



2017
ANNUAL
REPORT



CURIOSITY • COURAGE • COMPASSION



Dear Friend of
Community Partnership School,

As we enter our 12th year at Community Partnership School, we begin buoyed by last year's accomplishments. From our growth at more seamlessly integrating our social-emotional curriculum, to the careful research and creative interpretations on display during our annual student-led Continent Fair, to the inspiring successes realized by our alumni, our expanding network of neighborhood allies, and our most successful fundraising campaign to date, 2016-17 proved to be quite the year!

All these highlights and more will be described more illustratively in the pages that follow. Visionary planning, disciplined execution, and stern resolve have led us to these results, and none of it happens, frankly, without your ongoing support.



Thank you for investing in our mission to provide a high-quality and affordable school alternative for families and children who need it most. Our children, our families, and our collective well-being are stronger because of it. Thank you for all you have done to make CPS what we are and what we will be!

Eric C. Jones,
Head of School

CHECK OUT THE

**CPS
THEORY of
CHANGE**
ON THE NEXT
PAGE

Community Partnership School's Theory of Change maps out our mission and the core beliefs informing our reason for being, the activities and resources we bring to bear to carry out our mission, and the outcomes and long-term impact we seek to realize as a result. It serves as a framework for planning and evaluating, helping ensure mission relevance and accountability, from the boardroom to the classroom in all we do.



99%

.....
**OF OUR ALUMNI ARE
ON TRACK TO GRADUATE
HIGH SCHOOL ON TIME.**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

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Community Partnership School is an independent school in North-Central Philadelphia committed to providing a high-quality education to children and their families from surrounding neighborhoods.

What We Believe

- #1** Economic and educational inequality, along with structural racism, leave many youth living in low-income, low-wealth, and racially segregated areas excluded from high-quality education.
- #2** There are any number of talented youth, often of color, from low-income and low-wealth communities, who would benefit from access to a high-quality education.
- #3** We can provide a high-quality education to any student despite their zip code, racial background, or economic status because an inclusive and diverse community is a stronger community.

Inclusivity should be an educational and national imperative.

What We Invest

Human Capital

Faculty, Administration, Staff, Volunteers, Board of Trustees

Financial

Tuition, donations (*monetary, in-kind*)

Material

Building and grounds, technology, educational supplies

Education for the mind, body and spirit

using an innovative curriculum and enrichment activities that promotes student:



Academic Achievement



Social-Emotional Well-being



Physical Health

WHAT WE DO:

Outreach and engagement strategies

that cultivate partnerships with:



Families



Alumni



Schools



Community



Donors

WHAT success LOOKS LIKE:

for the **Students:**

- Consistently meet academic expectations and gain admission to academically rigorous middle and high schools
- Learn and practice adaptive and pro-social behaviors
- Actively participate in new experiences and grow from these opportunities
- Develop a strong personal and racial/ethnic identity

for the **School:**

- Share best practices with education field via presentations, trainings, and professional development
- Faculty, staff, and administration are empowered in their roles and committed to equity and justice

for the **Caregivers:**

- Are aware of the strategies to advocate for their children and use them throughout their child's education
- Are actively involved in the school community above their child's school-hours time at CPS

for the **Donors & Partners**

- Commit to a multi-year agreement with the school that leads to a thriving endowment
- Cultivate strategic programming that develops into long-term investments benefiting CPS

Our Impact

Community Partnership School will serve as an exemplar in the education community and an anchor in the surrounding community. **Its graduates will:**

- Be **engaged citizens** who show courage, compassion, and curiosity as they strengthen the communities in which they live, learn and work
- **Successfully capitalize** on opportunities a high-quality education affords them
- Possess a **healthy sense of identity** and agency as they navigate their environments and communicate with diverse people

OUR PROGRAMS

The most important facet of the CPS experience is guiding our students to become well-rounded citizens—of their neighborhood, city, country and the world. To succeed, our students' classroom must extend outside of the school building, literally and figuratively. In addition to traditional academics, CPS students experience arts and culture from around the world. They learn to solve problems in a productive way, and how food and exercise lead to a healthy lifestyle. Students build respectful relationships with each other and contribute to a school environment that encourages them to explore their history, connect to their roots and discover their talents. Partnership makes CPS possible. We thank our 2016-17 Academic partners, volunteers, and partner organizations that help us provide and nurture a strong educational foundation for the students at CPS. These are only a few examples of how so many of us come together to create a successful school program.

