A Message from Michael Cristal, Board Chair of Breakthrough Schools

Now in its fourth year as a network, Breakthrough Schools continues to prove that every child can learn and succeed when in the right environment. In the 2013-2014 school year, the network’s nine schools provided a beacon of hope for each neighborhood that they serve and educated over 2,500 students. As we continue to grow, we are seeing that our students’ achievements and the growth of the network as a whole will be even greater.

Over the past year, the network worked together to explore the question: Who is Breakthrough? After collecting input from staff, board members, and families, we cogitated the answer and formed a better understanding of who we are as an organization. Today, the network lives within a new mission and vision, as well as a new set of values and key strategic initiatives.

As Board Chair, I am proud to have had a part in leading Breakthrough through not only another school year, but also network-wide growth and progress. All around the network, positive change is in the air. Each day, we are learning how to work together in new ways, engage and connect with our community partners, and serve more students across Northeast Ohio. Each day, we move closer to our collective vision of changing our community through education.

A Message from Mike Merriman, Board Chair of Friends of Breakthrough

As Chair of the Friends of Breakthrough Board of Directors, I would like to thank over 1,000 donors and over 800 new friends and volunteers, all of whom have made an astounding impact on the organization this past year. It is because of your support that the Breakthrough Schools network can continue to fulfill its mission to prepare Cleveland area students for success in life.

Over the last year, the network has grown in many aspects. In 2013-2014, we provided over 2,500 students across nine schools with a college preparatory education. To effectively serve these students, we hired more high-quality teachers, school administration, and network support staff. Friends of Breakthrough held more events than ever before to introduce the network to the community and raise funds directly to support the schools.

There was one common theme throughout the entire network last year. The Breakthrough team was moved by the idea of taking small steps to achieve something larger. By preparing to open our tenth school, we took one step closer to achieving our goal of serving over 6,000 students by 2019. By working more closely with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, Cleveland was just recently recognized as a Gates Compact City by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. And by proving ourselves as a high-quality charter operator, our Chief Executive Officer, Alan Rosskamm, was invited as only one of two charters to testify before the Congressional Committee on Education and the Workforce at their hearing, “Raising the Bar: The Role of Charter Schools in K-12 Education.” Together, these smaller steps create an enormous footprint and cause a greater impact. Friends, families, donors, and volunteers — please know that you are a valued and essential part of this footprint.

I hope you will join us in the coming year as we continue to take more important steps to create a broader and deeper footprint, serving more students and having an even greater impact on the city of Cleveland.

In its third year, Friends of Breakthrough once again provided the philanthropic support necessary for the Breakthrough Schools network. Friends of Breakthrough began Fiscal Year 2014 ready to raise $4.4 million to close the per pupil funding gap caused by the inequitable funding of high-quality public charter schools. Friends of Breakthrough also worked towards its new school development initiative, which will provide funds for the network’s future facilities to house the next nine schools by 2020.

With the generous support of our over 1,000 donors, Breakthrough Schools achieved the following in 2013-2014:

- Grew our student base from nearly 2,000 to over 2,500 across nine schools.
- In the 2014-2015 school year, the network is serving nearly 3,100 students!
- Completed renovation work on five buildings housing six schools to increase capacity and create a better learning environment for our students.
- Gathered input from staff, board members, and families to redefine our mission, vision, values, and key strategic initiatives for the next five years.
- Prepared for the opening of Lakeshore Intergenerational School, the tenth Breakthrough school in the network.
- Maintained a record of high student achievement, as Breakthrough continues to be one of the highest-performing charter school networks in Ohio for the fourth consecutive year.
- Closed Ohio’s 19 percentage point achievement gap between African American students and the state average.
- Graduated 210 eighth graders from our four middle schools.
- Both Entrepreneurship Preparatory Woodland Hills and Citizens Leadership Academy celebrated their first classes of graduates in 2014!
- Attracted national attention, specifically from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and worked closely with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District to have Cleveland recognized as a Gates Compact City.

