

JUNTOS/TOGETHER

October 2016

A message from our Executive Director

Dear Friends,

In 2010, we were one school with 300 students and a 20-30% projected student college graduation rate. Today, we are five schools, 1,715 students and 55% of the Class of 2016 is projected to graduate from a 4-year college as compared to the 10% graduation rate for educationally underserved students nationwide. We are serving more students and families and serving them better than ever.

Last week the state PARCC and MCAS test results were released and we are excited to share that our students experienced their best results ever. Below are a few highlights and more results are listed on page 6:

- KIPP Academy Lynn's class of 2020 had the 10th highest PARCC Math achievement in the state out of 311 schools. With 3+ years of strong growth our students reached achievement levels higher than affluent districts like Swampscott, Milton and Concord.
- KIPP Academy Boston class of 2021 had the 2nd highest Math student growth percentile in the state.

We are proud of these results and clear about where we must do better for our students and families. Our youngest KIPPsters are on track to never experience the achievement gap. The consistency of their strong elementary reading achievement, across both our Mattapan and Lynn elementary schools, illustrates that our students grow the most when our schools are closely aligned in curriculum and instructional approach. Though our results and data tell a story of academic achievement and progress, we are always striving to do more. On page 7 we share a student academic growth chart for our KIPP Academy Boston middle school students that will help us monitor each student's progress over time so we know where to provide additional support and services.


We recently celebrated a ribbon cutting at our new K-8 KIPP Academy Boston school. With this school we can now reach more students and families in the surrounding Mattapan community than ever before. We look forward to teaching tuition-free US citizenship, English as a Second Language, Parenting Journeys and Zumba classes to over 60 families this fall. With the election less than a month away we need every one of our supporters and parents to help advocate for a new KIPP Boston high school. On October 15, we will be participating in a "Get out the Vote" effort and on October 27, there will be a debate at the First Church of Roxbury, where a charter school student and parent will share their stories. Check out recent articles spotlighting KIPP teachers and parents advocating for their children and their choice of schools online @ www.kippma.org/news/ and on our facebook and twitter pages.

We are extremely proud of our college counseling and match results which we used to build our goals for this year's senior class. Eighty-eight percent (88%) of last year's class matriculated to a 4-year institution, 8% to a 2- year, 1% to an alternative pathways program and 3% have plans pending. We project similar college matriculation and persistence achievement for the Class of 2017.

Phenomenal schools need phenomenal teachers. We created a Teaching Fellows program to help develop new to the profession teachers into the superstar teachers our students deserve. In school year 2015-16 we had 10 Fellows and this year we have 24. We address the growth of this program, and more detail around success measures and how fellows become lead teachers on page 3.

Thank you for supporting the growth of our KIPPsters and our schools over these past eleven years. We look forward to continuing to share with you lessons learned, progress and joy within each of our schools, for many more years to come.

Many thanks, much love,


Caleb Dolan,
Executive Director, KIPP Massachusetts

"Our student's stories matter. Their communities, families, hopes and dreams matter. Where they are as human beings matters first and foremost and that's why where they learn matters."

-Principal Nikki Barnes, speaking at the KIPP Academy Boston Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

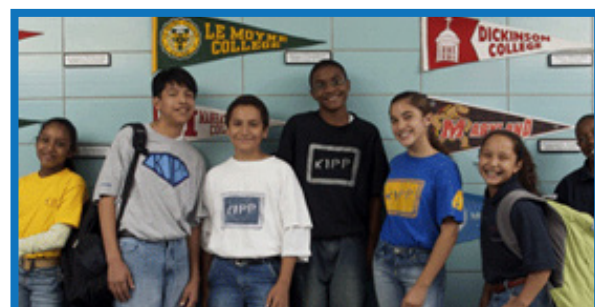
KIPPMA Schools Open for Tours on Thursdays



We would love to give you a tour so you can see our teaching and learning in action.

Starting in October we will offer tours at both our KIPP Lynn campus @ 90 High Rock Street in Lynn and KIPP Boston at 37 Babson Street in Mattapan.