PARTNER SCHOOLS & VOLUNTEERING

Hilltop Preparatory School: We continued our classroom and camp partnerships with Hilltop. In the classroom, Hilltop students partnered with fourth graders to prepare for the Wax Museum and Continent Fair. They also worked together on projects involving electrical circuits and Philadelphia history. Numerous CPS students attended Hilltop's summer camp, enjoying the outdoors, arts and robotics, some tutoring and field trips around the Philadelphia area.

Germantown Academy: Students from Germantown Academy, in conjunction with the New Community Project (a course that is part literature class and part student activism group), worked on several projects related to CPS. The students considered CPS's future transition into a new neighborhood (Brewerytown). They created banners to put up at the new building site. They held a happy hour to re-connect GA alums with CPS. Recognizing that CPS has a focus on mindfulness, they organized movement workshops at SoundSpace, a Brewerytown yoga studio, and invited CPS families to participate.

Waldron Mercy: Waldron Mercy was a frequent participant in this year's Lunch Buddies program, adding to the conversation in the CPS lunchroom. They also invited CPS to a rehearsal of their production of *Singin' In the Rain*.

Abington Friends: In our 7th year of partnership, Middle schoolers from Abington Friends, working on a service learning project, came to CPS throughout the year to teach Pre-K and Kindergarten colors and numbers in Spanish. They used music and play to reinforce each lesson and maximize FUN!

Mastery Charter School: This was CPS's fifth year welcoming interns from Mastery's Pickett campus. These high school students helped in the classroom and throughout the school.

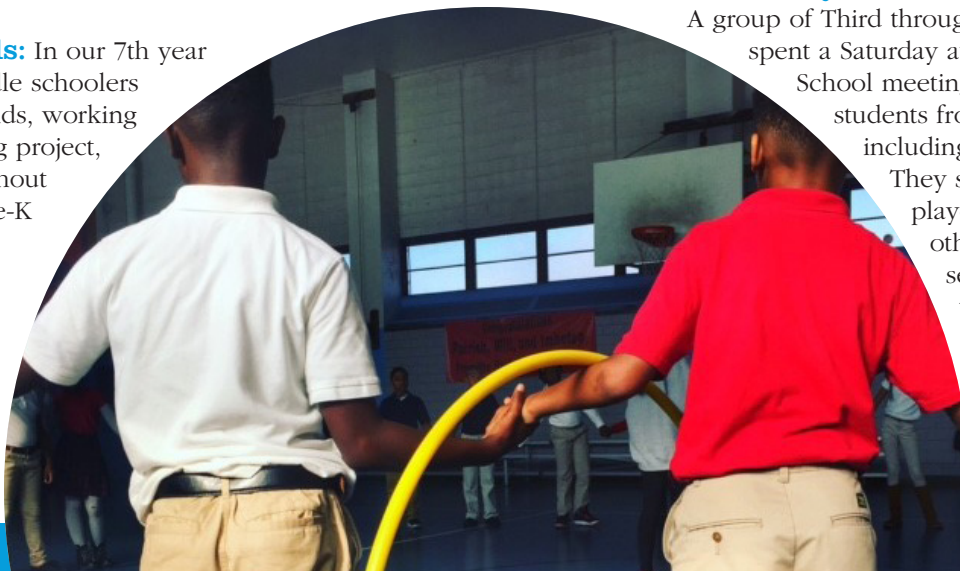
HEALTH & WELLNESS

Open Circle: CPS continued to utilize the Open Circle curriculum for social-emotional learning. Open Circle uses Class Meetings, Appreciations, Self-Regulation and Peaceful Problem Solving as its framework. This is proven to reduce student stress levels, increase academic achievement and build positive attitudes about school. In addition to the in-class work, teachers continue to receive training during the year at Wellesley College, where the program originated and was developed.

