

Celebrating  
our first class  
of college-going  
KIPPsters!

2011 ANNUAL REPORT

**KIPP** LA Schools

Learn. Grow. Transform.



The stakes are highest for children growing up in America's most underserved communities.

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## KIPP LA SCHOOLS IS PROVING WHAT'S POSSIBLE IN PUBLIC EDUCATION.

**16%**

College-readiness rate in South and East LA.



**89%**

College acceptance rate for KIPP LA.



# DEAR FRIENDS,

KIPP LA Schools just completed its third year as a unified network of individualized schools. It was a year of growth, progress, and achievement. As I reflect back on this year, I am reminded that with high expectations, committed leadership, and excellent, data-driven instruction, all students can and will achieve at high levels. Through hard work and dedication, our students, families, teachers, and staff continue to prove what's possible in public education.

When our first middle schools opened in 2003, college seemed so far away. This year, our inaugural class of KIPPsters graduated from high school and is moving on to college. An impressive 89 percent of KIPP LA's Class of 2011 was accepted to college, with students attending a variety of prestigious colleges and universities across the country. We celebrate this great achievement and important milestone with our KIPPsters, families, educators, and supporters.

We are proud of the accomplishments of our newest graduates, and are committed to helping all of our KIPPsters on the path to and through college, starting from the day they enroll with KIPP. Our students join our middle schools performing, on average, two to three grade levels behind. By the time they leave eighth grade, they are performing at or above grade level and prepared for rigorous college-prep high schools. At the elementary level, our kindergarteners come in below grade level, without basic letter and number recognition skills. After only a year with KIPP, they are able to not only bridge the achievement gap, but also outperform the national averages in both reading and math.

To help our students get even further, faster, KIPP LA's schools have infused innovative technology practices into the classroom. Last year, we opened the nation's first KIPP blended-learning school, where our kindergarteners participated in adaptive computer-assisted learning that helped facilitate personalized small-group instruction.

In an effort to provide more children the excellent education they so deserve, KIPP LA plans to open two to three new schools in 2012. As we continue to grow, we will work to "get better as we grow bigger." We are focused on continuously refining and improving our systems and processes to support our existing schools, and building the infrastructure and capacity to support our new schools. Through our commitment to constant learning and continuous improvement, we strive to achieve our mission of preparing students for success in school and the world beyond, while creating a comprehensive and sustainable model of excellence in education.

Thank you for joining us in celebrating our first class of college-going KIPPsters. We look forward to partnering with you in the future to ensure that all of our students are prepared for success in school, college, and life.

Sincerely,



Marcia Aaron  
Executive Director

# KIPP LA SCHOOLS

KIPP LA Schools is a non-profit charter management organization that operates five high-performing elementary and middle schools in the underserved communities of South and East Los Angeles.

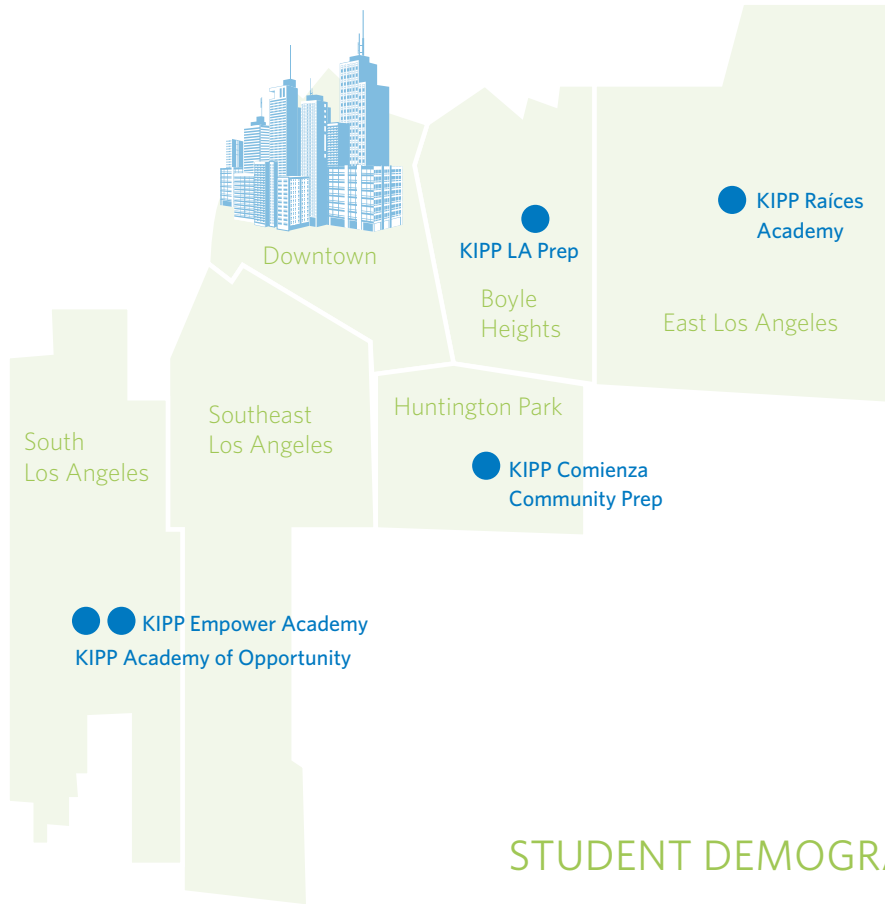
KIPP's **FIVE PILLARS** are the guiding principles for all of KIPP LA's schools.