On the 2nd Thursday of each month from 1-3 pm, KIPP Academy Lynn will be open for tours and on the 3rd Thursday of each month from 1-3 pm, KIPP Academy Boston will be open for tours. To reserve a place on a tour, please contact Kate Reynolds @ kreynolds@kippma.org or 781-656-4127.



Celebrating the Opening of our New KIPP Academy Boston K-8 school

On September 15th, KIPPMA celebrated our Ribbon Cutting at our newest school in Mattapan. The new school building opened on August 15th for all students serving 216 students in grades K-2, and 287 students in 5th-8th grade and will grow to serve 648 students in grades K-8 at full enrollment in 2017. Over 100 supporters of the schools, including Board members, donors, parents, staff and government officials including Senator Forry, Councilor Campbell, State Representative Russell Holmes, Walter Apperwhite from Representative Tim McCarthy's office and State Representative Jeffrey Sanchez attended the event.

Caleb Dolan addressed the investment that KIPP has made in the Mattapan community, stating that KIPP is committed to using the school as a community center as well as an educational institution. He shared that our teachers, leaders, students and families have worked hard to earn this beautiful building and explained that the work that happens inside the building is even more impressive than the building itself. Principal Nikki Barnes shared the following Langston Hughes poem during the ceremony:

Listen to Principal Barnes' speech online
@ <http://kippma.org/donate/>



Principal Nikki Barnes re-inforces why we're all here, "because our student's, community's and family's hopes and dreams matter."

A long time ago,
An enslaved people heading toward freedom
Made up a song:
Keep Your Hand On The Plow! Hold On!
The plow plowed a new furrow
Across the field of history.
Into that furrow the freedom seed was dropped.
From that seed a tree grew, is growing,
will ever grow.
That tree is for everybody,
For all America, for all the world.
May its branches spread and shelter grow
Until all races and all peoples know its shade.
KEEP YOUR HAND ON THE PLOW! HOLD ON!



Twenty-five first and second grade choristers, directed by Performing Arts Director Linda Rae-Krov, sing for a group of over 100 attendees.

KIPP Parent, Cassandra Rhea, shares her children's reading success story

"My search for a school that could accommodate Antjuan and his learning disabilities led me to Charter Schools. Antjuan was the first student in his class to reach the one million words read mark and Arianna ended the year having read over six million words !

KIPP made a commitment to families that they would be there every step of the way during these crucial years and they have kept their promise. As a parent that has tried traditional public schools, private school and now charter, I believe that I can state unequivocally that KIPP is the real deal."



KIPPMA Leaders and elected officials cut the ribbon

Looking Toward a Future of Monumental Growth and Achievement

Last week's PARCC and MCAS results were released and KIPPMA students achieved the best results ever. Below are some highlights:

KIPP Academy Lynn's class of 2020 had the 10th highest PARCC Math achievement in the state out of 311 schools. **With 3+ years of strong growth our students reached achievement levels higher than affluent districts like Swampscott, Milton and Concord.** KIPP Academy Lynn's class of 2021 had the 10th highest PARCC Math achievement in the state. Our seventh graders out-achieved Boston Latin Academy, an exam school that only admits students with high scores.

KIPP Academy Lynn's class of 2021 had the 2nd highest Math student growth percentile in the state. KIPP Academy Boston class of 2020 had the 5th highest Math student growth percentile in the state. KIPP Academy Boston had the 13th highest ELA student growth percentile in the state for grades 3-8 out of 243 districts. KIPP Academy Boston had the 10th Math highest student growth percentile in the state for grades 3-8 out of 243 districts. KIPP Academy Lynn had the 13th Math highest student growth percentile in the state for grades 3-8 out of 243 districts.

Getting out the Vote and Advocating for a KIPP Boston High School



With the election coming up in a little over a month, it is more important than ever to share charter school facts with your neighbors and fellow Mass voters. To help dispel some myths we've listed a few facts about charter schools below to share with them:

1. Charter schools are open to any child, free of charge. If more children want to enroll in a school than it has space for, a random lottery determines who gets in, no admission hurdles, no entrance exams, no preferential treatment.
2. Statewide, charter public schools enroll twice the % of poor and minority students as district schools. New recruitment efforts have dramatically increased ELL enrollment in the past few years.

