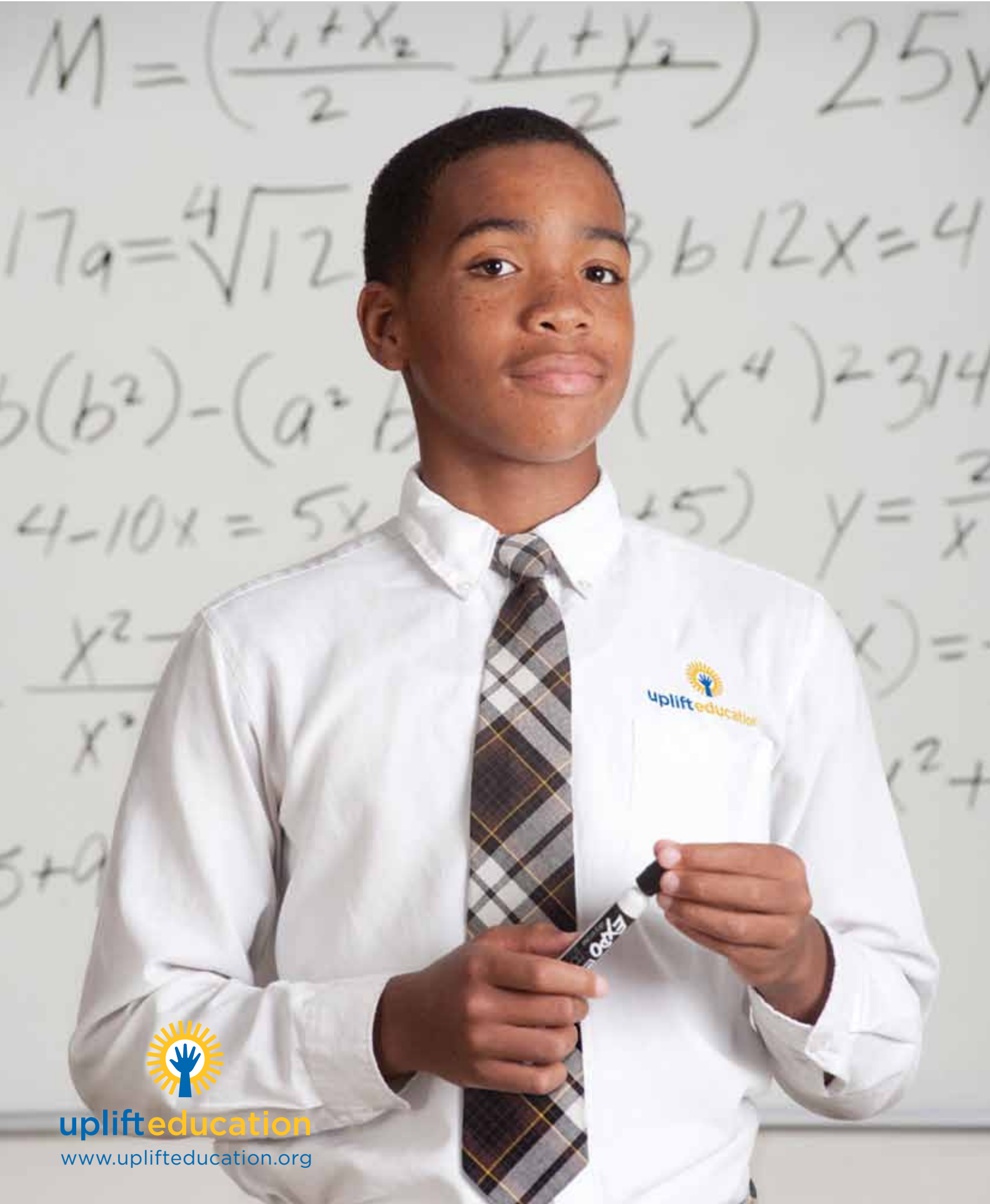


→ { Creating a formula for success }

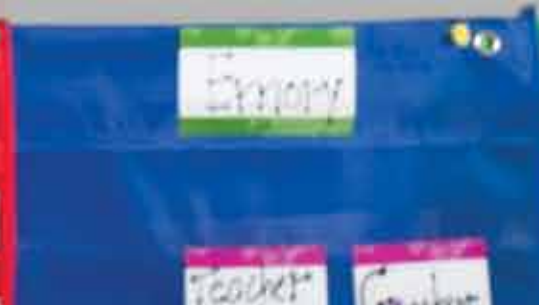
→ Uplift Education (Annual Report) 2011



uplifteducation
www.uplifteducation.org



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Letter From Our CEO



As I reflect on 2010–11, I'm proud to see that the big goal we initially set forth 15 years ago has grown from one school built on the backs of dedicated teachers to a formula for success for public schools across the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex.

Last year, we grew to serve 4,700 scholars and had not one, but two schools ranked among the top 20 public high schools in the country. We have shared in the past about Uplift Education's North Hills Preparatory being ranked in *Newsweek* magazine's top 10 public high schools in the nation. But last year, our second oldest campus, Peak Preparatory, in their first year of eligibility, broke into the *Washington Post's* top 20 rankings at #11, showing that the Uplift Model works no matter the demographics of your scholar population.

Because every person at Uplift rallies behind what others think is a bold goal—that EVERY single scholar in our network can go to college—we have shown through our results that this is absolutely possible. Last year we graduated seniors from all five of our campuses—201 graduates who were all accepted to college. Those 201 seniors earned more than 1,100 college acceptances and \$26 million in scholarships and grants.

We have also seen our focus on indicators of college-readiness paying off. Last year, Uplift Education's average commended scores were almost 20 points higher in both math and reading versus our neighboring district. Some of the highest gains in terms of scholars' national competitiveness came from one of our schools that stayed under the radar this past year. Their scholars moved 1.5 grade level equivalents over the year, and their success is a lesson for all of us on taking a "no excuses" attitude. They are in one of the toughest communities, where no comprehensive public school had earned above an Academically Acceptable rating in several years. This is the story of the Exemplary-rated Heights Preparatory.

While there is much to celebrate, we also want to be transparent about where our data shows we still need to improve. Unfortunately, a few of our schools fell just short of Exemplary rankings last year, and we had a few schools that performed meaningfully below our expectations. I can share with confidence that we have identified the challenges these schools faced and have implemented a detailed plan of action to move them in line with Uplift's overall scholar achievement levels by the end of the upcoming school year.

As we continue to grow to nearly 40 schools across Dallas and Fort Worth, we see that the Uplift model is a replicable formula for what is possible in public education. Our desire is that our size and performance will be a rallying cry for parents across the metroplex to demand more from their local schools. I hope you will join us in that rally cry.

Shine Through,

Yasmin Bhatia

Yasmin Bhatia
Chief Executive Officer

About Uplift Education

Uplift Education, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, operates a growing network of public charter schools in North Texas. Uplift Education's two oldest schools, North Hills Preparatory and Peak Preparatory, are ranked as the 10th and 11th best public high schools in the nation by *The Washington Post*. Uplift has taken this formula for success to expand to 17 tuition-free, college preparatory schools, with plans to grow to 37 schools, educating 13,000 scholars, by 2015. Preparing scholars to enter and succeed in college is at the center of this formula for success.

