A New Mission & Vision

In 2019, as our national organization approached its 25th anniversary, we took the time to step back and reflect on the work we have accomplished over the past quarter-century and look forward to the future. Nothing remains static over 25 years—neither people nor organizations. Thankfully, we have learned a lot over these years and recently took the opportunity to reflect on who we are as an organization and how we have grown and evolved. As a result, in partnership with our national organization, we have updated our mission and vision to better represent the diversity and richness of our community and our shared goals for the future.

Our Vision

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

We envision a world where our students are truly free—free from stereotypes, free from preconceived notions, and free to collaborate with their families, peers, and neighbors to design the future together. In this world, our students will be able to thrive without limitations.

Our Mission

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

We strive to partner with our families and communities as we continue to grow. However, in the past, KIPP has not always partnered with the communities in which our schools are located. We believe that joy and love must be central to our work because those emotions build connection and motivation for students. Finally, we know that if we want our students to be the empowered leaders of tomorrow, then we need to honor their voices and choices once they leave our classrooms. We want to stand with and support them as they pursue their lives and improve our world.

Dear KIPP Friends,

At the age of 12, I immigrated to the United States. As my family and I adapted to our new American life, school was always a central part of my world. I looked to school to build connections with friends and teachers, explore new ideas, and develop skills and habits that would provide me the freedom to pursue a life of choice. After 22 years in education and eight years as the Executive Director of KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools, I still believe that schools should be a place of connection, a place to explore, and a place that empowers all students to grow up free. KIPP Metro Atlanta students, teachers, staff, parents, and partners work together every day to create that vision and I could not be more proud of the way our organization has responded to the most challenging year we have ever experienced.

As 2020 comes to a close, I continue to be incredibly grateful for all of our partners who have helped us build and grow this organization over the past 18 years. The 2019-20 school year saw the opening of our 10th school—KIPP Woodson Park Academy—and we happily welcomed more than 600 students and their families into our KIPP family. This school also marked the first time in our organization’s history when we have partnered with Atlanta Public Schools to assume operation of a traditional neighborhood school and we are very proud of the work we collectively did to successfully launch this school with our KIPP model. As I write this letter, we have also opened our 11th school, KIPP Soul Academy, and we now educate more than 5,100 students in grades K-12 and continue to support more than 900 college-aged alumni.

This year, 2020, will be remembered as a year of combatting dual pandemics. The COVID-19 global pandemic forced us to close our physical school buildings on March 13, cancel all state tests, and pivot to redefine the way we educate our students. While this means our report will not contain our traditional academic results from state testing, I am excited to use this space to share how our team stepped up to the challenge and developed innovative ways to maintain connection and academic excellence in this very new world. The other pandemic, which truthfully has plagued our country for centuries, awakened our country to challenges of systemic racism that our students, families, and staff face daily. As an organization committed to building a better tomorrow, this moment requires us to not just stand by, but stand up and demand that our communities, our leaders, and our country take action to combat racism. In this report, you will learn a bit about how we have started this work and our plans to continue it in the years to come.

I will close by sharing that we have adopted a new mission and vision as we enter this new decade of work and now proudly proclaim that we desire for “every child to grow up free to create the future they want for themselves and their communities.” Education is freedom. Education is empowerment and we are acutely aware of our responsibility to prepare our students so that they will not just grow up in a more just world, but they will be the designers and builders who ensure justice thrives.

I hope that this message finds you and your loved ones well. On behalf of our students, families, and staff, thank you for being part of our KIPP family, and thank you for partnering with us to create joyful, academically excellent schools.

With gratitude,

Kinnari Patel-Smyth
Executive Director, KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools
Distance Learning & Our COVID-19 Response

On March 13, 2020, our schools temporarily closed their doors due to the COVID-19 global pandemic. The unprecedented impact of COVID-19 caused schools around the world to quickly shift their in-person classrooms into a virtual learning experience. Within weeks, and without visibility into how long virtual learning would last, KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools transitioned into a virtual educational organization.

