium of elementary schools.

STANDING OVATION FOR DC PUBLIC SCHOOLS THE SIXTH ANNUAL EVENT

Standing Ovation for DC Public Schools is a star-studded awards show and celebration that shines a spotlight on the achievements of DC Public Schools' finest teachers, leaders, and school communities. A distinguished DC tradition, this evening brings together business, civic, and philanthropic leaders to applaud DCPS' progress.

Hosted by *Project Runway*'s Tim Gunn, Standing Ovation 2016 introduced a suite of new awards that include Excellence in Classroom Innovation, Excellence in Service, Excellence by an Academic Leadership Team, Excellence in Family Engagement, and Excellence in School Innovation. Celebrity presenters and performers including *Sesame Street*'s Alan Muraoka, *So You Think You Can Dance*'s Season 10 Winner Fik-Shun, multi-platinum-selling R&B artist Ginuwine, and *Orange is the New Black*'s Samira Wiley recognized the leadership and dedication of DCPS' educators. At the end of the evening, Broadway star Nova Payton performed alongside DCPS students from across the city, bringing the house to its feet. Produced by Nouveau Productions, Standing Ovation for DC Public Schools is made possible by the generous contributions of the business and philanthropic communities.

[Here](#) are the tribute videos for the Sixth Annual Standing Ovation for DC Public Schools.

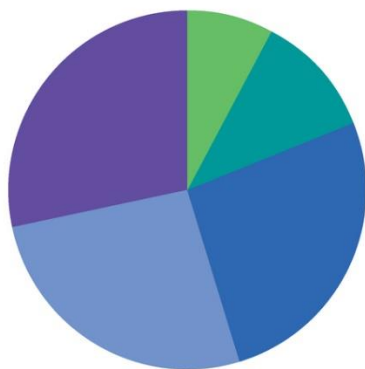
OUR FINANCIALS

DC PUBLIC EDUCATION FUND FINANCIALS

FY 10/1/2014 – 9/30/2015

	FY2015	FY2014	FY2013
REVENUES			
Contributions - Corps/Foundations	\$12,217,832	\$4,562,918	\$20,233,536
Contributions - Individuals	\$158,384	\$515,208	\$384,950
Special Events	\$984,394	\$594,314	\$277,143
Interest and Other	\$1,913	\$30,134	\$277,143
EXPENSES			
Programs in Schools	\$6,516,482	\$4,661,362	\$21,711,734
Administrative and Development	\$404,888	\$466,408	\$737,485
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS			
Beginning Net Assets	\$7,355,547	\$6,780,743	\$8,039,000
Ending Net Assets	\$13,796,700	\$7,355,547	\$6,780,743

BREAKDOWN OF 2015 EXPENDITURES



ADMINISTRATIVE AND FUNDRAISING	6%
ENGAGED STUDENTS AND FAMILIES	8%
SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT AND REFORM	28%
EXCELLENT TEACHERS AND LEADERS	28%
INNOVATIVE CLASSROOMS AND SCHOOLS	30%

OUR DONORS

\$1,000,000+

Bloomberg Philanthropies
Charles And Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation

\$250,000-\$999,999

Citybridge Foundation
Community Foundation For The National Capital Region
The Eli And Edythe Broad Foundation

\$100,000-\$249,999

Bainum Family Foundation
Flamboyant Foundation
Fight For Children
Target
United Way Of The National Capital Area

\$25,000-\$99,999

The Andrew And Julie Klingenstein Family Fund, Inc.
The Aspen Institute
Diane And Norman Bernstein Foundation
The Lois And Richard England Family Foundation
Gephardt Government Affairs
Kaiser Permanente, Mid-Atlantic Region
Eugene And Agnes E. Meyer Foundation
National Center For Families Learning

\$5,000-\$24,999

Aaron Lemon-Strauss & Samantha Trepel
Capital One
Horning Family Fund
Mathematica Policy Research
Monumental Sports & Entertainment Foundation
Washington Kastles