- 100% college acceptance for the graduating class of 2011
- \$26 million in scholarships and grants for 201 graduating seniors
- 1,100 college acceptances
- 450 dedicated teachers
- Five-star FAST rating
- 4 out of 5 Exemplary rated districts
- 18% more time spent in the classroom
- 59% eligible for free and reduced lunches
- North Hills Preparatory and Peak Preparatory rated #10 and #11 best high schools in the nation, as named by *The Washington Post*
- North Hills Preparatory rated #10 best high school in the nation as named by *Newsweek* magazine.

Year founded:
1996

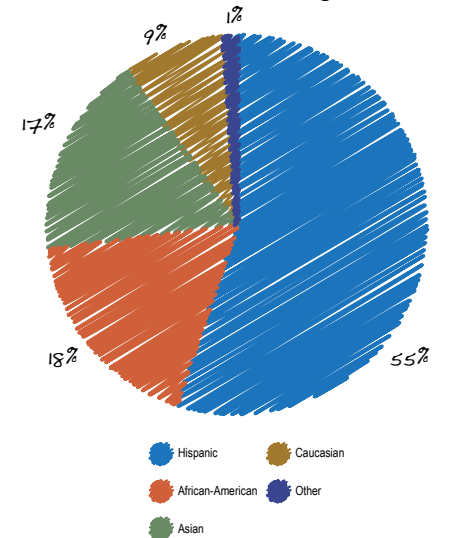
Current Enrollment:
4,657

Schools:
17

First Graduating Class:
2001-02

Class of 2011:
201 Seniors

Uplift Scholar Demographics



9 CAMPUSES of 20 SCHOOLS → **GROWING NETWORK** → Plan to serve 13,000 students by 2015

#10 AND #11
BEST SCHOOLS IN THE NATION



5-star FAST rating (efficiently advancing academic achievement)

Peak

North Hills

5x \$1,000,000
\$5 MILLION INVESTMENT FROM CHARTER SCHOOL GROWTH FUND

X2
AP & Dual Credit Coursework
Every student takes at least 4 AP classes during high school

\$26,000,000 in scholarships

Nationally competitive students

300 HERO mentors

>500 UPLIFT GRADS worldwide

LONGER SCHOOL DAY EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR

18% more instructional time than traditional public schools

- 6 Dell Scholars
- 1 Gates Millennium Scholar

7 National Merit FINALISTS

INSPIRE
Increased enrollment & persistence through college
INSPIRE counselors can lead to 100% college retention

Authentic Assessments
Uplift Common Formative Assessments every 9 weeks



SENIORS ACCEPTED TO SCHOOLS NATIONWIDE

100% COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE

GREAT

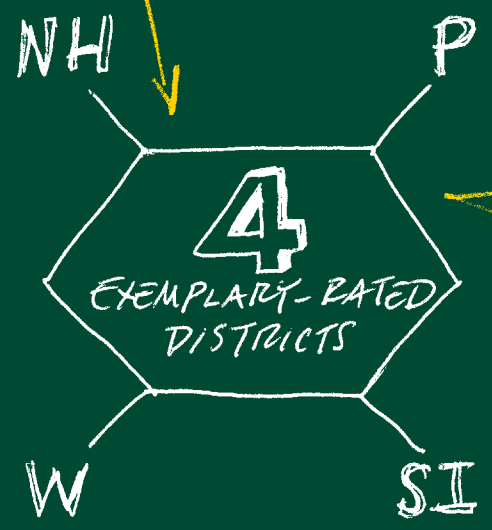
TEACHERS and LEADERS

450 TOTAL NUMBER OF TEACHERS

10 EXEMPLAR TEACHERS

50* SCHOOL LEADERS IN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY [or 50 hrs of Leadership Academy each year]

12 TEACHING TRUST M.Ed. COHORT MEMBERS



1100 COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

= COLLEGE ACCESS and SUCCESS FOR ALL STUDENTS

Formula for 100% College Acceptance

In 2011, Uplift Education's seniors once again achieved 100% college acceptance. This was a milestone year, as it was Uplift's first year with graduates at all five of its high schools, with 201 seniors. Combined, these seniors earned more than 1,100 college acceptances.

Our formula for achieving 100% college acceptance year after year centers around our Road to College program. "Road to College" begins in Kindergarten where teachers share their own college stories with their scholars and proudly display memorabilia from their alma maters in their classrooms. As scholars enter sixth grade, formal time is offered during each school day to help scholars navigate the college-going process. Time is spent understanding differences between colleges, majors and even future careers. Scholars also spend time researching, finding and completing scholarship applications. Every Uplift high school campus has at least one Road to College counselor to support our scholars' needs.

Road to College Improvements

In 2010, Uplift began a revamp of its Road to College program focused around increasing the number of its scholars admitted to selective colleges—schools that either meet 100 percent of a scholar's demonstrated financial need or are in *U.S. News & World Report's* top 100 colleges. The revamp included increasing support to improve the quality of scholars' personal statements, evaluating SAT test prep solution, being more strategic in exposing scholars to need-met colleges, and improving brand awareness with highly selective schools through our annual college fair and admissions officer visits.

HERO Mentors

The Higher Education Reality Operation, or HERO, mentor program at Uplift continued to grow in 2010–11, with 300 mentors volunteering with juniors and seniors at every Uplift high school. In 2010–11, HERO mentors volunteered approximately 15,000 hours assisting Uplift Education scholars with career exploration, internships, scholarship searches, college applications, and ultimately, college acceptances.

University Relations

In 2010–11 Uplift hosted two college fairs. The first, its annual college fair at Hampton Preparatory, included representatives from nearly 100 colleges nationwide. The second took place in the spring at North Hills Preparatory where Uplift co-hosted the 2011 Symposium for Multicultural Recruitment for college admissions officers. This second college fair allowed scholars the opportunity to interact directly with college admissions officers during small group workshops. In addition to these opportunities, Uplift partnered with a well-known nearby private school in 2010 to leverage opportunities for admissions officers to visit with scholars from Uplift schools while in the Dallas area.