Through the network’s fundraising events, the engagement and cultivation of new and repeat individual and corporate donors, and an aggressive grant-seeking and major gifts plan, Friends of Breakthrough is proud to have met the network’s operating and capital needs in 2013-2014.
A Message from Michael Cristal, Board Chair of Breakthrough Schools

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Over the past year, Friends of Breakthrough has increased its level of state and federal advocacy to protect the interests of high-quality charter management organizations and advocate for legislation favorable to equitable state funding.

Breakthrough Schools is proud to have had the opportunity to represent all high-quality charter schools to the United States House of Representatives. In March, Breakthrough was honored to be one of five witnesses invited and one of only two charter operators testifying before the Committee on Education and the Workforce at their hearing, “Raising the Bar: The Role of Charter Schools in K-12 Education.” Alan Rosskamm testified side by side with the board chairs of the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools, the National Association of Charter School Authorizers, and others.

Friends of Breakthrough introduced over 800 new friends to Breakthrough Schools in 2013-2014. Through 75 school tours and cultivation events, Friends of Breakthrough engaged hundreds of community members to volunteer in our schools or donate to the network.

The Entrepreneurs EDGE invited business and civic leaders from Northeast Ohio for a day of fun and mentoring with students from the Entrepreneurship Preparatory Schools. Students and local business leaders met at Progressive Field to watch the Cleveland Indians take on the Detroit Tigers. An E Prep student even threw the first pitch!

Congressman Renacci Visits Woodland Hills
Congressman Jim Renacci visited the E Prep and Village Prep Woodland Hills campus and met with teachers, staff, and scholars. Middle school scholars were participating in a career day, and the Congressman was more than happy to join in on the fun. The scholars were interested and excited to learn about the path to becoming a legislator.

A day at the ballpark with The Entrepreneurs EDGE
An E Prep student throws out the first pitch!
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Mr. Rosskamm

Advocate

Volunteer

A day at the ballpark with The Entrepreneurs EDGE
The Garg Family

Breakthrough Schools has many dedicated individuals and corporations that serve as volunteers or donors to the network. However, only a select number of families have such a tremendous impact through both their dedication of time and financial support. The Garg family is one of the select few that show great generosity and take a deep interest in the growth and success of Breakthrough students.

The Gargs have established scholarship funds for Breakthrough alumni at both St. Edward High School and Laurel School. Their daughter, an alumna of Laurel, and their son, an alumnus of St. Edward, provide academic assistance and mentor students through their high school experiences.

The Garg family also influences members of their community to volunteer with the network. Through the Federation of India Community Affairs (FICA), Shiksha Daan is an initiative to actively involve the Indian community and support the education of Greater Cleveland youth. In the 2013-2014 school year, the group spent over 120 hours tutoring or mentoring Breakthrough students.

Donor/Volunteer Spotlight

Breakthrough BASH 2014

The 3rd annual Breakthrough BASH, held at the Global Center for Health Innovation & Convention Center, raised over $380,000 for the Breakthrough network. Over 700 guests took part in the celebration highlighting Today’s Learners – Tomorrow’s Leaders. The event honored the Saint Luke’s Foundation and Denise San Antonio Zeman, President & CEO of the Foundation at the time. The event was proudly supported by The Haslam 3 Foundation.

Superhero Flyby 5k

Friends of Breakthrough’s inaugural Superhero Flyby 5k was fun for the whole family and raised funds for the greatest superpower of all — education! Participants ran or walked the streets of Ohio City in their best superhero costumes. Friends of Breakthrough partnered with local young professionals to raise awareness about the event and Breakthrough Schools.

Swing for the Stars - 3rd Annual Golf Outing

Held at the Mayfield Sand Ridge Club in September 2013, the Swing for the Stars 3rd Annual Golf Outing was a great success with over 100 participants. Friends of Breakthrough congratulated Don Hayes, Scott Berlin, Eric Graef and Mike Shiplett, representing Wells Fargo, for placing first among all of the teams. The outing, sponsored by Baker Hostetler, raised over $38,000 for our schools.

The Breakthrough Through College program directly supports the network’s middle school students and network alumni, hoping to impact success in high school, college, and life beyond. Managed by only two staff members, the program currently serves Breakthrough’s eighth-grade students, alumni in high school, and alumni in their first and second years of college.