COVID-19 exposed and highlighted the disparities in healthcare access and education that have persisted for generations. We have all seen how COVID-19, layered on top of these disparities, has negatively affected communities of color disproportionately. We strategized, collaborated, and sought feedback from our families and staff to ensure the academic development and the health of our students remained at the forefront of every decision we made.

Across our schools, our Team and Family acquired new skills as we navigated through this new reality. As COVID-19 cases rose rapidly around the world and everyone did their best to #stayathome and #stopthespread, the commitment of our school staff and leaders was steadfast. We saw the creative and innovative ways that our teachers maintained engagement with students through digital learning programs and social media.

As we adjusted to our new way of learning, we also had to reimagine our spring celebrations. Typically, as the school year comes to a close, many of our students are celebrating important milestones and our high school seniors are enjoying once-in-a-lifetime events such as prom, graduation, and our highly anticipated annual College Signing Day. Although these in-person events were not able to happen in their traditional form, we planned socially-distanced wave parades, bridging ceremonies, and even a virtual College Signing Day.

The COVID-19 pandemic reminded us all that we are not only a KIPP Team and Family, but part of a much larger local, national, and global community, and that it will require love, compassion, and support from each of us to get through this ongoing pandemic.

From meal assistance to technology distribution, we ensured our 4,600 students and more than 800 alumni in colleges and universities across the nation had the resources and support needed to continue learning from home.

As we continue to learn the vast effects of COVID-19 on education, we are committed to maintaining our promise to our students and families: joyful and academically excellent schools – whether we are together in person or together from afar.

“As a parent who is also an educator, I can’t praise KIPP enough for maintaining all aspects of the academic development of my boys. KIPP has continued to keep the needs of the families FIRST. The recent adjustment in the schedule let me know that the completion of the weekly surveys was not done in vain. I appreciate the recognition of the need for more than one time for school. Even in distance learning it feels like KIPP has still created a culture/climate that is addressing the whole child.”

- DeVona J. Roberts, KIPP WAYS Primary School Parent

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- DeVona J. Roberts, KIPP WAYS Primary School Parent
As the world has navigated the COVID-19 pandemic, our country has been grappling with another pre-existing pandemic—racism. As an educational organization with a nearly 100% Black student and staff population, the racial inequities that exist in our society directly impact our KIPP Metro Atlanta community.

Racism has been a part of our country since its inception. Beginning with 200 years of slavery to Jim Crow laws that legalized racial segregation in the south, and now the "new Jim Crow" which includes biased policing and disproportionate prison sentences and mass incarceration rates for Black and Brown people—racism and white supremacy are pervasive and entrenched in our society. Racism also shows up outside the criminal justice system, including but not limited to our education, housing, and financial sectors.

The senseless and unjust deaths of Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, and Rayshard Brooks sparked a wave of protests around the country. In response to these recent injustices, our community held a Justice for Black Lives peaceful protest over the summer. Organized by our alumni and team members, our community safely convened to make our voices heard. We declared that we will not stand idle while Black people continue to be oppressed due to systemic racism.

The Black Lives Matter global movement "aims to build power to bring justice, healing, and freedom to Black people across the globe." KIPP Metro Atlanta stands in solidarity with Black Lives Matter and recognizes that in order to bring this vision to life, it will require the staunch allyship of our non-Black supporters.

As an organization, we strongly believe that it’s not enough to be non-racist—we all have to be anti-racist.

In partnership with our students, staff, and families, we are dedicated to galvanizing our community through voting initiatives and other forms of civic engagement. Additionally, we are committed to ensuring that equity lives in all parts of our organization through our Racial Equity Vision:

- **We lead for equity:** Our beliefs, our words, and our actions disrupt oppression.
- **We design for equity:** Our creations and decisions bring the most excluded to the center.
- **We include for equity:** Our interactions leverage individual gifts and thread our community together.

KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools stands firm in its position as an anti-racist organization and we are committed to empowering our students, alumni, and staff to use their voices to fight for social justice. We will continue to demand justice for Black lives and strive for a better, more equitable world for our students and community.