201
seniors accepted
to more than
1,100
colleges and
universities

more than
300
mentors guiding
juniors and seniors

rigor
counselors
+ mentors
100%
college acceptance

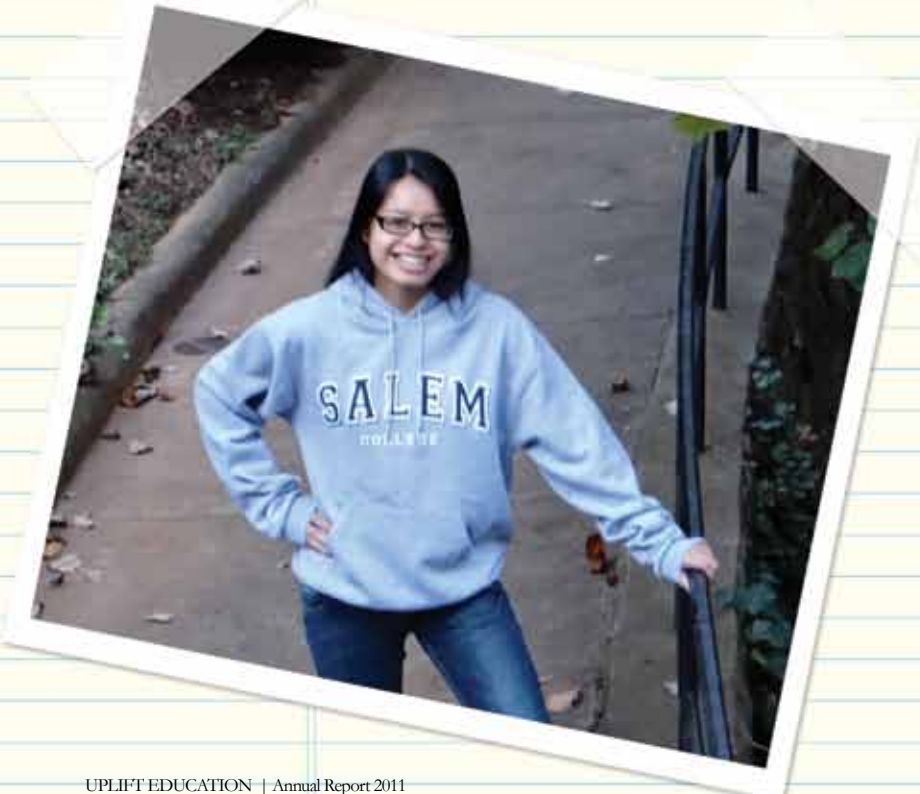


Hello, my name is Kellina Sysavath, and I attend Salem College in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Being in North Carolina has been an amazing experience. I would have not chosen Salem College without Peak's assistance. Peak opened my eyes and helped me realize I had the potential to not only attend college, but to aim for a prestigious college and apply to schools all over the United States. I applied to many schools I would never have considered, and I ended up with over 17 acceptances. I was so proud of that fact!

My College Skills class at Peak was very beneficial. My College Counselor, Ms. Ganic, and my Inspire Counselor, Ms. Estrada, made sure that we understood every step of the college application process. Coming from a family that did not go to college, it was hard for my family to help me with the process. Fortunately, Ms. Estrada sat down with me and my mom and gladly helped with every step.

All of these amazing colleges wanted me, but I could only choose one. I had the opportunity to visit Salem College, St. Benedict College, and Ripon College with other Uplift scholars, and my counselor helped me arrange individual college visitations. These visits helped me make my decision to attend Salem College.

During the summer, Ms. Estrada did her best to make sure I was ready for the fall. We reviewed my financial aid award, made travel arrangements and discussed any concerns I had. Once I arrived in Salem, I was a little homesick (I had never been this far away from home), but before long I made plenty of friends and got involved in college life. Although I miss Texas, my family, and friends, I do not regret coming here. Majoring in Biology is a challenge, but I have the confidence that I can tackle anything. When I struggle or something goes wrong, I know that I can call Ms. Estrada or one of my Peak teachers for advice.



On my toughest days, I have drawn inspiration from a quote that Mr. Jennings, my English teacher at Peak, wrote in my yearbook: "Think of what scares you the most. Then do it. Think of what you always do, and then do the opposite." I don't think he knows it, but I always carry this in my heart.



**201
GRADUATING
SENIORS**

Agnes Scott College
 American University
 Arizona State University
 Assumption College
 Auburn University
 Austin College
 Babson College
 Baldwin-Wallace College
 Barnard College
 Bates College
 Baylor University
 Benedictine College
 Berklee College of Music
 Boston College
 Boston University
 Brandeis University
 Bryant University
 Carnegie Mellon University
 Colgate University
 College of Notre Dame of Maryland
 College of Saint Benedict
 College of the Holy Cross
 The College of Wooster
 Cornell College
 Cornell University
 Creighton University
 Dallas Baptist University
 Davidson College
 Denison University
 DePauw University
 Drexel University
 Duke University
 Earlham College
 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical
 Emerson College
 Emory University
 Florida State University
 Fordham University
 Furman University
 Grayson County College
 Grinnell College
 Hampton University
 Hiram College
 Houston Baptist University

Howard University
 Indiana University
 Jarvis Christian College
 Johns Hopkins University
 Juniata College
 Kansas State University
 King's College
 Lehigh University
 Lincoln University
 Middle Tennessee State University
 Missouri State University
 Mount Holyoke College
 Mount St. Joseph University
 Mount Union University
 New York University
 North Carolina State University
 Northern Arizona University
 Northern Illinois University
 Oberlin College
 Odessa College
 Oklahoma Baptist University
 Oklahoma State University
 Oklahoma Wesleyan University
 Paul Quinn College
 Pennsylvania State University
 Philadelphia University
 Pomona College
 Prairie View A&M University
 Purdue University
 Regent University
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
 Rhodes College

Rice University
 Richland College
 Ripon College
 Rochester Institute of Technology
 Rockhurst University
 Saint John's University
 Saint Joseph's University
 Saint Louis University
 Saint Mary's University
 Salem College
 San Diego State University
 San Francisco State University
 San Jose State University
 Savannah College of Art and Design
 Seattle University
 Smith College
 South Texas Community College
 Southern Methodist University
 St. Catherine University
 St. Edward's University
 St. John's University
 St. Louis College of Pharmacy
 Stephen F. Austin State University
 Sul Ross State University
 Susquehanna University
 Sweet Briar College
 Tennessee State University
 Texas A&M University
 Texas Christian University
 Texas Tech University
 Texas Wesleyan University
 Texas Woman's University
 Trinity University
 Tulane University

Union College
 The University of Alabama
 University of Arkansas
 University of California
 University of Chicago
 University of Cincinnati
 University of Dallas
 University of Denver
 University of Houston
 University of Mary Hardin-Baylor
 University of Michigan
 University of Mississippi
 University of Missouri
 University of New Mexico
 The University of North Carolina
 University of North Texas
 University of Notre Dame
 University of Oklahoma
 University of Pennsylvania
 University of Pittsburgh
 University of Portland
 University of Richmond
 University of South Carolina
 University of South Florida
 Tampa University
 The University of Tennessee
 The University of Texas
 University of the Incarnate Word
 University of Tulsa
 University of Utah
 Vanderbilt University
 Vassar College
 Virginia Polytechnic Institute
 Waldorf College
 Washington University
 Wellesley College
 Wells College
 Wesleyan University
 Willamette University
 William Jewell College



**COLLEGE
ACCEPTANCE**



College Signing Day



In 2011, Uplift Education took its annual College Signing Day event to a new level to celebrate our first year with graduating classes at all five of our existing high schools. Local basketball mascots, Mavs Man and Champ, were on hand to pump up a crowd of nearly 3,000 Uplift scholars, teachers and parents, as they cheered on the Class of 2011's college commitments.

Middle and high school scholars filled the stands of Moody Coliseum at Southern Methodist University. They proudly waved school spirit signs and screamed in support as the music faded and the announcer introduced the college graduating class of 2015.

While many Uplift scholars are the first in their family to graduate from high school, College Signing Day showcases

what Uplift is all about—giving every scholar the opportunity to enter and succeed in college. An even bigger production than graduation, College Signing Day celebrates the college acceptances, scholarships and commitments of each graduating senior.

For 2011, Uplift Board Vice Chairman, Todd Williams, gave the keynote address for the event. North Hills Preparatory

class of 2005 graduate Jaisy Joseph, who is currently pursuing her master's at Harvard Divinity School, addressed the crowd: "Take a look at the sixth graders who are sitting in this arena with you. The same amount of time that exists between you and them exists between you and me. So I ask you, what will you be sharing with them when you stand on this stage in six years?"