In the 2013-2014 school year, Through College served 555 students. The program provided assistance to students preparing for high school, support for graduates enrolled in high school, and resources for students in college.

In May 2014, 210 eighth-grade students graduated from Breakthrough across four schools. These students are moving on to some of the top high schools in the area, including: Bard High School Early College, Beaumont, Benedictine, Cleveland Central Catholic, Cleveland School of the Arts, Design Lab Early College, Gilmour Academy, Ginn Academy, Hawken, John Hay Science and Medicine, John Hay Architecture and Design, John Hay Early College, MC2STEM, Montessori, Saint Edward High School, Saint Ignatius, Saint Martin de Porres, Trinity, and University School.

Of the students that Breakthrough was able to track in its first graduating class, 81% were accepted to and attended college. Of those Breakthrough was able to track in the second graduating class, 61% are currently enrolled in college.

Other students were accepted, but many did not attend college for a variety of reasons including financial constraints. Though our network aims to achieve greater results, the current national average for low income college enrollment stands at 45%.

Breakthrough alumni are currently enrolled in the following colleges:

- Hampton University
- Howard University
- University of Mount Union
- Ohio Northern University
- Wittenberg University
- Tuskegee University
- Bowling Green State University
- Cleveland State University
- Cuyahoga Community College
- University of Akron
- University of Toledo
- Eastern Michigan University
- Baldwin Wallace
- Youngstown State
- Clark Atlanta
- Ohio University
- Kent State University
- University of Cincinnati
- Xavier University
- The Ohio State University
- Thiel College

Breakthrough Through College
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Dear Friends,

On behalf of our students, teachers, and staff, we thank our 2013-2014 donors for their generous support of our growing network of high-quality, college preparatory schools. Because of their visionary support, Breakthrough Schools is providing a brighter future for Cleveland’s children and transforming education in our city.

In Fiscal Year 2015, I’m looking forward to strengthening these relationships, introducing more supporters to the network, and meeting all of our funding needs to once again fully serve our schools.

Now in our fifth year as a network, Breakthrough Schools are continuing to weave into the fabric of Cleveland. Through quality education, Breakthrough Schools is building a strong foundation for the future of our city.

We are working hand in hand with Columbus and Washington, DC to educate legislators on our outstanding results and our needs as a network. Moving forward, both accountable funding for high-quality charter schools and assistance with facilities are crucial. When our financial needs are met, we are better able to focus on our schools and effectively serve our students.

Breakthrough Schools is fortunate to have so many friends and supporters in the community. Through our 2013-2014 donors for our schools, we are able to meet all of our funding needs to once again fully serve our schools.

If you were a donor between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014 and do not see your name listed, I apologize. Please let me know and I will see to it that we correct our oversight.

Thank you for supporting our network, our schools, and our students.

John Zitzner
President, Friends of Breakthrough Schools
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Looking back on Fiscal Year 2014, I am so proud of how much this organization has grown. From 2012-2013 to the 2013-2014 school year, we added nearly 600 students within our nine schools. In the current school year, we have added another 600 Cleveland children and provide them with the high-quality education they deserve.

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On behalf of our...
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Tom and Susan Ault
Teresa and Martin Arndt
Thomas and Susan Aronson
Brenda and Chris Aronson
Brendan and Mary Aronson
David Aronson
Ari Aronson
David Aronson Jr.
Brian Aronson
Alex Aronson
Eli Aronson
Kevin Aronson
Andrew Aronson
Matthew Aronson
Robert Aronson
Katherine Aronson
Stephen Aronson
Leila Aslani
Richard Aslani
Jill Autrup
Evan Austin
Margaret Austin
Clare Austin
Jessica Austin
Will Austin
Barbara Austin
Lisa Austin
Mark Austin
James Austin
Katie Austin
Sam Austin
Sara Austin
David Auerbach
Andrew Auerbach
Sara Auerbach
Nancy Auerbach
Kate Auerbach
Michael Auerbach
Robert Auerbach
Sarah Auerbach
Peter Auerbach
Mary Auerbach
Stefanie Averill
Ryan Averill
Cathryn Averill
Anne Averill
Alex Averill
Washington Avenue
William Averill
Sarah Averill
Kathleen Averill
Robert Averill
Linda Averill
James Averill
Kurt Averill
James Averill Jr.
Eric Averill
Karen Averill
Gregory Averill
manda Averill
Amy Averill
Gadi Averill
David Averill
Jennifer Averill
Robert Averill
David Averill Jr.
Kimberly Averill
Robert Averill
David Averill
Jennifer Averill
Robert Averill
Amanda Averill
Amy Averill
Gadi Averill
David Averill
Jennifer Averill
Robert Averill
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Jennifer Averill
Robert Averill
Gadi Averill
David Averill
Jennifer Averill
Robert Averill