We belong to the KIPP (Knowledge Is Power Program) national network of 109 college-preparatory public schools with a track record of preparing students for success in college and in life.

# Our REGION

at a glance



## KIPP Academy of Opportunity

Grades served: 5-8

School Leaders: Ayanna Grey & Archana Patel

## KIPP Los Angeles College Preparatory School (KIPP LA Prep)

Grades served: 5-8

School Leader: Angella Martinez

## KIPP Raíces Academy

Grades served: K-3 (K-4 in 2012)

Founding Principal: Amber Young Medina

## KIPP Comienza Community Prep

Grades served: K-1 (K-4 in 2014)

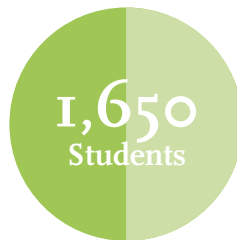
Founding School Leader: Margarita Florez

## KIPP Empower Academy

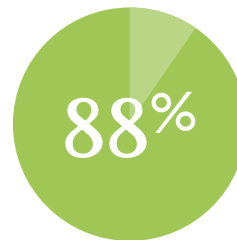
Grades served: K-1 (K-4 in 2014)

Founding Principal: Mike Kerr

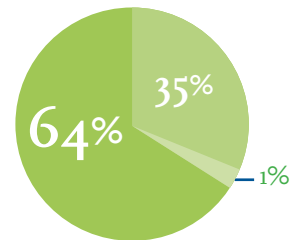
## STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION 2011-12