The
important
thing is not
to stop
questioning.

-ALBERT EINSTEIN

Formula for College Matriculation and Persistence

Uplift recognizes that college acceptance is only half of the solution when it comes to increasing college participation among first-generation college students, minority students and low-income students. And with scholars graduating from all five of its high schools in 2011, the need for a plan around college matriculation and persistence for its alumni was greater than ever.

In response, Uplift expanded its Inspire Program, hiring Inspire counselors for each of its high school campuses. These counselors work with scholars beginning in their junior year of high school and continue to provide counseling and support services for alumni through college graduation.

The initial results from the Inspire Program with Peak Preparatory's Class of 2010 showed remarkable results. The 26 seniors from Peak Preparatory's 2010 graduating class were all accepted to college. All 26 enrolled in college for their freshman year, and all 26 have returned to college for their sophomore year. This 100 percent college persistence rate far outperforms national averages. Nationwide, 30 percent of college and university students drop out after their first year. Half never graduate, and college completion rates for minorities are even lower.

Financial Aid

Thirty percent of scholars had at least 50% of their college expenses covered by scholarships and grants. Financial aid plays a major role in ensuring that Uplift's scholars are able to enter and persist through college to graduation. Because of this, Uplift sets an annual goal of \$20 million in scholarships and grants for its graduates. The class of 2011 far exceeded this goal, earning \$26 million in scholarships and grants, with more than two-thirds of graduates receiving some form of financial aid.

In planning its annual college field experiences for scholars, Uplift wants scholars to see a broad spectrum of choices, but also wants to make sure they see a sufficient number of schools that have large endowments for scholarships, or that are 100 percent need met. Uplift deliberately selects the schools scholars see on college trips and the schools it reaches out to for information sessions during the school year.

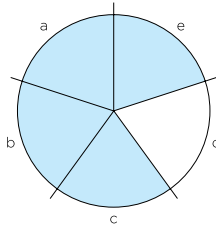


Parents are also involved in financial aid workshops. They receive information regarding Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TAFSA), scholarships, grants and loans. They are instructed on how to adhere to important deadlines and how to interpret award letters given to scholars by colleges and universities.

Major scholarships, awards and grants awarded to the class of 2011:

- John Hopkins Univ. Grant - \$1,936,000
- Gates Millennium Scholars Program - \$555,762
- Vanderbilt Univ. Need-Based Grant - \$210,820
- Middlebury Coll. Grant - \$202,400
- SMU - Presidential - \$199,860
- Vassar Scholarship - \$197,760
- Brandeis Univ. - MLK - \$196,160
- Univ. Of Pennsylvania Grant - \$186,000
- Bates Scholarship - \$185,440
- Pomona Scholarship - \$184,440
- Colgate Univ. Grant - \$181,880
- Wesleyan Univ. Scholarship - \$175,684
- Wellesley Coll. Grant - \$174,316
- Boston Coll. Options Through Education - \$173,600
- Barnard Univ. Coll. Grant - \$166,352
- Babson - Enrico Dallas - \$161,600
- Grinnell Grant - \$156,600
- Emory Coll. Grant - \$151,768
- American Univ. Grant - \$136,000
- Syracuse Univ. Grant - \$134,800
- TCU Chancellor's - \$129,000
- Univ. of Dallas Acad. - \$128,000
- Univ. of Alabama Scholarship - \$119,400
- SMU National Merit - \$118,000
- Auburn Univ. Scholarship - \$115,364
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Leadership Award - \$92,400
- USC - Presidential - \$84,320
- TAMU - Regents' Scholars Program - \$80,000
- Tulane Founders - \$80,000
- Univ. of Denver Scholarship - \$80,000
- Fordham Univ. Scholarship - \$77,200
- Salem - Presidential - \$72,000
- Austin Coll. - Dean's - \$72,000
- Drexel Dean's - \$70,000
- Rochester Institute of Technology Grant - \$70,000
- Agnes Scott Coll. - Merit - \$64,000
- Bryant Univ. Grant - \$64,000
- C of Notre Dame - Acad. - \$64,000
- Assumption Coll. - Milleret - \$56,000
- St. Louis Univ. Dean's - \$56,000
- TCU Deans - \$56,000
- UTD - Dallas Acad. Distinction Award - \$54,976
- St. Edward's Univ. - Trustees Distinguished ACHV Scholar - \$54,000
- Univ. of Portland Scholarship - \$52,000
- Univ. of Tulsa Acad. - \$52,000
- Cornell Presidential - \$48,000
- SMU Provost's - \$48,000
- St Ben/St John's President's - \$48,000
- Trinity Univ. President's - \$44,000
- W. Jewel Coll. Presidential - \$44,000
- McDaniel Coll. - Acad. - \$43,000
- Saint John's Univ. - Dean's - \$38,000
- Texas Lutheran Univ. - Commendation Award - \$36,000
- Baylor - Provost's Gold - \$34,000
- UT Arlington President's Charter - \$32,000
- Engineering Fellows Scholar - \$30,000
- The Univ. of Tampa - Minaret - \$30,000
- Univ. of Dallas Acad. ACHV - \$28,000
- Sweet Briar Coll. - Fletcher Award - \$24,000
- Jane Bosart - \$20,000
- Univ. of Oklahoma Scholarship - \$20,000
- Ripon - Evans Achvmt. Award - \$20,000
- Dell Scholars - \$20,000
- UT-Arlington Outstanding Fresh. - \$16,008
- UNT-Dallas ACHV - \$16,000
- UT-Arlington Fresh. Honors - \$16,000
- Starfish - \$16,000
- Christian Leadership (DBU) - \$15,840

Formula for Achievement



4 out of 5 districts rated EXEMPLARY by the Texas Education Association

Regarding performance on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS), Uplift scholars continued to outperform their peers from the neighboring districts in terms of percent of students receiving Commended Performance results. As a result, four of our five districts were rated Exemplary.

