

A group of four KIPP leaders (three women and one man) are posed against a warm, orange-to-red gradient background. The woman in the top left is waving, the woman in the top right is flexing her arm, and the woman in the center foreground is smiling with her hands clasped. The man is positioned behind her, also smiling.

KIPP:

Metro Atlanta Schools

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

TOGETHER, A FUTURE WITHOUT LIMITS

A LETTER FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Families, Friends and Champions,

As I fondly reflect on our 2022-23 school year, I find myself overwhelmed with a symphony of emotions — gratitude, joy, humility, and a deep appreciation for the remarkable achievements that have shaped our audacious journey. We are not just a system of schools. We are public schools done differently. Each morning through our schools' doors, we welcome all of the beauty and all of challenge present in our beloved city.

“With love, joy and magnetic teaching, our KIPPsters, big and small, transform all obstacles into bright todays and better tomorrows. We are KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools.”

We have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the pursuit of literacy as a powerful and necessary pathway to liberation - we believe that our KIPPsters deserve and will achieve the freedom to be the architects of their own amazing futures. This is our promise. For us, this path begins in kindergarten, but we know that literacy and the love for reading begins far before. We bridge this gap by ensuring a comprehensive literacy approach including more time in school, high impact tutoring models, careful implementation of the science of reading practices, and authentic partnerships with our families. I am deeply grateful for our local partners whose hands we hold tightly, including the Rollins Center for Language and Literacy, the Atlanta Speech School, the Woodruff and Whitehead Foundations, and United Way - among many others. Together, we have achieved more - in fact, our early literacy progress has been celebrated and studied across KIPP nation. This is a shared victory with so much work left to do.

We also honor that children, from any zip code, are dynamic, vibrant, and diversely talented. I am proud that our achievements extend beyond academics alone. We ensure that every KIPPster belongs to a tribe - from visual arts to band, anime to debate, cross country to civic leadership, our scholars are discovering and nurturing their passions within our schools' walls and beyond. Congratulations to our KIPPster, Grayson Trawick, who won the entire district Spelling Bee! Grayson is now a freshman and continuing his journey at our KIPP Atlanta Collegiate high school. He will benefit from our signature KIPP Forward program. Through KIPP Forward, we stick with our KIPPsters for life beginning with college, career and other progressive postsecondary pathways. By providing mentorship and career guidance, KIPP Forward paves the way for our scholars to shape their own destinies.

As I look ahead, a sense of hope and anticipation fills my spirit. I am passionately convinced that we will be a beacon for urban education and all of education. My belief in this way goes beyond optimism but is rooted in observation each day that I get to bear witness to the awe-inspiring resilience and excellence of our scholars, teachers, and families. At KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools, educating our children is not simply a duty. It is a love story. It is the tale of strategic planning, hard work, and yes, even tears—a testament to the passion we pour into every minute. And even on our toughest days, our village shows up with the courage, audacity and sweat equity needed to win.

None of this would be possible without your love and unwavering support. You relentlessly believe in our mission, which propels us to new heights. You are our champions. On behalf of our entire KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools team and family, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to you for your unshakable belief in our scholars and their beautiful futures! Our journey continues.

“With Love and Gratitude,”

Mini'imah Shaheed
Chief Executive Officer
KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools



KIPP METRO ATLANTA SCHOOLS AT A GLANCE

OUR VISION

Every child grows up free to create the future they want for themselves and their communities.

OUR MISSION

Together with families and communities, we create joyful, academically excellent schools that prepare scholars 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.

UNITED AROUND ONE GOAL

KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools is a network of 11 public charter schools located in the city of Atlanta. At KIPP, we believe that every scholar deserves a joyful and excellent education and opportunities that will lead them towards a fulfilling life. Since founding our first middle schools in 2003, KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools has been united around one goal: supporting our scholars in developing their academic abilities and ultimately proving what is possible in public education.

THE KIPP DIFFERENCE

EQUIPPING SCHOLARS FOR SUCCESS

At KIPP, we believe that a strong partnership between scholars, parents and educators creates the fabric of an excellent school. Through innovative educational practices and dedication, we believe in the power of education to enable our scholars to change the world.