3. Nothing about charter public schools is private. They are managed by public boards of trustees, abide by the same laws and rules that the district schools do, and are overseen by the Mass Dept of Elementary and Secondary Education.
4. Charter public schools are under the same obligation as district public schools to provide in-school special education services.
5. Charter public schools were established to operate independently from the local school district, but they certainly are a part of the local community. They are founded by local parents, teachers, educators, and others. During the initial, year-long chartering process there are many opportunities for dialogue between community officials, other community members, and state education officials.
6. The only additional spending associated with charter schools is the reimbursement money the state gives to districts to ease the impact of students transferring to an alternative public school.
7. Charters receive funding only when parents choose to enroll their children in them; the funds move with the students. The amount a charter receives is based on how much a given district spends on each student.

Tracking Academic Progress at KIPP Academy Boston (KAB)

With the goal of reaching our monumental growth and achievement targets, leaders at KAB have initiated this chart (at right) to track student academic progress in math and reading. The blue circles track reading using the Fontas and Pinnell program and the beige tracks math through academic progress assessment. Student progress is also tied to student intervention groups. Students will be assessed again mid-year and then a third time at the end of the year to show their progress.



Six Essential Questions:

Are we serving the students we set out to serve ?

Our Six Essential Questions provide a yardstick by which to measure our progress, keep us focused as we grow, and—most important—help us keep the promises we make to our students and their families.

Our student demographics mirror the districts we serve with comparable ELL, SPED, and economically disadvantaged numbers in both Lynn and Boston.

In this edition of Juntos, we focus on **Question 1: Are we serving the students we set out to serve ?**



More results for KIPP:MA students can be found online at www.kippma.org/about/results/

Updates from Our 5th KIPP Class of College Freshmen

KIPPMA Class of 2016, our first class where 88% of our seniors matriculated to 4-year colleges, is settling into college life. We are extremely proud of our college counseling team and our seniors for this achievement. Below are photos of some of our students heading off to their new schools and embarking on new lives. For a list of all the colleges our students are attending, go to www.kippma.org and click on our June 2016 edition of Juntos.



Daniel Dos Santos settles into life at Lycoming college



Mustafa, Jacob, Jurvet and others celebrate together before heading off to college

KIPP Academy Lynn Elementary 1st Graders Share Their Views About the Election with Principal Eveleen Hsu

Hsu: So who would you vote for - Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump?

Maria Celeste: I want Hillary Clinton to win! Because Donald Trump told six lies. And Hillary Clinton only told one lie.

Joseph: I don't like Trump or the girl.

Remenity: I don't know.

Rachel: If Trump wins, I'm going to have to leave this country. I'd rather live in Nigeria than America.

Remenity: I want the girl to win.

Hsu: What do you hope the future president will do?

Maria Celeste: Take care of the world...and not destroy it!!!

Joseph: STOP TELLING LIES!

Remenity & Rachel: Yeah! Stop telling lies!

KALC Juniors Volunteer to Help in KALE Classrooms



KALC students Nicole Espinal and Heather Duran help organize reading level books for KALEsters

In preparation for college, high school KIPsters are required to complete several hours of community service activities. Here, KALC juniors, Vivian, Nicole and Heather help organize KALE kindergarten reading books and support students during computer lab classes thereby exemplifying team and family by sharing their talents with their fellow KIPPsters.



Vivan Gonzalez helps KALE Kindergarteners during SEA, science, engineering and art workshop

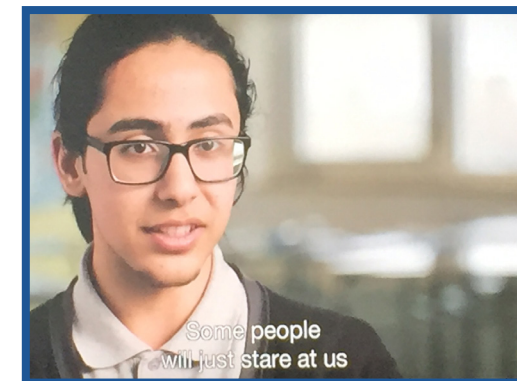
KIPP Academy Lynn Collegiate (KALC) High School Senior, Murtada Mahmood, Featured on PBS NOVA Show

On September 14, NOVA aired a special program on education entitled School of the Future. One of the stories covered was that of KALC student, Murtada Mahmood.