- Middle School Students
- Elementary School Students



Percentage of Students Eligible for Free or Reduced Price Meals

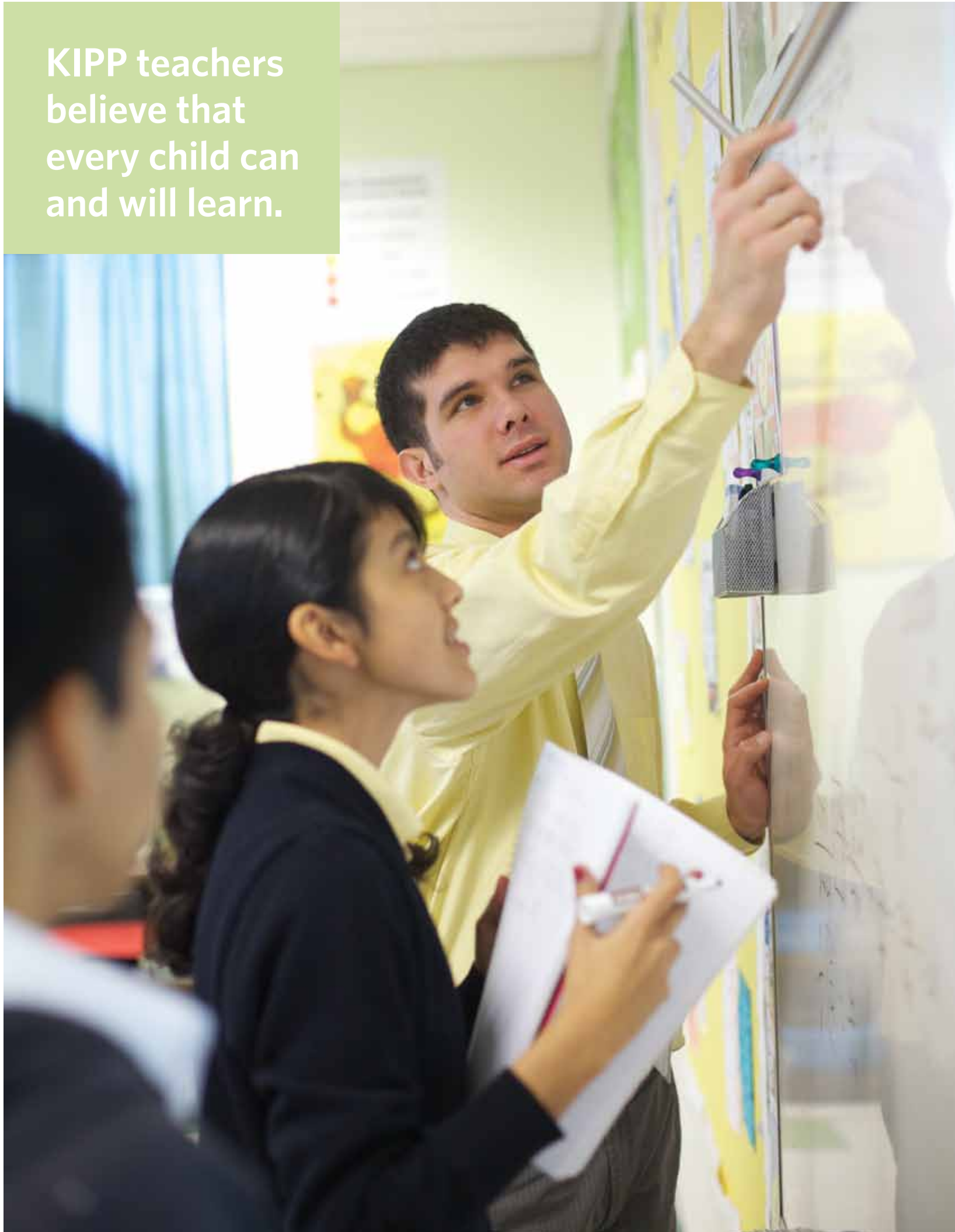


- Latino
- African-American
- Asian

## THE KNOWLEDGE IS POWER PROGRAM



KIPP teachers  
believe that  
every child can  
and will learn.



KIPP LA has

# HIGH EXPECTATIONS

for student achievement.

KIPP LA students, teachers, and families understand that there are no shortcuts to achieving success in school or in life. KIPP LA students are taught to set challenging goals for themselves, and to meet and exceed expectations – whether in class, on homework, in building strong character, or on the soccer field.



“KIPP pushed me to go above and beyond in every aspect of my academic and personal life. KIPP teaches us to exceed our teachers’ expectations. I feel that KIPP has really prepared me academically and emotionally to succeed in high school, college, and in life.”

JAVIER, CLASS OF 2015  
ALUMNUS, KIPP LA PREP  
HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMAN  
HARVARD-WESTLAKE SCHOOL



# CHOICE & COMMITMENT

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## COMMITTING TO THE CLIMB TO AND THROUGH COLLEGE.

By choosing KIPP, students and parents are asked to make and uphold a commitment to excellence – a commitment to contribute the time and effort required to achieve success. In return, KIPP LA promises to see each student to and through college. The KIPP LA Team and Family makes a commitment to the school and to one another to ensure the success of every student.

“I am very grateful to KIPP because the learning that occurred is not just for the students, but for parents as well. They taught us to be a part of our child’s academic development.”

“Estoy tan agradecida con KIPP porque el aprendizaje no solo es para los estudiantes sino también para los padres. Nos enseñaba a ser parte del desarrollo académico de nuestro hijo.”

CAROLINA SALCEDO  
ALUMNA PARENT, KIPP LA PREP

KIPP LA gives students and teachers

# MORE TIME.

KIPP LA students spend at least 40 percent more time in school. In addition to providing a rigorous core academic curriculum, the extra time allows teachers to focus on developing their students' character strengths and habits, which are critical to long-term success. With more time in the school day, our students also engage in enrichment activities, including the performing and visual arts, sports, mock trial, and field lessons.

Time for  
**Learning.**

Time for  
**Character.**



# POWER TO LEAD

Great schools start with great educators.