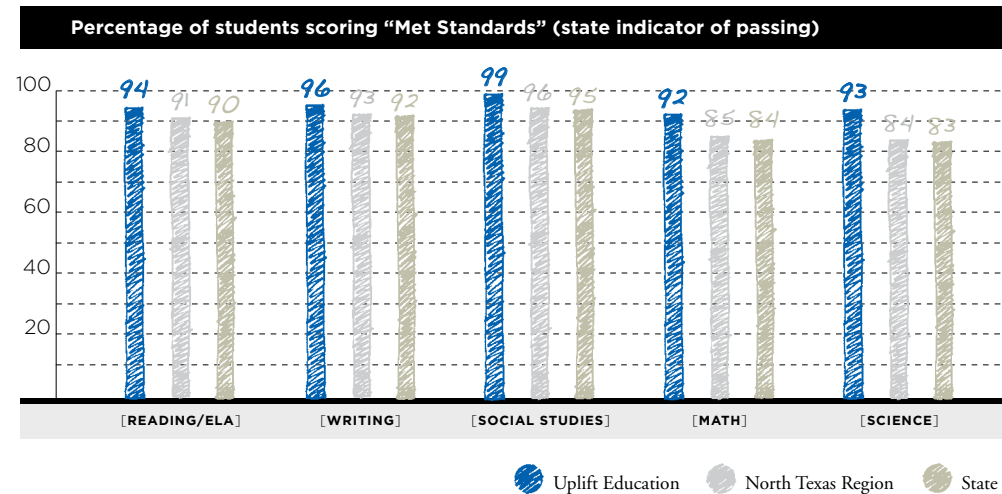
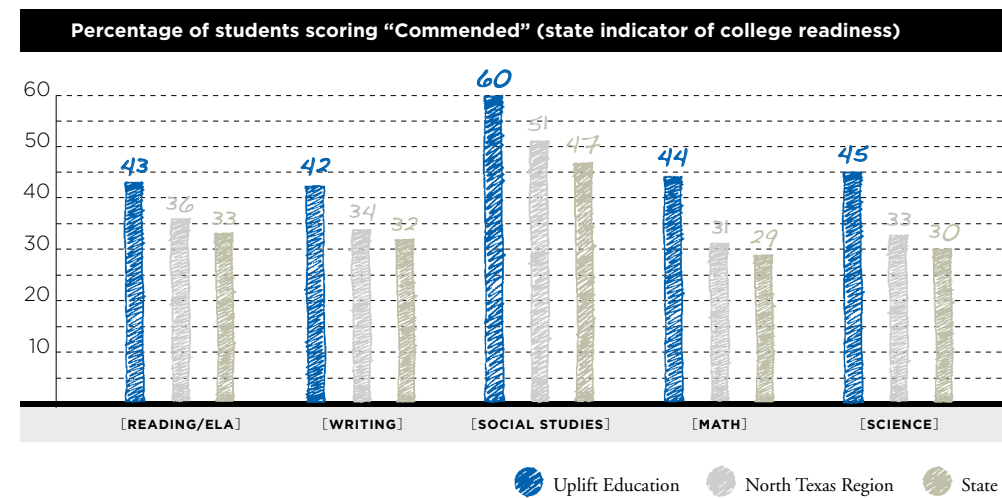
Uplift scholars outpaced the state and the four major neighboring ISDs on the percent achieving Commended status for all 27 subject-grade combinations tested through TAKS.

On the Commended college readiness scale, Uplift outperforms its peer district on average by 20 percentage points and outperforms the state by at least 10 points on 80% of the tests, including all math and science tests.

Uplift showed double-digit improvements in the Commended rates for science at the 8th and 11th grade levels and for reading at the 8th and 9th grade levels.

Uplift increased the percentage of scholars across all grades scoring Commended on science by seven points over 2010.

Outpaced state's **Commended** rates by 10 or more points on 80% of tests



Formula for Adding Rigor

Uplift's focus on rigorous academics has paid off in scholar achievement on state-level results. We know, however, that this is not enough. Because of this, Uplift also measures how competitive scholars are against their peers nationally through norm-referenced tests such as the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS), SAT and AP tests. Uplift piloted common formative assessments in math and science for the 2010–11 school year—tests designed to be the hardest test an Uplift scholar would take.

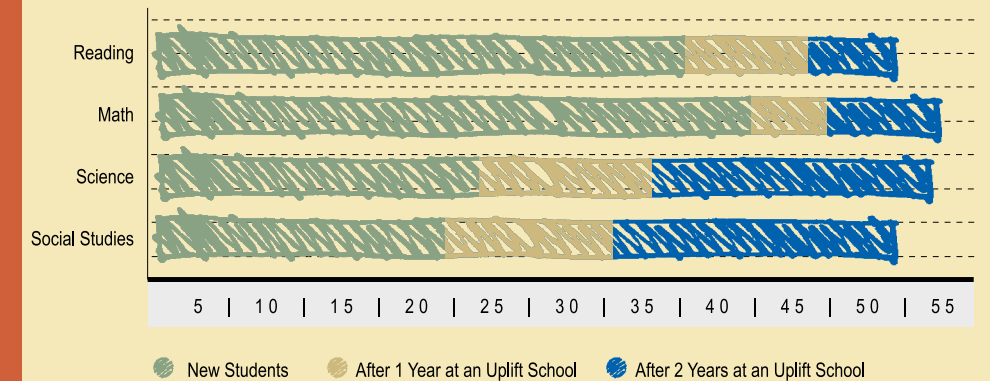
In 2010–2011, Uplift started mandating ITBS for fall to spring testing across its districts so we could more accurately gauge where scholars start when joining an Uplift school, and how much they grow within a school year. On average, new scholars enter Uplift schools in the bottom 50th percentile of the country based on ITBS. Our goal is to grow our scholars academically to be in the top 75th percentile in the country by the time they graduate so they can be competitive across the country for highly selective colleges and universities. Going forward on an annual basis, we have set a goal for our teachers to grow their scholars 8 points in national percentile rank so they are on track to move more scholars into the top quartile.

Additionally, ALL Uplift scholars are required to take at least four Advanced Placement (AP) courses during their high school years. Uplift believes that it is important for scholars to have exposure to these rigorous courses and exams as a way to be prepared for college. Over the past three years, Uplift has meaningfully increased the number of scholars taking AP tests.

523

Number of Uplift AP Scholars

Average of Fall ITBS Test Scores for Uplift Students



1187 = Number of AP Exams Taken

242

Number of Uplift AP Scholars Scoring 3 or higher on an AP Test



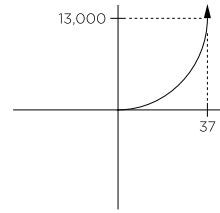
Education is the most powerful
weapon which you can use to
change the world.

-NELSON MANDELA



Expanding Our Reach

17 schools on 7 campuses for 2011



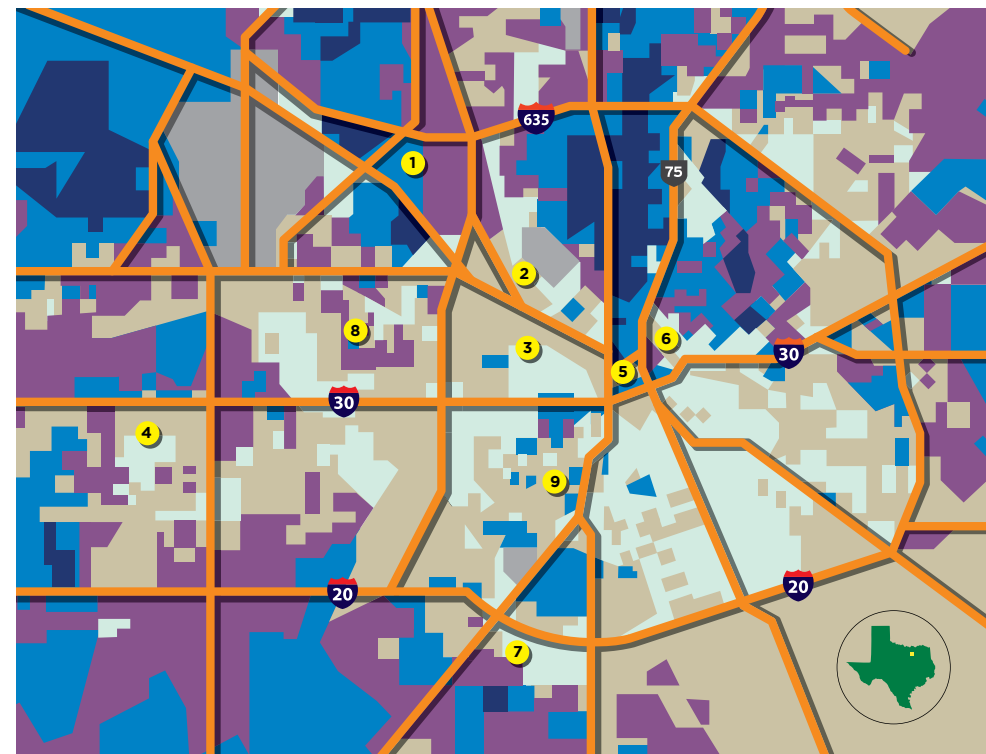
We will grow to 37 schools educating 13,000 scholars by 2015