New Leash on Life: Second Grade partnered with New Leash on Life. This is an organization that pairs abused or abandoned dogs with inmates, teaching them to train the dogs. Our students learned some basics of dog training and interaction, then raised money in the school to buy some toys for the dogs.

Student Diversity Conference:

A group of Third through Fifth Graders spent a Saturday at Goshen Friends School meeting with other students from around the area, including some CPS alumni. They shared stories, role-played, acted and did other activities in the service of exploring their differences and understanding others' experiences.



OUR PROGRAMS



No Place for Hate:

- This year, CPS worked hard to become a No Place for Hate designated school. The Anti-Defamation League, which encourages groups to stand up to anti-Semitism, racism and bigotry, asks schools to work on three projects related to their mission throughout the year, to earn this designation.

- Leading up to our visit from Paralympian Tatyana McFadden, CPS students learned about the lives of people with disabilities. Older students read Tatyana's autobiography and discussed the nature of her disability and the challenges she has faced and overcome. Younger students listened to a book about people with disabilities and then discussed their own experiences with people with disabilities.
- CPS parent and professor Amina Robinson from Temple University's drama program created and performed an interactive play about embracing differences and making the right choice in tough situations.
- In addition to planning these projects, we had several families participate in the Anti-Defamation Leagues and No Place for Hate's annual Walk Against Hate.

Running Club: The newest addition to the Health and Wellness program at CPS, the Running Club, offered students the chance to spend their morning running outside. When the weather didn't allow them outdoors, students were able to jump rope in the auditorium or enjoy a game of gaga. Two students made it to 100 miles of running by the end of the year, and, as a school, students ran over 1,500 miles combined! Running Club was a great reminder of the importance of getting up and getting moving.



1,500
.....
miles were run
IN THE BEFORE-SCHOOL
RUNNING CLUB.

Nutrition for Life: This year we continued our partnership with the Nutrition for Life program. This program teaches students healthy eating habits through preparing healthy snacks and identifying what a healthy and balanced plate looks like. They also learned how and why healthy and unhealthy foods affect their bodies in the way they do.



Urbanstead: Second and Third Grades spent weeks working with Urbanstead, an urban garden and orchard in the nearby Francisville neighborhood. The farm and orchard were created out of empty and abandoned lots. Our students learned how gardening can transform a neighborhood and the fundamentals of urban farming and food justice.

Healthy Newsworks: Third Grade had the opportunity to explore a healthy lifestyle and get a taste of journalism through the Healthy Newsworks program. Throughout the year, students conducted interviews, wrote articles and drew cartoons as they assembled issues of The Healthy Herald. Each issue focused on how people can lead a healthy lifestyle, through exercise, sleep and eating.



Smith Playground: Kindergarten and Pre-K celebrated another year of fun outdoor activity at Smith Playground. The two classes made multiple trips to use the giant slide, swings, web climbers, and many other types of playground equipment. These trips offered a chance to be outside in a wider space and test their ability and agility, building confidence in their motor skills.

INSPIRING ATHLETES

Tatyana McFadden: In January, CPS was honored to be joined by 7-time Paralympic Gold Medalist (16 medals total) Tatyana McFadden. She shared with us her deeply inspiring story of overcoming the effects of Spina Bifida to become a world-class athlete. She surveyed the students about what they thought she could or could not do. She quickly proved that she could do almost anything, even if it was in a different way. She also showed how she does some of her everyday tasks and the different ways she uses her wheelchair. Tatyana left the students with the message that no matter what your challenges are, you are capable of anything.