The piece highlighted Murtada's background as a Muslim refugee who fled from his home in Iraq with his mother and sisters (his father had passed away), by way of Syria and arrived in Lynn in 2013. Over 15,000 people have resettled in Massachusetts over the last few years so the demand for learning English has grown steadily. For Murtada it was important for him to feel valued in a school community and he feels this at KALC.

The piece highlighted how important it is for schools to build a community and a sense of belonging for students. Rene Alderete, Chair of the English Language Learning Department at KALC, spoke about how KIPP teachers and leaders have high expectations for students and that KALC seniors are expected to go onto college and a career. KIPP does this through academic rigor and support and the building of character.

A comprehensive piece highlighting the work the KIPP college counseling team is doing to help Murtada apply to and get accepted into colleges was also presented.



Murtada Mahmood joins a conference at the White House on September 13

KIPPMA's Growing Teaching Fellows Program

"Underperforming, low-income children who have great teachers for 3 years in a row will catch up to their higher-income peers. In short, great teachers can close the achievement gap." - Eric Hanushek

KIPPMA had 10 teaching fellows in school year 2015-16, 8 fellows were people of color, 2 were KIPP alums. This year we have hired 24. We have invested in Fellows because teachers learn by doing and need both content knowledge and teaching skills in order to be effective. Student results improve when their teacher has more than one year of experience. Our regional goal is for 33% new hires to identify as people of color. Teaching Fellows allow us to recruit from a larger and more diverse pipeline. To ensure excellence, we track teaching success by following indicators of readiness. In order for a teaching fellow to be considered for a lead teaching position, fellows must master at least 90% of a series of Classroom Management, Lesson Execution, Lesson Planning and Materials, and Professionalism and Leadership criteria.

Back to School Highlights



2nd grader Ceniaiya dives into reading



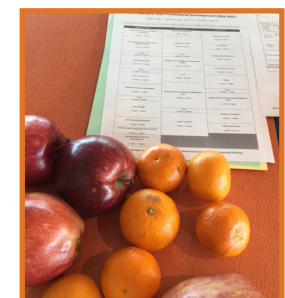
Eli and Germana are excited to start 2nd grade together



This fall the nonprofit, SPUR, donated 105 backpacks filled with school supplies to our new 5th graders at KAL



KALE students gather here to dive into their science lesson for the morning.



Team and Family Day's region-wide school professional development plan for the day.

KIPP Lynn Alumni Return to Teach at KIPP Lynn Schools

Four KIPP Alumni, Natalia Rosa, Chyna Hope, Kelsey Mullen and Olivia Wright returned to KIPP this fall to teach after graduating from college this past May. Natalia Rosa is an English as a Second Language Specialist at KIPP Academy Lynn Elementary (KALE). Chyna Hope and Kelsey Mullen are Teaching Fellows at KALE. Olivia Wright is a Math Teaching Fellow at KIPP Academy Lynn Middle School.

“I have learned a great deal after a month as a Teaching Fellow at KIPP Academy Lynn Elementary. This past week we started our first week of science, helping our Kindergarteners build their STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) skills. I am excited to be making a difference in these young KIPPsters lives and to be a part of closing the achievement gap for them.” - Chyna Hope, 1st year Teaching Fellow at KIPP Academy Lynn Elementary

KIPPMA Teaching Fellows are aspiring teachers who have less than one year of experience leading a classroom. They are committed to ensuring all students in the Boston area have access to a high quality education. They spend a year in a classroom with a highly-effective KIPP teacher, observing and practicing all of the components of effective and reflective teaching. They work alongside result-driven educators and administrators who are willing to do whatever it takes to see students succeed. Over the course of the year, teaching fellows gradually take on responsibilities, learning and practicing components of teaching in real classrooms with the coaching and support they need.