5,500+
SCHOLARS

1,000+
ALUMNI

11
SCHOOLS

7
CAMPUSES



EARLY LITERACY

KIPP METRO ATLANTA SCHOOLS TAKES ON THE SCIENCE OF READING

KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools' steadfast dedication to academic excellence has always formed the bedrock of our educational philosophy; sparking the ingenuity of our KIPPsters and charting the course to success.

As new research on how scholars learn to read has emerged, we have transitioned to embrace the latest insights, further solidifying our mission to equip every scholar with the tools they need to thrive and achieve choice-filled lives. Our responsibility is to support the literacy growth and development of every scholar through high quality, aligned foundational literacy instruction anchored in the Science of Reading.

In recent years, we embarked on a transformative journey, reevaluating our literacy programs and adopting a systematic, explicit approach rooted in the Science of Reading. To support this mission, we've assembled a dynamic Science of Reading team, led by our Primary Literacy Achievement Director. This team consists of four Science of Reading coaches and a Primary Literacy Data Specialist, dedicated to coaching, training, analysis, and action planning to ensure high-quality literacy implementation and enhanced scholar outcomes across all five KIPP Metro Atlanta primary schools.



"The shift to the science of reading has had a profoundly positive impact on me as a leader, our school community, and scholar success. As an educational leader, embracing this evidence-based approach has enhanced my ability to make informed decisions about curriculum and teaching methods. I now have a clearer understanding of the cognitive processes involved in reading, which has allowed me to provide more targeted professional development for our teachers. This, in turn, has fostered a culture of continuous learning and improvement within our school community."

- Ashlei Holmes

Assistant Principal KIPP Vision Primary School

"We have seen a lot of scholar growth. Teachers are stronger in getting scholars to use their strategies to flex their vowels, to focus on the word part, all of it...as opposed to stretching your sounds, looking at the pictures, and all of our prior best efforts. In short, we are building scholars' metacognitive skills at reading AND their reading processes. We are building stronger independent readers. Focusing on this type of instruction is aligned to our brains and how we process sounds and words, which increases scholar success and reading growth. Teachers are using what they are learning—it warms my heart when I hear teachers say this is a stop sound, a nasalized sound, etc.—even to a five year old! Our instruction is stronger which means our literacy growth is on the right path!"



- Tara Stifler

K-4 Principal KIPP Woodson Park Academy

A SPECIAL THANK YOU FOR YOUR AMAZING SUPPORT

- Robert W. Woodruff Foundation
- Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation
- United Way of Greater Atlanta
- Rollins Center for Language and Literacy
- Atlanta Speech School

"Our partnership with KIPP is extremely meaningful for our city. We are honored to be able to support KIPP Metro Atlanta as they work to make literacy accessible for every child."

- Ryan Lee-James

Chief Academic Officer and Director of the Rollins Center for Language and Literacy at the Atlanta Speech School

KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools Literacy Team



KIPP METRO ATLANTA SCHOOLS ATHLETICS

Since the formation of the Regional Athletics Department, our scholar-athletes have been able to excel in the classroom and their specific competition spaces, in addition to building partnerships with community-based organizations. Our scholar-athletes are proof that athletics opportunities are contributing factors to scholar achievement and allow exposure to new activities and communities of belonging.

Our athletics program's culture of innovation, achievement, and excellence give our Black and Brown scholars the encouragement to fight and push to be the greatest, regardless of the obstacles that may lie ahead of them. KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools Athletics can and will be comparable to our counterparts, while ensuring that our scholars continue to choose KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools.



"Investing in athletics serves several vital purposes, but paramount among them is our commitment to delivering a holistic educational journey for our K-12 scholars. It is our duty to evolve alongside our families, ensuring that we have the capacity to provide a multitude of high-quality opportunities, thereby fulfilling our pledge.

Athletics play a significant role in preparing our scholars to confront life's challenges and develop the resilience to overcome them.

On a personal note, I can attest that my own participation in sports played a pivotal role in shaping the person I am today. Our athletics program embodies a culture of empowerment, resilience, and championing the underdog. We are steadfast in our mission to instill in our scholars the determination to strive for greatness, regardless of the hurdles they may encounter.

Looking ahead a decade, our vision for KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools Athletics is clear: we aspire to be on par with our peers in four critical domains—facilities, infrastructure, budget, and stakeholder visibility."