All KIPP LA school leaders have control over their school budgets and staffing. Together, KIPP LA's school leaders and teachers help their students achieve through data sharing, innovation, collaboration, and professional development. At KIPP, our credo is: "If there is a better way, we find it."

"KIPP's Power to Lead fuels an innovative spirit centered on seeing our students to and through college. Every resource, every minute of instruction, and every decision can be focused on what is best for our children. It is the essence of what makes KIPP great."

MIKE KERR  
FOUNDING PRINCIPAL  
KIPP EMPOWER ACADEMY





# FOCUSING ON RESULTS

to achieve and sustain high levels of academic performance.

KIPP LA is intensely focused on evaluating student performance through standardized tests and other objective measures. Our teachers constantly review results and use data to innovate, while our students gain confidence from meeting the challenges of a rigorous academic curriculum. Across the organization, we are committed to ensuring that every student is prepared for the rigors of high school and college.



**89%** of KIPP students nationwide  
have gone to college.

“My teachers challenge me to strive to be the best.  
I know I can accomplish anything if I work my hardest.”

CHRISTOPHER, CLASS OF 2016  
EIGHTH GRADE, KIPP ACADEMY OF OPPORTUNITY

# PREPARING STUDENTS

for 21st century careers

## KIPP LA IS BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE AT SCHOOL AND AT HOME.

Through innovative partnerships with Google, CFY (Computers for Youth), and GreatSchools, KIPP LA's schools are reinventing the traditional classroom experience and ensuring students and families have the technology they need for students to succeed.

KIPP LA strives to ensure that students are gaining meaningful exposure to cutting-edge technology at school and at home. Through a partnership with Google, KIPP Academy of Opportunity and KIPP LA Prep were generously provided with 400 Chromebooks, significantly increasing access to computers for our students. Additionally, KIPP LA Prep and KIPP Academy of Opportunity are partnering with CFY to provide parent technology trainings and a home computer for all of KIPP LA's sixth grade families.

At the elementary level, partnerships between KIPP Comienza Community Prep, KIPP Empower Academy, and GreatSchools offer online workshops to KIPP LA parents through College Bound, an educational program focused on college-readiness and parent engagement.

"Visiting KIPP Academy of Opportunity was eye-opening and inspirational. I found the innovative and frequent use of technology at KIPP to be particularly exciting, with students using Chromebooks as part of their daily lives, using the web on a variety of assignments, from producing morning news segments to collaborating in teams to create artwork associated with feudal societies. The KIPP team does an amazing job of maximizing the exposure of students to technology, and of really pushing the boundaries in how computers are used."

BEN FOHNER  
GOOGLE



## BLENDED LEARNING AND INNOVATION IN THE CLASSROOM.

KIPP Empower Academy, KIPP LA's elementary school in South LA, is one of the first in the country to use a blended technology model to maintain small group and individualized instruction despite increasing class sizes.

Teachers utilize adaptive software that directly assesses students' learning needs and allows students to progress through the material at their own pace. When students are not on computers, they receive small-group and individualized instruction from their teachers in the core subject areas of reading, writing, math, and science. Students become technology literate at a very young age and acquire the computer-based skills necessary to succeed in 21st century careers, while teachers dedicate more time to individualized instruction in order to meet the diverse learning needs of their students.

KEA's exiting kindergarteners were reading at a 2.5 grade level and performing math at a 2.8 grade level.

**KIPP Comienza Community Prep** has integrated innovative technology practices into its classrooms. Utilizing computers and iPads, students rotate through math and literacy-based online educational programs, reinforcing the concepts they have learned with their teachers.

# REPORT CARD

KIPP LA students are demonstrating academic excellence and making significant progress.

KIPP LA Prep is the **top performing** middle school in LAUSD, and KIPP Raíces Academy is the **fourth highest** achieving elementary school.

**100%**

of KIPP LA Prep's eighth graders scored advanced in science.

**98%**

of KIPP Empower Academy's kindergarteners outperformed the national average in reading and math.



**900+**

Two of KIPP LA's schools achieved API scores of over 900.

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

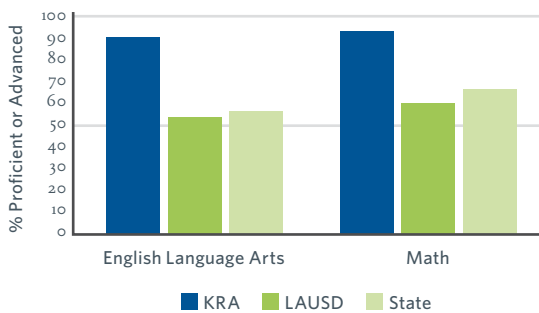
KIPP LA's schools are laying the foundation for a lifetime of educational achievement. Students who start with KIPP in elementary school will never face the achievement gap.