Kelsey Mullen, Teaching Fellow at KALE



Olivia Wright, Math Teaching Fellow at KAL, helps facilitate 5th and 6th grade student advisory

The KIPP Academy Lynn Middle and High School Men's Cross Country Team Kicks off the Season in First Place



After a disappointing second place finish in last season's championship, KAL XC came out for our first race at Franklin Park with something to prove. KALC started things strong in the high school race with former KALster Kaleb Habtegebriel finishing first overall (as a freshman!) and Hector Lopez coming in a close second. Representing the KAL team, Manny held off his challenger, finishing about 15 seconds off of the course record. Not far behind was Ricky Maestre who finished in 3rd and Alex Ogando was right behind, finishing 5th, followed by Andy Martinez who finished 6th . . . a HUGE improvement from last year. Our first 6th grader, Doran, was our fifth and final scoring runner, finishing 11th overall. The entire boy's team together took first place, 26 points ahead of the second place team. A strong start to the season for our crew.

Four things you can do to help leading up to November 8 ...

- *Join us on October 15, 2016 from 10am - 1pm to help get out the vote !
- *Support student learning opportunities.
- * Register to vote. Go to <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ovr/>.
- * Rally your friends to vote to lift the cap on November 8th !

KIPP Academy Lynn's College Counseling, College Match Program

During junior and senior year, KIPPMA students and their families receive support from our college counseling team as they prepare to select and apply to the colleges that are the best fit for each student. This support includes college selection and assistance identifying and securing financial aid, SAT and ACT preparation, strategic goal setting, and pre-college workshops for students and families. This fall seniors will apply and start hearing from colleges by December. Last year our senior class of 70 students submitted over 1,000 college applications and received over 540 acceptances.

At the national level, KIPP has created college partnerships with the institutions that share our belief that a student's zip code and family income should not dictate whether he or she attains a degree. Partner universities commit to not only admitting KIPP students, but also providing critical resources once those students are on campus to ensure that the students remain on track for a college degree. A few of our current KIPP college partners include Duke University, University of Pennsylvania, Georgetown University, Colby College, Syracuse University, Franklin and Marshall College, Davidson College and Vassar College.

KIPPMA recognizes that a post-secondary education for some students will not be earned at a traditional four-year college or university. We have developed strong relationships with Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology, Year Up and Match Beyond which offer two year Associate Degree programs. In addition, many of our alumni are persisting at a number of the local community colleges.

Once KIPPMA alumni are enrolled in college, KIPP Through College (KTC) takes it from there and helps ensure that students have the resources and self-advocacy skills needed to attain a college degree. The KTC team builds strong partnerships with the universities where KIPPsters attend, counsel alumni about financial aid, course selection, and career paths, and provides access to important on- and off-campus resources.

Family and Community Learning Program Update

For almost a decade in Lynn our Family and Community Learning program has provided new resources not only for our students but to the surrounding community and now we've committed to doing this in Boston. Community Learning programs are taking place this Fall at our new KIPP Academy Boston school in Mattapan. Zumba, Parenting Journey, Citizenship and ESOL classes are taught on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights between 6:30 and 8:30 pm. These classes offer various learning opportunities focused on building life skills, parenting support, civic engagement and fitness. All KIPP families and families from the surrounding community are invited to enroll. Students are welcome to sign up on a rolling basis. Call 781-808-3901 or email familyandcommunitylearning@kippma.org to learn more.



F&C Learning Zumba Classes are now taking place on Tuesday and Thursday nights at KIPP Academy Boston.



Family and Community Learning Course on Financial Literacy.

Advisory Groups Help Students Succeed



Students meet daily with their advisor and 10-12 of their peers for open discussion, ranging from challenges and celebrations in the classroom, to family issues. These small group connections help to build stronger relationships with both fellow students and teachers which has a positive effect on retaining our students. Students maintain the same advisory groups throughout their entire time in middle school. Student advisories are so important that at graduation they are grouped together and graduate together during the ceremony.



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KIPP Massachusetts
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90 High Rock Street
Lynn, MA 01902

Envelope Inside Flap with tear off to be returned inside return envelope with donation.

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Thank you !

Visit us online @ www.kippma.org