Gerald Henderson: In the spring, CPS was visited by NBA player and native of the Philadelphia area, Gerald Henderson Jr. Gerald judged an essay contest for the Third through Fifth Graders, and joined us at Community Meeting to announce the winners. He spent the morning with the students, toured the school, and announced that CPS would be the beneficiary of his fourth annual Gerald Henderson Charity Golf Invitational which took place this summer.

ACADEMICS

Wax Museum: CPS Fourth and Fifth Grade continued the tradition of exploring Black History through figures of the Harlem Renaissance (Fourth Grade) and through scientists, inventors and mathematicians (Fifth Grade).



Each student researched and prepared a report on the life of a prominent African American. Finally, they gathered in the auditorium and performed first person monologues for CPS students, teachers and parents.



**Continent Fair/
Penn Museum:**

CPS continued our trip around the world with a stop on the continent of South America. During the Continent Fair, students learned about the food, music, culture, geography, animals, dance and more, of countries like Argentina, Chile, Brazil, Guyana, and Venezuela. To help with their research on Brazil, Second Grade visited the Penn Museum and met with experts on the history and culture of that country.

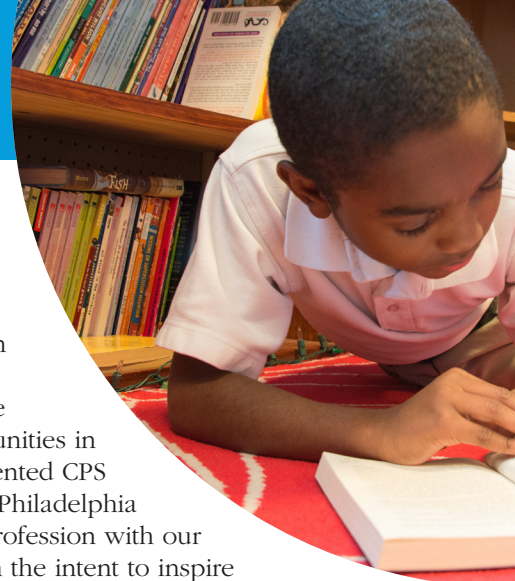
Rep Donna Bullock: In the spring, CPS Third Graders had the exciting opportunity to meet our State Representative Donna Bullock. Representative Bullock talked to the students about how government works, how laws get made, how to run for office and passing legislation for our community.



History Hunters: For the third year, our Fourth Graders participated in the History Hunters program. This was a year-long series of field trips to historic homes and sites throughout the nearby Germantown neighborhood. These trips provided students the opportunity to experience, in a real way, the history of Philadelphia and America. They came away with a deeper understanding of our local connection to the Underground Railroad and the impact of historical events like the American Revolution.

Leadership Philadelphia:

For the second year, Leadership Philadelphia, a non-profit organization connecting professional individuals in the private sector to service opportunities in their communities, presented CPS Career Day. Leadership Philadelphia members shared their profession with our entire student body with the intent to inspire and entertain! Exhibitors included PECO linemen, attorneys, chefs, physicians, marketing experts, pharmacists, artists, a photographer, police officers, airport customer service agents, and firefighters. The students interviewed the professionals, tried out their equipment, and asked them questions about their careers, like how they got started in their fields and what kind of training it took to get the job. This event is rewarding for everyone in the room!



Reading Olympics: The Blue Ribbon tradition continued! For the seventh year, both teams of Fourth and Fifth Graders earned blue ribbons at the *Philadelphia Reads* Reading Olympics. All students read at least seven

86%

OF OUR 4TH GRADERS
ARE ON OR ABOVE GRADE
LEVEL IN READING.

Studies show that
reading on grade level
by 4th grade is crucial for
continued academic and
personal success.

of the twenty books the organization chose and were ready and eager to answer questions during the competition.

