

ABOUT US

Breakthrough Public Schools is a nonprofit charter management organization operating free, open to all, public charter schools in the city of Cleveland. We currently serve over 3,600 scholars across 12 schools serving grades K-8, all of which are located in high-need neighborhoods throughout Cleveland. It is Breakthrough's goal to ensure equitable access to high-quality education for all of our scholars. As an organization, we work hard to provide exceptional education options to Cleveland families that otherwise might not have access to high-quality seats in their neighborhood.

RESPONSE TO COVID-19

The last day of full in-class instruction for all Breakthrough Public Schools was March 13, 2020, due to mandated state-wide school closures as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Academic leadership created a plan and began distance learning for Breakthrough students on April 8. Students were given a device and assistance with gaining internet connectivity in their homes, including hotspots to those families in need. On average, 87% of Breakthrough students logged in to distance learning on a weekly basis for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

CLEVELAND COMMUNITIES

Each Breakthrough school is deliberately located in a Cleveland neighborhood that has historically been educationally underserved. Adding a high-quality school option to communities where the need is great allows Breakthrough to play a role in the revitalization of surrounding neighborhoods.

Since launching, Breakthrough has purchased, restored, and rehabilitated five closed Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) buildings; renovated an elevator factory in Tyler Village; revitalized a 130-year old former school





OUR MISSION

The mission of Breakthrough Public Schools is to develop a growing network of distinctive public school options that prepare Cleveland area students for success in life.

OUR VISION

Our long-term vision is to further Greater Cleveland's transformation by providing distinctive school options to thousands of Cleveland's K-8 students. Our work, in partnership with CMSD and others, will help the city reach a tipping point towards providing a high-quality education for all.

OUR STUDENTS

Breakthrough students are 98% minority and 70% are from low-income families. We are proud to offer the students of Cleveland high-quality education options in their neighborhoods.



OUR ALUMNI

Breakthrough Public Schools may end at 8th grade, but we aspire to have our students succeed in high school, college or post-secondary education, and their careers. Our graduating class of 2020 was offered over \$2,000,000 in scholarships from excellent private schools, both here in Cleveland and around the country. Some scholars received awards from multiple schools, and total scholarship dollars actually used was over \$1,650,000. Our Alumni Relations Department has been tasked with tracking high school and college data for all of our alumni.



OUR FUNDING

Public charter schools in Cleveland, and most of Ohio, receive less than two thirds of the per pupil funding that traditional district schools receive. We have been advocating for equitable public funding for 10 years, and we did see some progress with the establishment of a \$30 million statewide fund for high-performing charter schools. In addition to that, Friends of Breakthrough gains support from incredibly generous foundations, corporations, and individuals, which all help to bridge the funding gap that exists for our schools.



OUR GROWTH

The Breakthrough Public Schools network continues to grow and increase our student capacity as we add grade levels for our newest schools and increase enrollment at our more mature campuses. In 2019, Entrepreneurship Prep and Village Prep Willard began to fully serve grades K-8. Citizens Leadership Academy Southeast opened to serve 6th grade on our existing K-5 campus. Grade 7 was added in 2020 and grade 8 will be added in 2021. Breakthrough's Entrepreneurship Prep and Village Prep Woodland Hills campus will also continue to grow after its building addition is completed this year. To best meet the needs of the community, the Woodland Hills expansion will allow for additional 7th and 8th grade classrooms, as well as additional breakout spaces.