### KINDERGARTEN READING AND MATH



By the end of kindergarten, 90% of KIPP LA students are reading and performing math above the national average, as measured by the national norm-referenced SAT-10 test.

### KIPP RAÍCES ACADEMY CST RESULTS\*



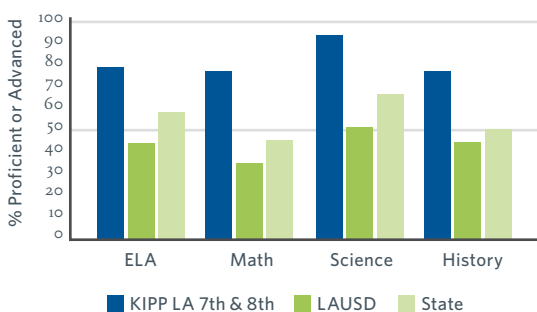
KIPP Raíces Academy's second graders are continuing to demonstrate their school motto of "excellence from the beginning," and are outperforming district and state averages by a wide margin.

\*KIPP Raíces Academy is KIPP LA's only elementary school with students old enough and therefore eligible to take the California Standards Test (CST). The CST measures how well students have learned a set of academic skills established by the state.

## MIDDLE SCHOOLS

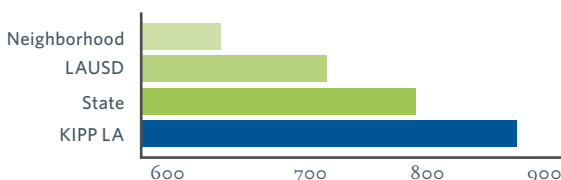
Although students typically enroll in KIPP performing two to three grade levels behind, they leave our middle schools prepared to achieve success in even the most competitive high schools.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL CST RESULTS



KIPP LA's middle schools outperform neighboring traditional public schools, as well as Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) and statewide averages.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL API COMPARISON\*



\*The API is a single number (ranging from a low of 200 to a high of 1,000) that reflects a school's performance level, based on the results of statewide testing in a given school year. Its purpose is to measure the academic performance and progress of schools. California's established target is 800.

KIPP LA alumni are

# CLIMBING THE MOUNTAIN

to and through college.

From the moment a student enrolls at KIPP, he or she becomes part of a college-going culture and a community that shares an unwavering commitment to college completion. We make a promise to our students to support them on every step of the journey to and through college, and we hold that promise sacred.

The reality is that the path to college completion is not an easy one. KIPP LA's "KIPP Through College" program helps students bridge the transition from high school to college by providing support in four main areas: finding a good college match, encouraging social and academic integration, staying in touch with KIPP alumni in college, and assisting with the navigation of financial hurdles.

Ultimately, we aspire for KIPP LA students to complete college at rates that are similar to those of students from high-income families. Through hard work and with the right resources and support, our KIPPsters can—and do—go to college, and we are committed to helping them graduate.

**89%** of KIPP LA's Class of 2011 was accepted to college.

**96%** of KIPP LA alumni are attending high-performing, college-prep high schools.



At KIPP LA, college completion is the ultimate goal.

Arthur, a KIPP LA alumnus and freshman at UCLA, is studying psychology and hopes to work with at-risk youth in Los Angeles upon earning his college degree.

Expanding

# OUR IMPACT

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KIPP LA strives to prove that with high expectations and hard work, all students can learn and will achieve. Through the success of our students, the KIPP LA team and family aims to serve as a model of excellence and collaborate with others to raise the quality of education in Los Angeles.

## GETTING BETTER AS WE GROW BIGGER.

While KIPP LA is committed to rapidly expanding our impact and growing to meet the needs of more students, we are focused on “quality over quantity.” We will only open a new school once an outstanding leader has been selected.

Over the next five years, KIPP LA plans to more than double in size, growing to seven elementary and seven middle schools. When all 14 of KIPP LA’s schools have reached capacity, we will serve more than 6,000 students in kindergarten through eighth grade.

