

Philadelphia School Partnership

2013 Annual Report





Progress in Philadelphia

Dear Partners,

When we formed the Philadelphia School Partnership in 2010, more than 60,000 students attended chronically failing schools—where fewer than a third of students read and do math on grade level. We set out to provide better options for these families by investing \$100 million to catalyze the creation of 35,000 new seats in high-performing schools for students citywide.

In 2013, PSP made great strides towards this goal—investing more than \$16 million from our Great Schools Fund—and Philadelphia made significant progress toward ensuring that every student can attend a high-quality school:

Creating More Great Schools:

More than 4,000 Philadelphia students began the 2013-14 school year at new and expanded district, charter, and private schools. The district continues to turn around the city's lowest performing schools, proving that it's possible for students in every neighborhood to achieve at high levels.

Citywide Reforms

A courageous School Reform Commission implemented a number of reforms, including the difficult decisions to cut administrative jobs and close under-enrolled and under-performing schools. The Superintendent called for changes to labor agreements so resources can be better used to meet the needs of students. In addition, many of the city's Catholic schools are now operating under two new nonprofit organizations aimed at fostering innovation, increasing student achievement, and achieving financial stability.

Cross-Sector Collaboration

Leaders from each sector—District, charter, and private—worked together in 2013 to ensure a robust pipeline of teachers and principals and improve access to high-quality schools for all families.

To date, we have invested nearly \$29 million to create 14,000 new seats in high-performing schools of all types for Philadelphia children. But we're not resting on our laurels here—there's much more to do in 2014 to ensure every child in Philadelphia is on the path to college and careers.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,
Mike O'Neill
Board Chair, Philadelphia School Partnership

Incubating and Launching an Innovative New School

The Workshop School is a project-based school that began as an alternative senior year program. Students are challenged to solve real world problems, and the curriculum is built around a project that excites students, such as building a car. "I've learned more in the last couple months than I did in all the time before," said senior DeShawn. In 2012, nearly all the program's students were accepted to college.¹

**In March 2013, we
invested \$1.5 million
to help the Workshop
School start a new
school for 500
students in West
Philadelphia.**

¹ Christopher Wink, "Workshop School: tour this University City project based STEM high school," Technically Philly, December 10, 2013

The Great Schools Fund

Investing in Great Schools

Turning Around a Low-Performing School

When Mastery Charter Schools began the effort to turn around Cleveland Elementary in North Philly, fewer than a third of students were reading and doing math on grade level. One year later, the school is transformed: academic achievement has increased by 15 percentage points and safety incidents have nearly vanished. “We’re giving kids a completely different education,” said Tom Weishaupt, Assistant Principal for Instruction at Cleveland. “We’re telling them ‘yes, you can still stay in your neighborhood; yes you can still go to school with the same kids from before. And we’re going to make sure that this same place gives you a world class education.’”²

In July 2013, we invested \$3.5 million in Mastery Charter Schools to serve 1,600 additional students in high-performing turnaround schools.

² Mastery Charter Schools, “Grover Cleveland Turnaround Video,” June 3, 2013

We are raising \$100 million for our Great Schools Fund to invest in the creation and expansion of great schools. The goal is to create 35,000 new seats in high-performing schools by:

Expanding High-Performing Schools

Growth grants to expand or replicate existing successful schools so they can serve more students.

Transforming Schools that Aren’t Working

Turnaround grants to school operators with a strong track record of successful turnaround or experience successfully operating an urban school.

Opening New Schools

Startup funding to launch a school with a fully developed plan and proven leaders.

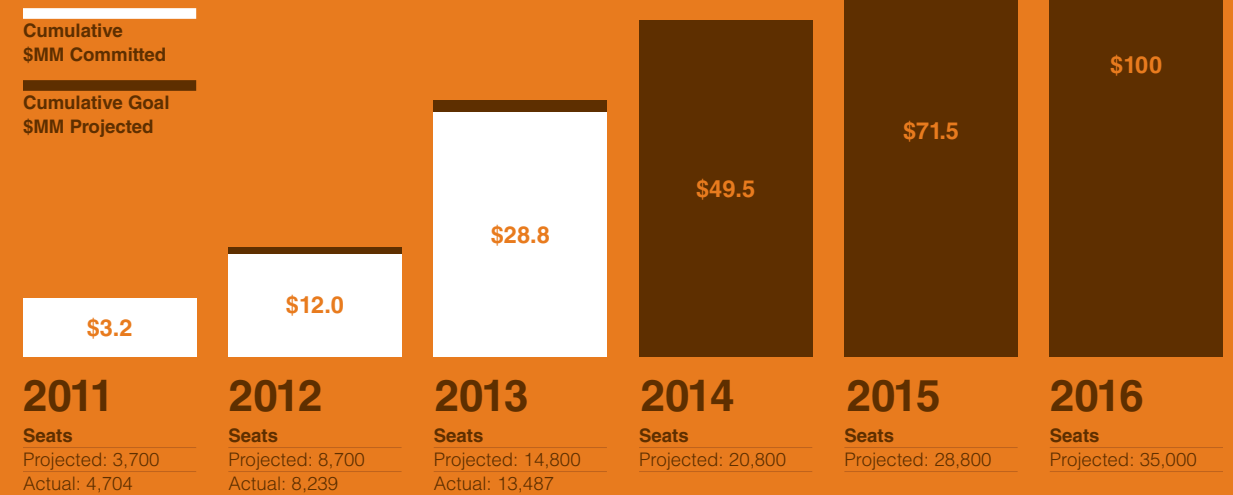
Incubating New School Ideas

Incubation funding to talented teams, individuals and organizations with new school ideas so they can develop startup plans.