In 2010–11 Uplift operated 17 schools on seven campuses across North Texas. This included two new schools for the 2010–11 school year: Heights Preparatory in West Dallas and Laureate Preparatory in Downtown Dallas. Heights Preparatory opened with grades 6–7 and plans to grow into a full K–12. Laureate Preparatory opened with grades K–2 and plans to grow in to a K–12 in the downtown Dallas area.

The opening of these two new schools marked the beginning of a heavy growth phase for Uplift Education, whereby it will grow to 37 schools with 13,000 scholars by 2015. This will enable Uplift to expand its share of the public education market in North Texas, thereby positively impacting the educational landscape and affecting change throughout the region.

The 2010–11 school year also marked an important achievement in the recognition of the Uplift model as a successful, replicable model that works regardless of what socioeconomic or ethnic background a scholar comes from. As in past years, Uplift Education’s North Hills Preparatory ranked among the top public high schools in the nation, coming in at #10 on *The Washington Post’s* High School Challenge rankings. But in its first year of eligibility, Peak Preparatory came in right below North Hills at the #11 spot in the High School Challenge rankings.

Uplift Campuses		Average Household Income
1 North Hills Preparatory	5 Laureate Preparatory	\$9,000 to \$42,000
2 Williams Preparatory	6 Peak Preparatory	\$42,000 to \$60,000
3 Heights Preparatory	7 Hampton Preparatory	\$60,000 to \$88,000
4 Summit International Preparatory	8 Infinity Preparatory	\$88,000 to \$153,000
	9 Pinnacle Preparatory	\$153,000 to \$473,000



North Hills Preparatory

District: Uplift Education’s North Hills Preparatory
 Rating: Exemplary
 Number of Scholars: 1,352
 2011 = 10th class of college-bound seniors

My family has been involved with Uplift Education for as long as I can remember! My brother was in the first class of first graders at North Hills Preparatory, and I started my formal education at NHP, too. As a result, I have always felt NHP was a ‘home away from home’ for me.

It’s a safe place, where many people know and care about me and my success here and in my future college experience. I always do my best when I’m at school because of the values that have been instilled in me here. I know I am receiving an invaluable gift with the education North Hills provides me. It is hard work, but I’m really proud to be a Panther!

- SARAH CLARKE
 CLASS OF 2017



Formula For Success:

- 96 seniors
- 100% college acceptance
- 88% accepted to a 4-year college
- \$9.8 million in scholarships and grants
- 5 National Merit Scholarship winners and 7 Commended scholars
- 39 IB Diplomas awarded
- 464 AP tests taken
- 1 West Point Summer Leadership Seminar Participant
- 65 AP Scholars



Shawn Stover
 Senior Director



Richard Young
 Upper School Director



Paul Fulce
 Middle School Director



Becky Christensen
 Primary School Director

Texas Honors Circle District Award
 The Washington Post #10 Ranked Public High School in the Nation
 Newsweek #10 Ranked Public High School in the Nation

Peak Preparatory

District: Uplift Education's Peak Preparatory
 Rating: Exemplary
 Number of Scholars: 963
 2011 = 2nd class of college-bound seniors

Formula For Success:

- 34 seniors
- 100% college acceptance
- 97% accepted to a 4-year college
- \$5.6 million in scholarships and grants
- 1 Gates Millennium Scholar
- 2 Dell Scholars
- 1 West Point Summer Leadership Seminar Participant
- 240 AP tests taken



Teresa Khirallah
Senior Director



Teno Sigmon
Upper School Director



Chris Garcia
Primary School Director



Because of Peak Preparatory, I am a more intelligent, mature, and driven individual. When I arrived at Peak, I could not clearly express myself, and I spoke in incomplete sentences. Now, because of Peak, I am taking AP classes, like AP Literature, and writing college-level essays. Peak classes challenge me to think critically about myself and the world around me.

Attending Peak, moreover, sparked my interest in college. Before Peak, I knew nothing of college, and had little interest in going. I remember my first day at Peak: my advisor, Mr. See, gave a presentation about the college he attended, Texas A&M; he described his experience, and explained how college allowed him to pursue his dream job. But it wasn't just in advisory; college was discussed in all of my classes at Peak. It inspired me to go to college -- not just any college, but a great college.

- ERICK GARCIA
CLASS OF 2013



Hampton Preparatory

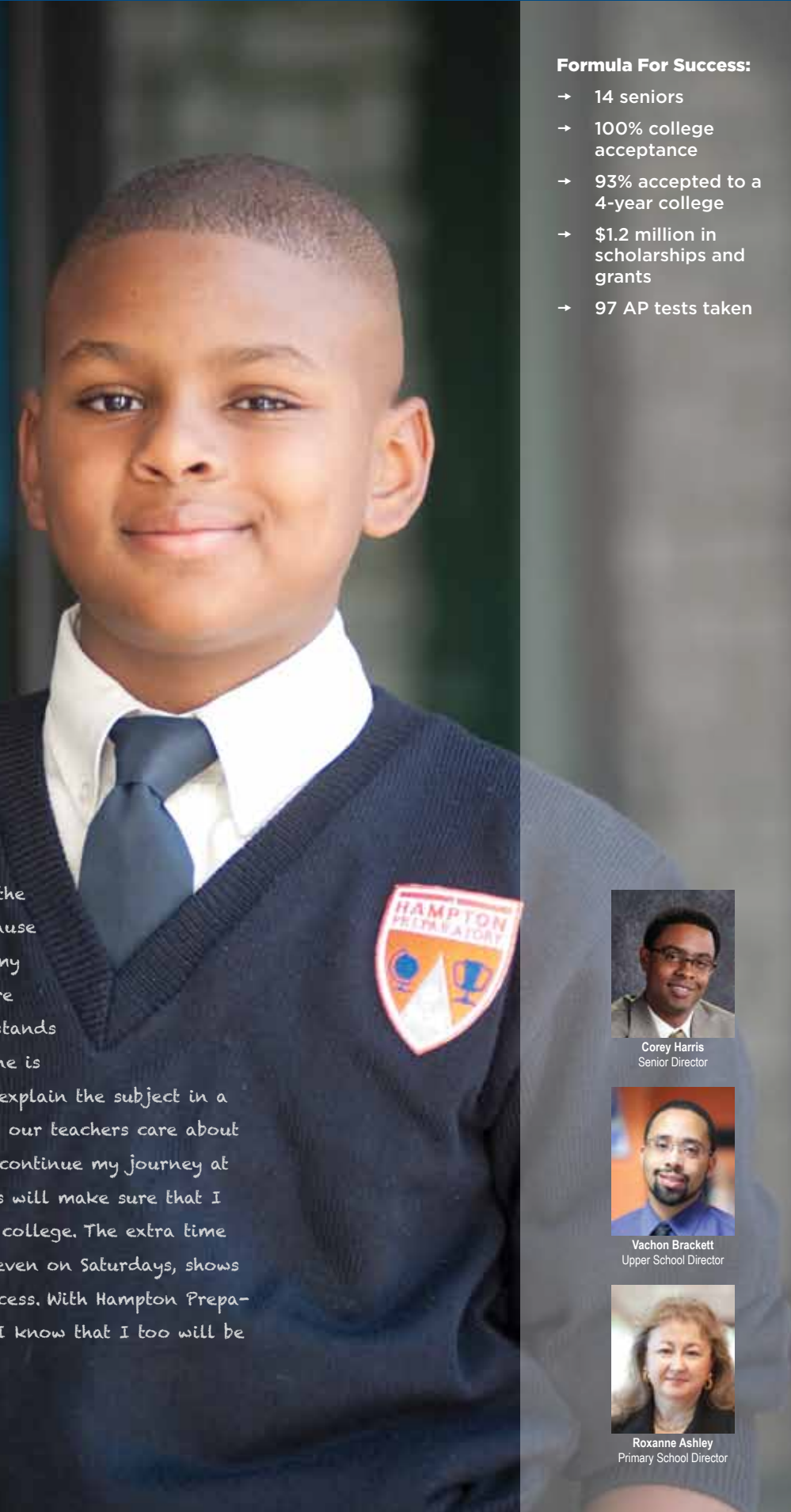
District: Uplift Education's Hampton Preparatory
 Rating: Academically Acceptable
 Number of Scholars: 680
 2011 = 1st class of college-bound seniors