## TRANSFORMING THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE.

As the number of KIPP LA alumni in college dramatically increases over the next five years, we will remain committed to our mission of helping students succeed in college and the competitive world beyond. KIPP LA will continue to improve the rigor of our programs to ensure that our students are college-ready, while identifying strategies to increase the odds that KIPP LA alumni will graduate from college.

We envision that KIPP LA will be a catalytic force in the South and East Los Angeles communities we serve. We anticipate **we will increase our communities’ college-going rates by close to 50 percent and will double the number of college graduates.**

For students from the lowest income quartile, **only 8%** will graduate college by age 24.

With the same amount of public funding required for California to produce **one** college graduate from a low-income community, KIPP will produce **eight**.



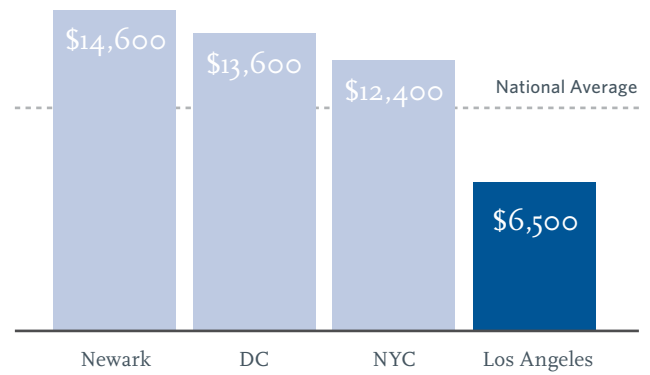
Building  
a better  
tomorrow.

# KEY PRIORITIES

## FUNDING: FILLING THE GAP.

As public schools, KIPP LA's schools are free and open to all students living in the South and East Los Angeles communities we serve. KIPP LA primarily finances its operations through a combination of local, state, and federal funding. However, with California's low level of public funding and high operating costs, KIPP LA must fundraise from private sources in order to provide our students the excellent, well-rounded education they deserve. Over the next year, we must raise roughly \$4.75 million to fund our operations.

PER-PUPIL STATE FUNDING



## FACILITIES: A CREATIVE APPROACH.

As KIPP LA expands, we must confront a considerable challenge: identifying and securing adequate facilities for our schools. As public charter schools, we lack access to public funding to cover the cost of facilities and our capital investments.

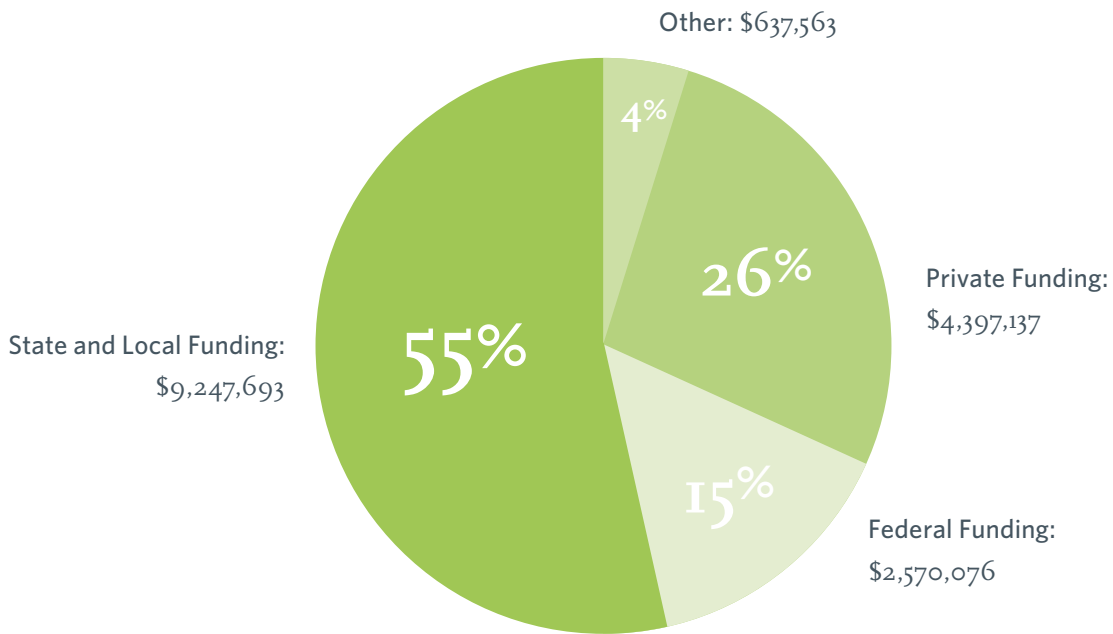
As we grow rapidly, KIPP LA is continuing to pursue an innovative, cost-effective real estate strategy. For example, this year we successfully converted a former retail space in East Los Angeles into a long-term home for our oldest elementary school, KIPP Raíces Academy. In the coming years, KIPP LA needs to find long-term homes for three existing and nine soon-to-be-opened schools. In order to accomplish our growth goal, KIPP LA must fundraise to meet our facilities and capital investment needs.