Through these investments—and our work to create the conditions for great schools to thrive—we hope to see a 50% increase in high-quality seats citywide by 2016-17. Within 10 years, PSP expects the schools in the Fund portfolio to be performing at the same level as schools in Philadelphia’s surrounding suburbs on key student outcomes, with graduation rates exceeding the state average.

Our Results

To date, we have invested nearly **\$29 million** to create **14,000 seats** for students.



*The \$100 million fund includes 12% overhead of \$11.6 million

Our Impact

Outcomes	Pennsylvania**	Philadelphia (District)**	PSP Portfolio Goal
College Graduation*	55%	10%	55%
College Matriculation (2-yr or 4-yr)*	64%	31%	75%
HS 4-yr Graduation Rate*	83%	64%	85%
Reading on grade level in 8th Grade	77%	55%	85%
Reading on grade level in 3rd Grade	73%	44%	85%
Math on grade level in 8th Grade	74%	49%	85%

*High schools only **2013

Growing Enrollment and Increasing Achievement with Blended Learning

DePaul is one of 14 Catholic elementary schools that recently joined the Independence Mission Schools, which is helping inner-city Catholic schools become financially sustainable while providing a high-quality education. This year, DePaul launched a new blended-learning model that uses cutting-edge technology to personalize learning. "This model makes it possible for teachers to work more efficiently and frees up energy to put into lesson planning, one-on-one time with students and truly differentiated instruction that meets the individual needs of their students," said Betsy Rafferty, manager of blended learning at DePaul.³

In August 2013, we invested \$500,000 to help DePaul improve academic achievement while nearly doubling enrollment.

³ Julia Bergman, "A Catholic School Goes High-Tech," Axis Philly, August 30, 2013

The Great Schools Fund

Building a Portfolio

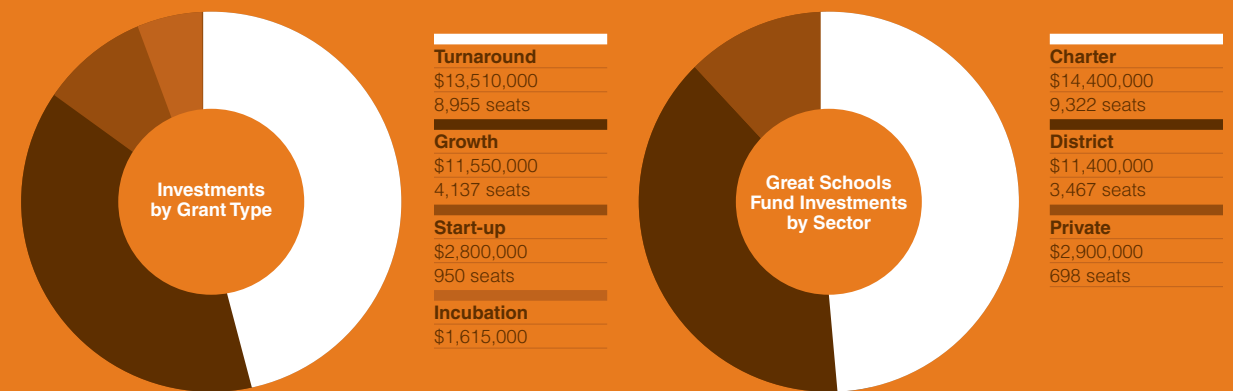
The Fund invests in the incubation, startup, growth and transformation of K-12 schools of all types—district, charter, and private—with the capacity to deliver outstanding educational outcomes for children in the city.

To date, roughly 50 percent of our committed funds are invested in creating high-performing seats in charter schools, 40 percent in district schools, and 10 percent in private schools.

All schools in the Great Schools Fund portfolio serve predominantly low income and minority students, who historically have been the most challenging to serve.

Early data shows the vast majority of our grantees are meeting academic and school climate benchmarks even while adding capacity to serve more students. As of March 2014, 86 percent of our investments are high-performing, or on track to meet or exceed performance benchmarks. Another 10 percent of our investments are within reach of meeting their targets with some support, while four percent are at-risk to not meet quality benchmarks.

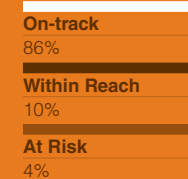
Our Investments



Schools in the Great Schools Fund portfolio serve predominantly low income and minority students, who historically have been the most challenging to serve.