Formula For Success:

- 14 seniors
- 100% college acceptance
- 93% accepted to a 4-year college
- \$1.2 million in scholarships and grants
- 97 AP tests taken

Hampton Preparatory has high expectations for me and my friends. You can feel it the second you walk into my school. On the walls there are messages of 100% college acceptance and key characteristics that make me an IB learner. Mostly, you know the school has high expectations because of our teachers. The teachers at my school take the time to make sure that everyone in the class understands the lessons of the day. If someone is struggling they take the time to explain the subject in a different way. This shows me that our teachers care about our education. I know that as I continue my journey at Hampton Preparatory, my teachers will make sure that I will be ready to be successful in college. The extra time they spend in the evenings, and even on Saturdays, shows me they are dedicated to my success. With Hampton Preparatory, my teachers, and family, I know that I too will be college bound my senior year!

- DARIUS HAMPTON-ROSS
CLASS OF 2019



Corey Harris
Senior Director



Vachon Brackett
Upper School Director



Roxanne Ashley
Primary School Director

Summit International Preparatory

District: Uplift Education's Summit Preparatory
 Rating: Exemplary
 Number of Scholars: 639
 2011 = 1st class of college-bound seniors

Williams Preparatory

District: Uplift Education's Williams Preparatory
 Rating: Exemplary
 Number of Scholars: 751
 2011 = 1st class of college-bound seniors

Formula For Success:

- 22 seniors
- 100% college acceptance
- 90% accepted to a 4-year college
- \$4.9 million in scholarships and grants
- 2 Dell Scholars
- 162 AP tests taken
- 5 AP Scholars, 2 AP Scholars with Honor
- 1 West Point Summer Leadership Seminar Participant



You know you're at Summit International Preparatory when you arrive at our beautiful campus, enter our sparkly new high school and are greeted with a hearty handshake and smile by people who are genuinely happy to see you. Oh, well that and the occasional squirrel stealing some sixth grader's sandwich.

I am proud to be a student attending Summit, for I am able to bloom and grow in a school that cares about me now and who I will become in the future. My teachers are inspiring, the academics are challenging, and Summit is the place to be if you are serious about attending a great college.

I am truly thankful and happy to be a student at Summit International Preparatory. With Summit's support, I feel confident that I will accomplish my goal of graduating college and making my mark on the world.

- CATHERINE WOODHOUSE
 CLASS OF 2014



Priscilla Collins-Parhms
 Senior Director



Karen Evans
 Secondary School Director



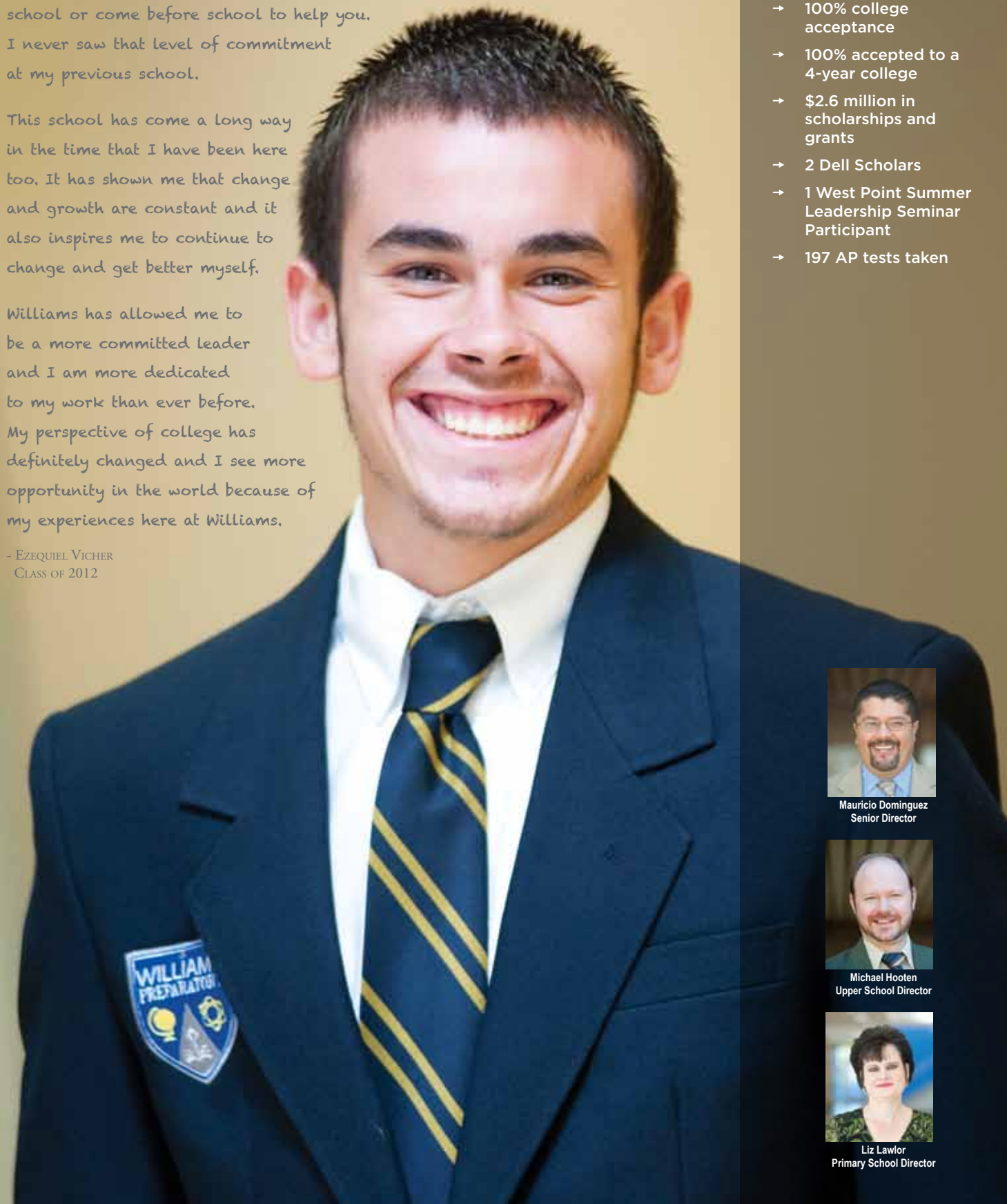
Jacquelyn Burden
 Primary School Director

The best part about Williams Prep is the teachers. They are willing to stay after school or come before school to help you. I never saw that level of commitment at my previous school.