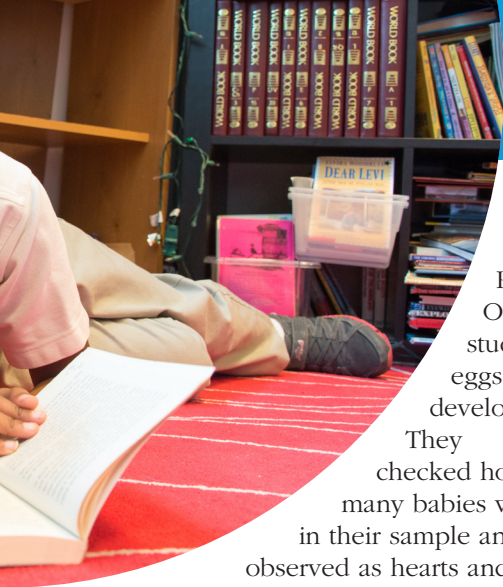


InPosse: We continued our work with the engineering group InPosse. They came in to every classroom for several visits, teaching about different types of engineering and engineering careers, and guiding students through age-appropriate engineering-related problem solving. Their visits culminated with a tour of our building,



exploring the structural features that help make it work. They also presented an Engineering Day, where we explored designing the most effective bubble wand, lifting using levers and pulleys, balancing, and even a little chemistry, mixing materials to make a slime to play with.

OUR PROGRAMS



BioEyes: Fourth Grade was visited by Penn's BioEyes Program. Over several weeks, students watched as fish eggs grew and developed. They checked how many babies were in their sample and observed as hearts and brains appeared.



ARTS

James Dupree: This year's winter concert featured a collaboration between our art and music teachers, focusing in particular on African-American art. Students performed music and dance inspired by different artists and movements in American art history. Our Second Graders even visited the studio of local artist and musician James Dupree.



Magic Gardens: First Grade continued its tradition of visiting Philadelphia's iconic Magic Gardens. This unique site gave the class a chance to learn about the artistic process, as well as to explore its structure and countless details. Experiencing such unique stimuli is essential to the growth of students' creative thinking, in the arts and beyond.



Readers' Theatre: Tied to our Continent Fair theme of South America, Second Grade presented The Great Kapok Tree. This readers' theatre presentation told the story of a tree in the Amazon Rainforest of Brazil. Students did voice-overs, used shadow puppets and performed as different animals living in and around the tree.



Morris Arboretum: We enriched our Science curriculum this year through our continued partnership with the University of Pennsylvania's Morris Arboretum. These trips taught our students about trees, leaves, roots, soil, erosion and other related biological and ecological topics. It also offered them another chance to experience new and stimulating terrain.



Delaware Children's Museum Earth Balloon:

This year we got to see the world from a new perspective, thanks to the Delaware Children's Museum Earth Balloon. This 19-foot balloon had a detailed map of the world inside and out. We saw where Philadelphia and the United States stood in relation to the rest of the world, and understood how vast this planet truly is. This great opportunity was brought to us by our friends at The Children's Scholarship Fund.



Violin (Temple University Boyer College of Music): Temple grad Liv Gusmano was back for a third year to teach and practice violin with a select group of motivated students. The program culminated with a Community Meeting performance. The new students demonstrated practice techniques while returning students performed songs they composed about wintertime.

Fabric Workshop Museum:



Teachers from the museum visited CPS over several weeks to discuss how ideas can be visually represented. They then guided our 5th grade students to design an emblem for a flag inspired by the Three C's; Curiosity, Courage and Compassion. The lessons culminated with a trip to the Museum where the students screen printed their design onto a flag.

Kulu Mele African Drum and Dance Ensemble:

For the third year, CPS Third and Fourth Grades teamed up with dancers from the Kulu Mele African Dance and Drum Ensemble. The Third Graders learned a hip-hop routine with Edward Smallwood, a dancer and drummer for the company. The Fourth Grade learned a West African dance, and a short song, with company member Ama Schley. It has been a great pleasure to see the students grow in confidence and deepen their knowledge of the African roots of popular culture.