- Nyere Brown

*Regional Director of Athletics
KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools*



KIPP FORWARD CAREER SERVICES

CELEBRATING 1 YEAR OF IMPACT ACROSS KIPP METRO ATLANTA SCHOOLS

KIPP Forward Career Services celebrated their 1-year anniversary on August 8, 2023!

The Career Services team strives to support and bring career awareness, exploration, and career readiness training to our scholars and alumni through academia, community partnerships & engagement, and career-enhanced opportunities to increase early identification of career pathways. Career Services is a part of the KIPP Forward auxiliary program that guides scholars through their post-secondary journey, offering complete assistance with social, financial, academic, and career-related needs. We are very excited about this milestone and the support received during our inaugural year.

During this first year, Career Services successfully:

- Provided career support to over 1,000 KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools scholars
- Hosted 15 Guest Career Speaker Exploration Ted Talk Series
- Featured a Career & Technical Education (CTE) Expo that included 12 Local Atlanta CTE Institutions
- Organized The 2ND Annual Armed Forces Fair
- Facilitated Career-Readiness Academic Lessons to 11th & 12th graders
- Hosted Market-Thursday Pop-Up Shop to feature Student Entrepreneurs
- Led Virtual Career Speaker Panels for KMAS alumni
- Coordinated The 2nd Annual Summer Jobs & Internships Career Fair that included over 20 Employers and Organizations
- Funded KMAS Scholars Attending the National Delta Flight Summer Academy
- Aided Career & Technical Educational Scholarships

As we embark on our 2nd year to continue to provide robust and innovative career programming, we welcome your support!

"Career Services play an indispensable role in a student's educational journey.

In earlier times, the emphasis was primarily on college education, but as our KIPPsters and their perspectives have evolved with the changing world, we recognize the importance of exploring diverse pathways.

Some scholars may now opt for unconventional routes, and their post-graduation plans may follow a less straightforward trajectory. Hence, the Career Services team is dedicated to assisting scholars and alumni in making informed choices about college, careers, and their future endeavors."

- Dr. Desjane' Venable

Director of KIPP Forward Career Services



TOGETHER WITH OUR PARTNERS & DONORS

The KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools community benefits from a wide array of contributors and partners, each hailing from various backgrounds but sharing a common vision.

This collective vision is one in which every child is empowered to shape the future they envision, both for themselves and their community. The steadfast commitment of these community champions is what enables us to deliver essential programs and scholar support, which would not be possible solely through public funding.

“We were first introduced to KIPP Atlanta by board member Kathy Brown back in 2018. She formed a group to tour one of KIPP’s primary schools and we were thoroughly impressed! They were only in early primary, but they were well poised, held eye contact and were a delight to speak with.

My visit to the school captured my heart. My first impression of KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools was how warm and inviting the atmosphere was.. Observing several classes brought me to tears. The teachers were engaged with the students, interesting and exuded a love for the program and scholars.

My biggest involvement with KIPP Atlanta, aside from monetary contributions, is to share my compassion and love for KIPP with anyone willing to listen! I could be sitting in an airport lounge, riding in a golf cart, or having dinner with friends. If I see any opening to sharing the KIPP story, I am on it!

The KIPP Team and Family includes the scholars and their families, teachers, administrators, the community, and the supporters. It is a massive collective effort in creating opportunities for those who need and deserve it the most.”

- Bill & Linda Schaeffer
KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools
Supporters



“In working with KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools, I’ve found that their strong sense of community stands out. The engagement of leadership and staff with scholars and their families makes all of the difference in helping to bridge the academic and economic gap for families.

As Girls Inc. has worked with KIPP over the last two years, we’ve seen additional programs developed such as Summer Learning Enrichment programs that support more year-round learning. Our specific involvement with KIPP Atlanta includes:

- Free after-school programs at two KIPP Metro Atlanta schools.
- Providing after-school programs for over 140 scholars.
- Providing wellness (mental health) and parent engagement programs.
- Proving a strong curriculum that supports scholars becoming stronger physically, mentally and emotionally.
- Coordinating summer programs at two sites that support youth enrichment programming serving over 400 students.

KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools is sowing into the lives of our future and it is a good investment with great dividends, if everyone contributes. KIPP Atlanta also offers diversity and choice in the educational landscape of Atlanta and that is an important element in educational advancement.”

- Tiffany Collie-Bailey
Chief Executive Officer, Girls Inc.