## TALENT: AT THE HEART OF EVERY GREAT KIPP SCHOOL IS AN EXCEPTIONAL SCHOOL LEADER.

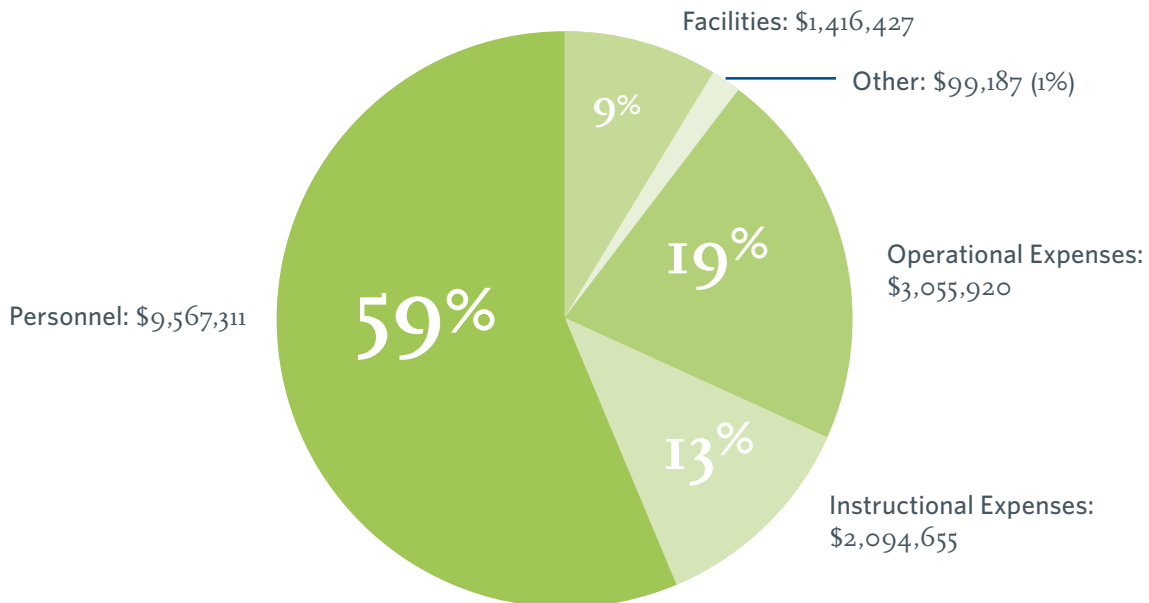
Attracting, supporting, and developing talented educators has been a pivotal factor in driving student achievement at KIPP LA. As we look to grow the number of schools in South and East Los Angeles, we must ensure that the individuals in our leadership pipeline are gaining the skills needed to successfully lead the KIPP LA schools of tomorrow.

Promising teachers in KIPP LA's schools need to develop leadership and management skills outside the classroom. Therefore, we are committed to increasing the number of leadership roles in each of our schools in order to develop our emerging leaders and build our regional leadership pipeline. Investing in a pipeline of future KIPP LA leaders will require us to allocate approximately \$600,000 this fiscal year so our schools can afford to add non-instructional leadership training positions.

KIPP LA SCHOOLS 2010-2011 REVENUE: **\$16,852,469\***



KIPP LA SCHOOLS 2010-2011 EXPENDITURES: **\$16,233,500\***



\*FY 2010-2011 unaudited financials. Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

# OUR SUPPORTERS

KIPP LA wishes to thank the individuals, foundations, and corporations who supported us in fiscal year 2010-2011, ensuring that our students continue to receive a high-quality college-preparatory education.