Now, we look forward to achieving what we have so far. Laughter, cried, and worked hard to move into the students we are today. The school has helped cultivate and mold us with the foundation and making a mark on the world days of school, late nights of homework, and a few detentions where the statement “giving up” was not permitted. From the long days of school, late nights of homework, and tournaments, the school has helped cultivate and mold us into the students we are today. We laughed, cried, and worked hard to achieve what we have so far. Now, we look forward to making a mark on the world with the foundation and fundamentals E Prep has instilled in us.

Najwa
“My school taught me that I should believe in myself and respect others. I have become a very strong-willed person, speaking my mind and pursuing the skills needed for a career in Art and Design. My school taught me that it takes determination to go where you want to go and how to make the things you dream about become a reality. Lastly, I learned that I should never let a bad situation determine my future. I am greater than a label.”

Stanley
“E Prep was an experience like never before. It was a place of love, culture, and achievement. A place where the statement “giving up” was not permitted. From the long days of school, late nights of homework, and a few detentions and homework centers, the school has helped cultivate and mold us into the students we are today. We laughed, cried, and worked hard to achieve what we have so far. Now, we look forward to making a mark on the world with the foundation and fundamentals E Prep has instilled in us.”

Jalon
“You have to work for everything you want in life. If I didn’t go to Breakthrough school, who knows what position I would be in right now. Those three years showed me what hard work, dedication, and focus are. I now have the mindset that if I put my mind to it, I can conquer anything.”

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Friends of Breakthrough Schools - Philanthropy by Source

From Fiscal Year 2014

Audited Financials

INCOME

Philanthropy and Grant Revenues $7,137,503
Rental Income 2,305,549
Other 13,427,702
TOTAL INCOME $9,522,615

EXPENSE

Program Related 5,317,612
Administrative 446,803
Depreciation and Interest 562,276
Development 219,768
TOTAL EXPENSE 5,594,469

Retained for Growth Initiatives 14,566,956

*Includes Pledges Receivable 14,566,956

5% Institutions and Family Foundations 31%
17% Corporations 17% Foundations 43%
8% Federal Discretionary Grant 1%
8% Events 8%

Board of Directors for Friends of Breakthrough Schools - 2014

Andrew Kline
Principal and Managing Director, Chase Properties, LTD

William Kocher
Community Volunteer

Kevin Kuhn
Kuhn Family Foundation

John LaMay
Partner, Blue Point Capital Partners

David Lowman
President, USD5

Mike Merriman
Advisor, Resilience Capital Partners

Breakthrough Charter Schools

Terry Nauck
Principal, Tia North Business Advisors

Jane Outsalt
Director, Interregional Resource Center

Richard Pace
President, Cumberland Development LLC

Peter Rone
Partner, Chief Business Development, Chief Public Companies, Umer & Berne

Peter Roth
Senior Vice President, Wells Fargo

Tom Rudbaugh
Partner, Strategic Federal Tax Services, Grant Thornton

John Sinnsenberg
Chairman, Cyprium Partners

Chris Sparos
President, CBIZ Financial Services

Ron Stepanovic
Partner, Baker Hostetler

William Virgilengass
Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder, Cardioxid Partners

Cary Zimmerman
Chief Legal and Compliance Officer, Credentials

John Zitner
President, Friends of Breakthrough Schools

Advisory Board

Jeannette Grasselli Brown
Director of Corporate Research, BP America (retired)