Recently, KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools was chosen as Education Partner of the Year by Girls, Inc.! We have an amazing partnership with Girls, Inc. that includes summer and after school programs which implements Girls, Inc. curriculum and values into the lives of both girls and boys in the metro Atlanta region! We are honored for this achievement!



ACADEMIC RESULTS

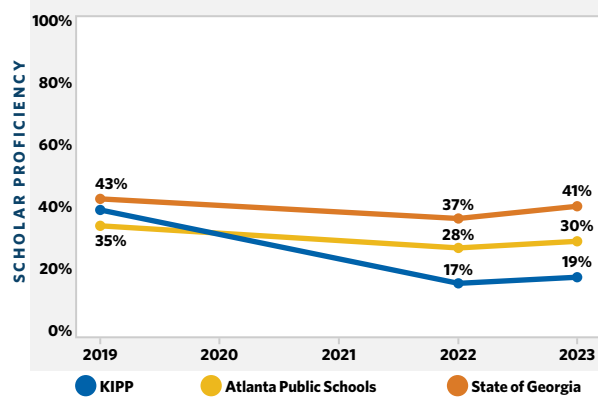
Our promise to our scholars and families is to create joyful, academically excellent schools that prepare our scholars with the skills and confidence to pursue their dreams.

In pursuit of this, we'll be returning to KIPPsters Up goal-setting for our SY23-24 Milestones targets. KIPPsters Up is a goal-setting philosophy that creates individualized scholar goals based on a scholar's most recent and relevant data point. In this case, we'll be using SY22-23 Milestones scores or Fall 2023 MAP scores for each scholar to establish their individualized SY23-24 goals. These individual goals are then rolled up to set grade, school, and regional goals. Meeting our goals in SY23-24 would lead to a 5 point gain in Milestones proficiency across our region and reach our goal of improving at an accelerated rate. We are very excited about this milestone and the support received during our inaugural year.

GEORGIA MILESTONES

(2019-2023)

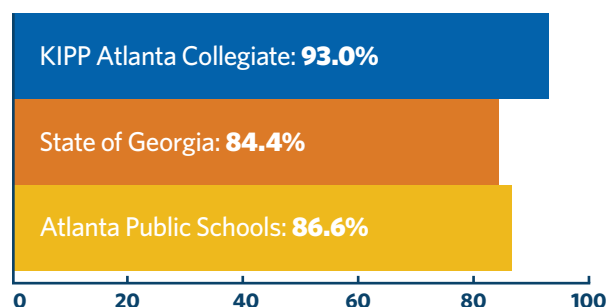
SCHOLARS SCORING PROFICIENT AND ABOVE - ALL SUBJECTS



*No Milestones data available for Spring 2020 or Spring 2021

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

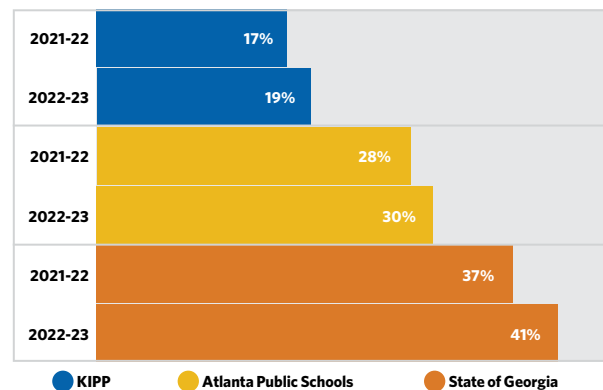
We are proud to share that our KIPP Atlanta Collegiate graduation rate for the 2022-23 school year has again exceeded both the state and district averages. KIPP Atlanta Collegiate's graduation rate improved for the third straight year, increasing to 93.0% for the 2022-23 school year, the highest 4-year graduation rate the school has ever achieved.



MILESTONES PROFICIENCY RATES

2 YEAR COMPARISON (KIPP, APS AND GEORGIA)

PROFICIENT & DISTINGUISHED (LEVEL 3 & LEVEL 4)



The pandemic disproportionately impacted our scholars and families, but we are resilient and already reaching toward significant progress. We are excited about KIPPsters Up because it focuses on growth while maintaining firm standards for grade-level expectations. We also acknowledge that beyond the raw assessment data of each of our scholars, a narrative of resilience unfolds. Our scholars have exhibited adaptability, problem-solving skills, and an unwavering commitment to learning amidst extraordinary demands. The pandemic thrust new responsibilities upon our teachers, who, in response, created spaces for scholars to express their emotions, innovated curriculum for virtual instruction, and went above and beyond to ensure continuity in education.