Cooking Class: CPS Fifth Graders once again participated in the My Daughter's Kitchen program. Those who joined this after school activity learned knife and kitchen skills,



meal preparation and other valuable lessons. In addition, they served and sampled the wide variety of healthy meals and snacks they worked on. This was all brought to us by The Vetri Foundation and Maureen Fitzgerald, the food editor of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

5th Grade Play: Susan

LaPalombara returned to guide our Fifth Graders through the process of conceiving, writing, and performing a play. The play, entitled *Pay It Forward*, explored aspects of our social-emotional curriculum. Students performed in multiple vignettes depicting how small positive choices can create chain reactions, and make a big difference in the quality of our lives.

Special CPS Events

Celebrate CPS 2017: This year's annual event honored the incomparable Carolyn Korman Jacobs with a celebration matching her energy and devotion to CPS. The evening kicked off with a performance from the CPS Select Choir, and our host, NBC10's Aundrea Cline-Thomas, helped set the tone for this dynamic night. Jocelyn Hillman, CPS Board Chair, did the math and shared with all our guests that Carolyn has dedicated over 900 hours to CPS in the past decade, touching the lives of 164 students and families, and taking her place as a colorful patch on the CPS quilt. Guests were also treated to heartfelt testimonials from alumni siblings Sena and Viyon Houessou-Adin about how their time at CPS prepared them for Springside Chestnut Hill and Germantown Academy, respectively. The evening



ended with a record-breaking live auction with help from the volunteer firefighters of Wyndmoor Hose Co. #1. Overall, the Celebration was an incredible success!