"It is very important for our KIPP Metro Atlanta community to rally behind racial justice and equality, especially considering that KIPP serves the demographic being persecuted. As an alumnus, I was very excited to see so many generations of KIPP stand together on the same principles we’ve all learned at KIPP: unity, teamwork, and purpose. This work is essential to the fight for inequality and racial injustice affecting all students, teachers, and alumni.”

- Cameron Franklin, KIPP Atlanta Collegiate Alumnus, Howard University class of 2021, and President of the KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools Alumni Association

"The literacy practices we use to teach our students go beyond academic standards; they extend into advocacy and activism because we are also charged with teaching our students how to read their world. It was encouraging to witness KIPP Metro Atlanta use its power and influence to mobilize the community in protest for the eradication of white supremacist ideals, racism, and injustice over the summer. I’m hopeful that this evolving consciousness extends into the curricula and policies that most directly impact our students’ desire and ability to know and love themselves.”

- Charles Peters, AP Language and Composition Teacher, KIPP Atlanta Collegiate High School
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all state testing was canceled for the 2019-20 school year and therefore the traditional data we share around the Georgia Milestones and CCRPI results are not available. However, we are excited to share our graduation results from our class of 2020 below.

**KIPP Atlanta Collegiate Class of 2020 Graduation Rate**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KIPP Metro Atlanta</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlanta Public Schools</td>
<td>84%</td>
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<tr>
<td>State of Georgia</td>
<td>80%</td>
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</tbody>
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**Class of 2020 College Acceptances**

Our KIPP Atlanta Collegiate and KIPP Metro Atlanta middle school alumni from the class of 2020 were accepted into a number of competitive colleges and universities across the country. Below are some of the colleges and universities our class of 2020 high school graduates were accepted into and/or are attending this fall:

- Alabama A&M University
- Alabama State University
- ASA College (Miami)
- Atlanta Technical College
- Augusta University
- Berklee College Of Music
- Bethune-Cookman University
- Case Western Reserve University
- Clark Atlanta University
- Clayton State University
- Colgate University
- The College of Wooster
- Columbus State University
- Dillard University
- East Tennessee State University
- Fisk University
- Fort Valley State University
- Georgia College & State University
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Georgia Southern University
- Georgia Southwestern State University
- Georgia State University
- Great Lakes Christian College
- Harvard University
- Haverford College
- Howard University
- Johns Hopkins University
- Kennesaw State University
- Livingstone College
- Louisiana State University
- Marymount Manhattan College
- Mercer University
- Miami University
- Middle Tennessee State University
- Montclair State University
- Morehouse College
- North Carolina A&T State University
- Oberlin College
- Perimeter College
- Ringling College of Art and Design
- SAE Institute of Technology Nashville
- Savannah State University
- Savannah College of Art and Design
- Spelman College
- Stetson University
- Syracuse University
- Tennessee State University
- Tulane University
- Tuskegee University
- University of Georgia
- University of Kentucky
- University of New Mexico
- University of Notre Dame
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Richmond
- University of West Georgia
- Valdosta State University
- Washington University in St. Louis
- Warren Wilson College
- Winthrop University
- Xavier University of Louisiana
- Yale University
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KIPP METRO ATLANTA SCHOOLS would like to thank our donors who are committed to the growth, quality, and success of our schools, and who share our belief that great education transforms lives. We are grateful for your generosity and support of our students and alumni.

Thank You to Our Donors

Thank You to Our Donors

INDIVIDUALS

Christopher Adams Jeff Allsaye Linda Adams Nicholas Alton J. Donald Alexander John Alexander Mary Clare and Douglas Jon Ayme Kristen Anderson Anonymous Anonymous Jacqueline Arnett Joseph and Renee Arnold James Argolo

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Reta Boog Jim and Edith Bostic Adam Brehm Trevor Bristain Kathleen and Morris Brown Amy Bryson Fred and Sara Jean Burke Gayne Burnett Bethany Busby Fred and Gayn Byars Ben Calazza Leslie Callahan Hector and Colleen Calzada