## \$1,000,000 OR MORE

Martha and Bruce Karsh  
Otis Booth Family Foundation

## \$100,000 OR MORE

Anonymous  
The Ahmanson Foundation  
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld  
Brad and Cassandra Grey  
CEDAR Foundation  
Charter School Growth Fund  
Doris and Donald Fisher Fund  
The Eli & Edythe Broad Foundation  
ExED  
The Goldhirsh Foundation  
Google, Inc.  
The Walton Family Foundation  
W.M. Keck Foundation

## \$50,000 OR MORE

Global Green  
John W. Carson Foundation  
Joseph Drown Foundation  
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)  
The Mayer and Morris Kaplan Family Foundation  
Quest Foundation  
Steve and Leslie Carlson  
Weingart Foundation  
Yahoo! Employee Foundation

## \$25,000 OR MORE

All Stars Helping Kids | Marcus Allen  
Don McCammack and Cindy Stokes  
Erika Glazer  
Greg and Nancy Geiser  
Jerry Perenchio\*  
Marcia Aaron  
Paramount Pictures

## \$10,000 OR MORE

ACM Lifting Lives Foundation  
Anonymous  
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Austin and Virginia Beutner  
The California Endowment  
The Carol and James Collins Foundation  
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Judy McGrath\*  
Lamonica's Pizza Dough Company, Inc.  
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The Resnick Family Foundation | Stewart & Lynda Resnick\*  
Tacori  
Wells Fargo Foundation

## \$5,000 OR MORE

Alison and Richard Ressler\*  
Bobby Kotick\*  
Carl E. Wynn Foundation  
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Gerard Prudhomme  
The Harry Singer Foundation  
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Stern\*  
James and Lisa Keston  
The Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation  
Steven Rubenstein\*  
Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes\*  
Mr. and Mrs. William S. Louchheim

## \$1,000 OR MORE

Anonymous\*  
Adam and Jessica Goodman\*  
Alan and Kym Chartash\*  
Allen and Deborah Grubman\*  
Andrew and Bonnie Grey\*  
Arnold and Sherri Nelson\*  
Barry Hoffman and Chris Larson  
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Ronald Meyer and Kelly Chapman Meyer\*  
Saks Fifth Avenue  
Mr. and Mrs. Sam Fischer\*

Thomas and Tara Wuchenich  
Thomas Safran  
Tom Ford and Richard Buckley\*

## \$500 OR MORE

Allen Soong  
Damon Dash\*  
David and Genny Lauck  
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Sarina Simon  
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Tim and Wendy Van Patten\*  
Tom and Mary Jo Mathis  
Toni Howard and David Yarnell\*

## UP TO \$499

Adam Walker  
Alba Ochoa  
Alejandra Murillo  
Alexa Faigen  
Alexis McSweyn  
Amber and Jose Medina  
Amber Lara  
Amina and Charles Fields  
Amy Nerone  
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Christy Green  
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Elvia Flores  
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Emily Wasson  
Eric DeSobe  
Freda Statom  
Gail Carson  
Gary and Kathleen Malone  
Geraldine Clark  
Gita Braude  
Heather Jeng Bladt  
Hoa Truong  
Howard Lappin  
Jacquelyn Baumgartner  
James Booth  
James McKone  
Jeana Marinelli  
Jelena Dobic  
Jess Andre  
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Jessica Marek  
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Stanley Penner  
Stephanie Maggard  
Susan Montano  
Suzanne Stastica  
Sylvia Armandariz  
Sylvia Dunbar  
Tiffany Vergara  
Tina Sachs  
Tina Sinatra\*  
Tisa L. Vann  
Tito Rivas  
Tobin Babst  
Tom, Vivian, and Thanh Murray  
In Honor of Danielle Misher | Trudy Harris  
Tycho Services | Raj Chhina  
Weingart YMCA Boyle Heights | Victor Dominguez  
In Honor of Ann Paul | William Skinner  
In Honor of Ann Paul | Winnick Family Foundation  
Yasmin Kavanagh  
Zack Soltes

\*Gift made in honor of Brad and Cassandra Grey.

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**TEAM**  
always beats  
individual.



# KIPP:LA Schools

The mission of KIPP LA Schools is to teach the academic skills, foster the intellectual habits, and cultivate the character traits needed for our students to thrive in high school, college, and life. Through the success of our students, the KIPP LA Team and Family will serve as a model of excellence and collaborate with others to raise the quality of education in Los Angeles.

KIPP Academy of Opportunity  
KIPP Comienza Community Prep  
KIPP Empower Academy

KIPP Los Angeles College Preparatory School  
KIPP Raíces Academy

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