Subgroup Demographics	PSP Portfolio	District	State (PA)
Low Income	83.0%	82.2%	40.7%
Black or Hispanic	93.5%	73.1%	22.7%
Special Education	16.2%	14.0%	13.1%
English-Language Learners	7.3%	8.5%	2.2%

Schools



86%

of our investments are meeting or exceeding performance benchmarks



Our school investments are reaching underserved students and neighborhoods across much of the city.

Great Schools Fund Portfolio

1	Mastery Charter Schools—Clymer*	6	Olney High School- Aspira of Pennsylvania	11	Esperanza Charter School	17	Science Leadership Academy Beeber	23	Mastery Charter School—Pickett
2	Mastery Charter Schools—Simon Gratz	7	Cristo Rey Philadelphia High School	12	Samuel Powel Elementary School	18	The Workshop School	24	Mastery Charter School—Cleveland
3	Mastery Charter Schools—Hardy Williams*	8	Henry Edmunds-String Theory Schools	13	Young Scholars Kenderton	19	Boys' Latin Charter School	25	James G. Blaine School
4	Universal Vare Middle School	9	Freire Charter School	14	KIPP Philadelphia Elementary	20	DePaul Catholic School	26	William D. Kelley School
5	Universal Audenried High School	10	Wissahickon Charter School	15	KIPP Dubois Collegiate Academy	21	Mastery Charter School—Thomas		
				16	Hill Freedman World Academy	22	Mastery Charter School—Pastorius		

*More than one grant made to listed school
 Note: Schools are listed in chronological order by the date of grant. Map excludes network level incubation grants and grants with location TBD.

Creating the Conditions

Ensuring that Great Schools Thrive

To create the conditions for great schools to thrive, we are addressing some of the most pressing needs shared among school operators of all types—most importantly, a pipeline of talented educators.

Developing a Pipeline of Excellent School Leaders

In 2013, the Great Schools Compact Committee launched PhillyPLUS, a collaborative effort aimed at addressing Philadelphia’s severe shortage of well-prepared school leaders. The residency-based program recruits, trains, places, and supports a pipeline of exceptional school leaders in schools serving low-income students. PhillyPLUS draws best practices from district, charter, and private schools and produces principals ready to serve as instructional and cultural leaders in each sector. This year, 13 residents participated in the first cohort.

Within three years, PhillyPLUS will be producing a majority of new principals across the entire city of Philadelphia.

As the project manager of the Great Schools Compact and GreatPhillySchools, PSP worked with partners on multiple cross-sector initiatives in 2013.

Developing Talent

- Launched the PhillyPLUS program, a residency-based principal training program to recruit, select, prepare and credential leaders for schools of all types
- Developed a pilot Emerging Leaders Program in partnership with KIPP Philadelphia to identify and develop great leaders in early career stages
- Scaled Mastery Charter Schools’ proven Teacher Effectiveness Program to dozens of schools of all types
- Partnered with Achievement Network to develop better student assessment tools and train teachers in utilizing data to improve instruction

Empowering Families

- Reached more than 100,000 families with information to find, compare and choose schools using GreatPhillySchools.org
- Launched common applications on PhillySchoolApp.org to make it easier for families to apply to schools of all types
- Hosted the 2013 Philly High School Fair for more than 5,000 parents and students

Achieving Efficiencies

- Initiated shared purchasing with two resource fairs for schools showcasing top service providers
- Invested \$220,000 to help school operators recruit and select executive level leadership

Board of Directors, as of March 2014

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PECO

Janine Yass
School Reform Advocate

2013 Financials

Support and revenue

Contributions	\$17,834,092
Other income	\$1,800
Interest income	\$2,860
Net assets released from restriction	\$3,528,082
Total support and revenue	\$21,366,834

Operating expenses

Great Schools Fund - Investments (disbursed)	\$9,873,442
School transformation grants	\$130,000
Talent Fund grants (disbursed)	\$161,744
Technical assistance grants	\$80,000
Great Schools Compact	\$1,200,398
GreatPhillySchools	\$507,963
Advocacy	\$240,601
Staff expenses	\$1,395,300
Professional services	\$121,136
Marketing and communications	\$88,285
Office, administration and insurance	\$222,777
Depreciation and amortization	\$63,210
Total operating expenses	\$14,084,856

Change in net assets	\$7,281,978
Net assets, at Dec. 31, 2013 (unrestricted)	\$12,168,627

Donors (2010-2013)

Lead Investors (\$5 million and above)

The Maguire Foundation
The Walton Family Foundation
William Penn Foundation
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Leo, Eve, Kate, Lexy & Julia Pierce
Jesse Serventi
William E. Simon Foundation
John Stine II



Our mission is to create and expand great schools in Philadelphia.

We raise philanthropic funds to invest in the startup, expansion and turnaround of public and private schools, and we work to create the conditions for great schools to thrive.

Our vision is that every child in every neighborhood has access to a great school and graduates from high school prepared for college or career training.

We believe that great schools come in all types and exist in all sectors, but every great school starts with a talented leader and the belief that all children can learn and achieve at high levels.