Pacific Credit Group Alex Carrier Kelly Carter Elizabeth F. Case Grace and David Cassi Grace and Melissa Alexander Chambers Hwag-mei and Chiu Shan Chang Sidney and Don Childress H. Malcolm Clark Patricia Coad

David and Robyn Cole Reva Collier Kelly Compton Mike and Nicole Cook Austin Cooper Kelly Costigan Julian Cowart Benjamin Cox Richard Cox Nikki Crutchfield Brady Curvey Josh D’Agosta Yvonne Daniel Bruce Daniels Nyanji Davis Rick Duane Timothy DelBueyre Elaine and Charles Dinoso Charlotte B. Donson and David Dolphon Tom and Ashley Dobbelskia Torane Durdan and C.C. Williams Barbora Edkin Corinne Edkin Jake and Emily Edens Duncan Edwards Peter Eldridge Ian Else Michael Erschler Gina and RaChel Ford Rebecca Fouche Britnie Franklin Alex and Natalie Fraser Emily Frohman Mike and Sally Gaburo Monica Gardner Christopher Garnett Adam Gerome Joseph George David and Whitney Gerken Kristin Geren Kevin Gillin Josh Glavich Keke Gray Frank and Nancy Glover Steve and Kathryn Goldie Lori Goldenberg Joseph Gongrudi Amy Gongraf Brian Minnedine Green Alan and Carol Grodin Jeffrey C. Grooman and Nancy Griebitz Robert Hahn and Stephen Hahn Howard Lee Sauer Luz and James Hall

Larry and Vickie Hamilton Teodolinda Sanchez Hayner Jefferson and Christy Hamilton Lauren and Louis Harris Sidney and Mary Harris Tamika Harris Aanya and John Hendrick Aariel Lincoln Hayner Amanda Houston Hines


Alan and Amie Lang Jessica Lanier Ships and Sonjiyy Laskar Brian and Kari Mylward

Brayton Norwood C. Kendi and Ashani O’Malley Maureen O’Brien Adesine Ojoo John Oyekoko Lauren Palotta Stephanie Parker Brian and Kari Mylward


Kendra Koffler Laura Komarek Maarten Konig Carita Reynolds Allison Ratajczak

Rachelle Petusky Gregory Peay

Kinnari Patel-Smyth and John Owings Maureen O’Reilly C. Kendi and Ashani O’Malley


2020 ANNUAL REPORT | TO BUILD A MORE JUST WORLD
**KIPP Metro Atlanta Board of Directors**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title/Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>Joe Arnold</td>
<td>Chairman</td>
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<td>Tom Avery</td>
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<td>Jim Bostic</td>
<td>Managing Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathe Brown*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gayle Burnett</td>
<td>Founder</td>
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<td>Hector Calzada</td>
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<td>Sidney Childress</td>
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<td>Rick Deane</td>
<td>Partner-in-Charge</td>
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<td>Charlotte Dixon*</td>
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<td>Mike Gaburo</td>
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<td>Frank Glover</td>
<td>Senior Director of Retirement Investments</td>
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<td>Dr. Dawn Beatrice Griffin</td>
<td>Health Communications Specialist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sid Harris*</td>
<td>Professor and Dean Emeritus</td>
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<td>Craig Jones*</td>
<td>Retired Chief Investment Officer</td>
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<td>Dennis Love</td>
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<tr>
<td>W. E. &quot;Chris&quot; Lowe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catherine Mealor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marni Mohr*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stacey Mohr</td>
<td>Partner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tom Pritchard*</td>
<td>President</td>
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<tr>
<td>JaKathryn Ross</td>
<td>Senior Director of Community Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deborah Sudbury</td>
<td>Partner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jack Ward*</td>
<td>Retired Chairman and Chief Executive Officer</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Denotes Honorary Director

KIPPMetro Atlanta Schools is part of a national network of public charter schools that has a 26-year track record of preparing students for success in college and life.

There are 256 KIPP schools in 50 communities across the country educating more than 100,000 students. We believe that excellent academics, joyful and safe schools, empowered teachers, and support through college are the foundation that will help all students reach their full potential.