We continue our commitment of transformative innovations in education. Through dynamic strategies and cutting-edge initiatives, we are redefining the educational landscape, ensuring an enriching and future-ready experience for every scholar. Our dedication to fostering creativity, adaptability, and excellence has empowered our scholars to thrive, preparing them for a world of limitless possibilities. Together, we are shaping a brighter, more resilient future for our K-12 community, where innovation is the cornerstone of academic success.



TOP PERFORMING TEACHERS

We are excited to celebrate our top-performing teachers from the 2022-23 school year in this year's annual report!



Anetrice Parker
KIPP SOUL ACADEMY



Bernadette Mitchell
KIPP VISION ACADEMY



Chantel Mason
KIPP STRIVE PRIMARY



Chasity Choran
KIPP SOUTH FULTON ACADEMY



Constance Smith
KIPP ATLANTA COLLEGIATE



Dynell West
KIPP WOODSON PARK ACADEMY (5-7)



Jacobi Clifton
KIPP STRIVE ACADEMY



Kiera Hicks
KIPP SOUL PRIMARY



Lauren Erwin
KIPP VISION PRIMARY



Sarah Simpson
KIPP WAYS ACADEMY

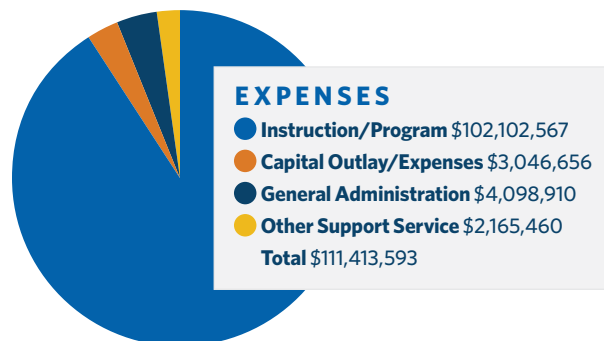
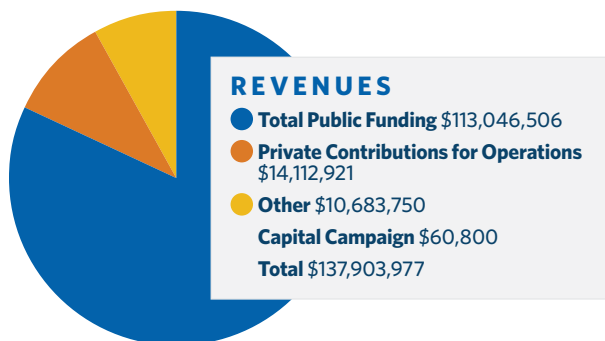


Tania Knott
KIPP WAYS PRIMARY



Tshaka Bailey
KIPP WOODSON PARK ACADEMY (K-4)

FINANCIALS FISCAL YEAR 2023



THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

**We are incredibly grateful for
the continued generous support
of our partners during the
2022-23 school year.**

Your commitment and investment in our shared belief in nurturing the gifts and talents of our scholars is what helps us maintain our promise to our scholars and families. Thank you for helping us create joyful, academically excellent schools that prepare scholars with the skills and confidence to pursue the paths that they choose—college, career, and beyond—so they can lead fulfilling lives and build a more just world.

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George Jennison	Taylor and Nick Montes de	Prithvi Shashikant	

**All gifts listed were received during the 2022-23 school year (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023). Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this report. If you find an error or would like to be removed from future listings, please accept our apologies and reach out to Dr. Lawrence Harris, Chief Impact Officer, at lharris1@kippmetroatlanta.org*



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Stacey Mohr

Partner
EVERSHEDS SUTHERLAND

JaKathryn Ross

Senior Director of Community Affairs
GEORGIA-PACIFIC LLC

Deborah Sudbury

Retired Partner
JONES DAY ATLANTA

Jack Ward*

Retired Chairman and Chief Executive
Officer
RUSSELL CORPORATION

*Denotes Honorary Board Member



KIPP:

Metro Atlanta Schools

1445 Maynard Road NW, Atlanta, GA 30331
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