Gerald Henderson Charity Golf Invitational: CPS

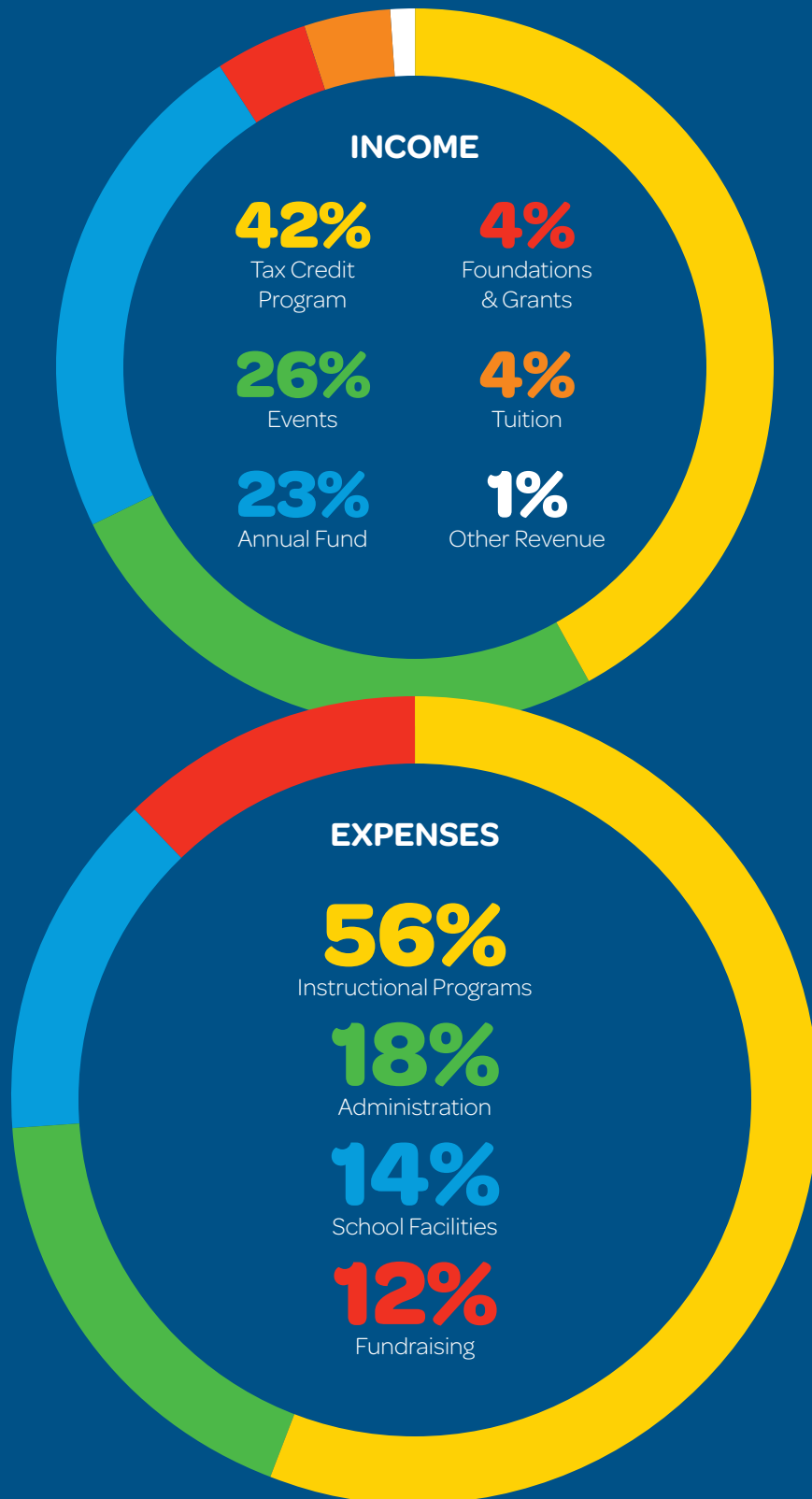


was honored to partner with the Henderson family for the 4th Annual Gerald Henderson Charity Golf Invitational. This partnership marks the first time the event was held in Philadelphia, Gerald Henderson's hometown. The

Invitational weekend teed off with a basketball clinic, where CPS students learned the fundamentals from star college and NBA players. The weekend continued with the Green Carpet Kickoff Party, where guests were treated to musical and mentalist performances. Gerald Henderson presented a very generous donation to CPS. The Invitational got into full swing on Monday, July 31st at Green Valley Country Club. Over 100 golfers enjoyed a beautiful day on the course, with a luncheon honoring Lisa Thomas-Laury held that afternoon. Gerald Henderson, Jr. reflected on the event, saying "We were thrilled to give back to this amazing organization and to the great kids who attend CPS. We're already looking forward to next year and continuing to make this event bigger and better."

2017 FINANCIALS

Annual Operating Fund: \$1.91 million in income and \$1.80 million in expenses



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\$50,000+

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Donor list reflects contributions of \$100 and above received between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017. We apologize for any errors or omissions.



Congratulations to the 5th grade graduating class of 2017!

We are proud of what this class of students has accomplished, and look forward to following their successes as they continue on to their respective middle schools. Through our Alumni Program, these students will receive support long after fifth grade. Our alums are provided with the opportunity to remain connected to one another and the school, which provides a network of support. Some of these support services include individual counseling around transition to middle school, collaboration with their new schools, enrichment opportunities, and social gatherings for students and families.



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ARTS & SCIENCES

100% OF THE 5TH-GRADE CLASS
WERE ACCEPTED TO
ADMISSION-BASED SCHOOLS
AND HAD A MINIMUM OF THREE SCHOOLS TO CHOOSE FROM.

Alumni Highlights this Year Include:

- 1 Our first class of graduates, the Class of 2011, will be ready to head to college at the end of the upcoming school year.
- 2 The Alumni Program held a High School Workshop, two Alumni Socials and three Alumni Parent Homework Workshops.
- 3 Conducted school visits to connect with of our alumni and track their academic progress.
- 4 Coordinated paid internships for alumni in high school.
- 5 Sena Houessou-Adin (2012) addressed the class of 2017 during commencement, discussing her journey at CPS and the impact it has made in her life. Sena is an honor student and soccer MVP at Springside Chestnut Hill. She also spoke at the luncheon honoring Lisa Thomas-Laury during the Gerald Henderson Charity Golf Invitational and with her brother Viyon (2014) who attends Germantown Academy, at Celebrate CPS in April.