David Gunning
Vice Chairman, CWS Natural Resources, Incorporated (retired)

Walter Kalbrenner
Founder and President, EIXI Industries, Incorporated (retired)

John Sherwin Jr.
President, Mid-Continent Ventures, Incorporated

Board of Directors for Breakthrough Charter Schools - 2014

Michael Christal
Alumni President, EIB International Services Board Chair, Breakthrough Charter Schools

Leslie Dunn
EIB Partner, Jones Day

Mark Elliott
Chair, EIBDing Services LLC

Jen Grosman
Co-owner, National Safety Apparel

Paul Harris
Secretary and General Counsel, KeyCorp

Vicki Johnson
Senior Director of Community Relations, Cleveland Clinic

Dominic O’connor
President and Chief Executive Officer, Clancy Construction

Richard Pace
President, Cumberland Development LLC

End Rosenbach
Independent Non-Profit Organization Management Professional

John Sinnsenberg
Chairman, Cyprium Partners

Richard Zitner
President, Cumberland Development LLC

Philadelphia by Source

Friends of Breakthrough Schools

15% Institutions and Family Foundations 31%
17% Corporations 17% Foundations 43%
8% Federal Discretionary Grant 1%
8% Events 8%
Najwa
“My school taught me that I should believe in myself and respect others. I have become a very strong-willed person, speaking my mind and pursing the skills needed for a career in Art and Design. My school taught me that it takes determination to go where you want to go and how to make the things you dream about become a reality. Lastly, I learned that I should never let a bad situation determine my future. I am greater than a label!”

Stanley
“E Prep was an experience like never before. It was a place of love, culture, and achievement. A place where the statement “giving up” was not permitted. From the long days of school, late nights of homework, and a few detentions and homework centers, the school has helped cultivate and mold us into the students we are today. We laughed, cried, and worked hard to achieve what we have set out for. Now, we look forward to making a mark on the world with the foundation and fundamentals E Prep has instilled in us.”

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**Friends of Breakthrough Schools Philanthropy by Source**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Events</td>
<td>17%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Discretionary Grant</td>
<td>1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundations</td>
<td>31%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual and Family</td>
<td>43%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corporations</td>
<td>14%</td>
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**From Fiscal Year 2014 Audited Financials**

**INCOME**
- Philanthropy and Grant Revenues: $17,137,503
- Rental Income: $2,305,549
- Other: $79,563
- TOTAL INCOME: $19,522,615

**EXPENSE**
- Program Related: $5,726,812
- Administrative: $446,803
- Depreciation and Interest: $542,276
- Development: $219,768
- TOTAL EXPENSE: $6,955,699
- Retained for Growth Initiatives*: $4,566,956

*Includes Pledges Receivable $2,427,702

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**Advisory Board**
- Jeanette Grasselli Brown, Director of Corporate Research, BT America (retired)
- David Gunning, Vice Chairman, CIVC-Private Resources, Incorporated (retired)
- Walter Kalibauer, Founder and President, WEX Industries, Incorporated (retired)
- John Newlin Jr., President, Mid-Continents Ventures, Incorporated

**Board of Directors for Breakthrough Charter Schools – 2014**
- Michael Cristal
  - Alum Vice President, Alum International Services Board Chair: Breakthrough Charter Schools
- Leslie Dunn
  - Founding Partner, Jones Day
- Mark Elliott
  - Owner, Onboarding Services LLC
- Jan Grossman
  - Co-founder, National Safety Apparel
- Paul Harris
  - Secretary and General Counsel, KeyCorp
- Vickie Johnson
  - Senior Director of Community Relations, Cleveland Clinic
- Dominic Ossense
  - President and Chief Executive Officer, Ossense
- Michael Cristal
  - Chairman, CPC-Private Resources
- Ron Stepanovich
  - President, Baker Hostetler
- William Virgie-Long
  - Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder, Cleveland Foundations
- Cary Zimmerman
  - Chief Legal and Compliance Officer, Cleveland Foundations

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**Leadership**

- Najwa
- Stanley
- Jalon