This school has come a long way in the time that I have been here too. It has shown me that change and growth are constant and it also inspires me to continue to change and get better myself.

Williams has allowed me to be a more committed leader and I am more dedicated to my work than ever before. My perspective of college has definitely changed and I see more opportunity in the world because of my experiences here at Williams.

- EZEQUIEL VICHER
 CLASS OF 2012



Formula For Success:

- 39 seniors
- 100% college acceptance
- 100% accepted to a 4-year college
- \$2.6 million in scholarships and grants
- 2 Dell Scholars
- 1 West Point Summer Leadership Seminar Participant
- 197 AP tests taken



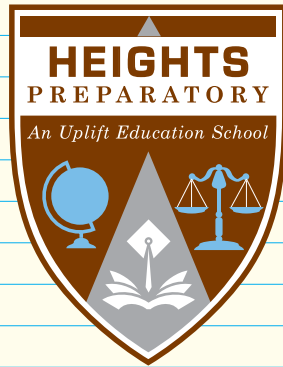
Mauricio Dominguez
 Senior Director



Michael Hooten
 Upper School Director



Liz Lawlor
 Primary School Director



New School Report Card

Heights Preparatory

The first year of operations for Heights Preparatory was an outstanding success. Across the Uplift network, some of the highest gains in terms of scholars' national competitiveness came from Heights Preparatory. Their scholars grew 8.9 points in terms of their national percentile rank and moved 1.5 grade level equivalents. Their success is a lesson for all of us on "no excuses" and what happens when a dedicated group of teachers sets its mind to something. The result was an Exemplary campus rating from the TEA, making them part of the Exemplary-rated Uplift Education's Williams Preparatory district.

This school could have made a logical case to any reasonable person that their performance might not hit the mark this past year. More than 90% of their scholars come from economically disadvantaged homes, half of their classrooms are in portable buildings, they are in one of the toughest communities, their scholars came meaningfully behind, and no public school in their community had earned above an Academically Acceptable rating in the past few years. Heights Preparatory showed what is possible when adults and scholars share and believe in a common goal and work incredibly hard to get there.

Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) Results

- Scholars participated in the reading, writing and mathematics TAKS tests, and more than 90% of scholars overall, and in every subpopulation, met standards for each subject area
- 25 percent of scholars achieved Commended status on reading/ELA
- 39 percent of scholars achieved Commended status on mathematics
- There was no difference in the Commended achievements of economically disadvantaged scholars versus the greater student body

Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) Gains

- 8.9 point gains in National Percentile Rank
- Scholars grew 1.5 grade levels in one year



Heights Preparatory

District: Uplift Education's Williams Preparatory
 Rating: Exemplary
 Number of Scholars: 147
 Year Opened: 2010-2011

Heights is a wonderful school. They have a high standard for learning, which is really important to me. I used to go to a school that just retaught things that were taught the year before, but at Heights I'm challenged to the core. I'm taught things above my grade level and it is fascinating to me how easily I understand because of the way my teachers present material. They are so amazing, because each of them explains everything until every student understands.

I enjoy our Advisory class because it gives us a chance to talk to an adult who really listens. My advisor helps me with not only issues I might be having with my schoolwork, but also any personal issues. It's nice to know there is always someone willing to help. Heights is a fantastic school, and I'm elated that my parents enrolled me here.

- JAZMIN ORTIZ
 CLASS OF 2016



Formula For Success:

- Grades served: 6, 7
- Ultimate school size: 705 (K-8)
- Rated Exemplary in its first year of operation
- In 2010-11, scholars grew 8.9 points in national percentile rank and moved up 1.5 grade level equivalents on Iowa Test of Basic Skills
- Part of the "West Dallas School Zone," a community-based effort to ensure that children stay on track through college
- Heights Preparatory made possible through generous lease terms offered by Dallas Housing Authority and the generous donations of The Rees-Jones Foundation and Michael & Susan Dell Foundation



Jacqueline Lovelace
 Senior Director of New Schools



Elizabeth Kastiel
 Campus Director



New School Report Card

Laureate Preparatory

Laureate Preparatory opened its doors to 110 Kindergartners and 1st and 2nd grade scholars on August 12, 2010. The school demographics represent the surrounding downtown communities of East Dallas and Fair Park. Ninety-one percent of scholars are minorities and 80% are from low-income households.

The school has a strong partnership with the Museum of Nature and Science that helps emphasize math and science starting in Kindergarten with hands-on learning. Laureate Preparatory has a full-time, dedicated museum employee who works directly with Laureate teachers and administrators to incorporate science activities and instruction throughout the school day. The museum representative also coordinates monthly math and science nights, as well as brings artifacts from the museum for scholars to observe.

Laureate Preparatory will ultimately grow to be a full K-12 continuum with a downtown secondary high school being built for the 2012-13 school year. The Laureate Preparatory District will include Pinnacle Preparatory, an additional K-5 primary school. Ultimately the Laureate Preparatory District will serve nearly 2,000 scholars, and its first graduating class will be in 2015-16.

Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) Gains

- Scholars started the school year in the bottom 25th percentile
- Majority of scholars grew by 30 to 40 points in math and science within the first year at Laureate



Laureate Preparatory

District: Uplift Education's PEAK Preparatory
Rating: Exemplary
Number of Scholars: 110
Year Opened: 2010-2011

Laureate is a great school. The teachers always are on track and ready for a day full of learning. The teachers set goals and expectations for every scholar. They make sure you understand everything they teach you. They help us say the Uplift pledge every day. I can really tell they care about us and want us to learn as much as we can!

My teachers even care about how I sit and stand. If I am sitting in my "learning position" I can tell that I understand and remember more things. It makes me feel more scholarly!

Learning is very important at Laureate and I know that by the time I graduate, there will be a great college ahead of me.

- JESSICA SANCHEZ
CLASS OF 2021

Formula For Success:

- Grades served: K, 1, 2
- Laureate Preparatory is offered in partnership with the Museum of Nature & Science and provides scholars with hands-on, in-museum lab experiences
- Laureate will ultimately grow into a K-5 school and will feed into a downtown Laureate secondary school
- School made possible through the generous donations of The Rees-Jones Foundation, Michael & Susan Dell Foundation, TI Foundation, The M. R. & Evelyn Hudson Foundation and The Perot Foundation



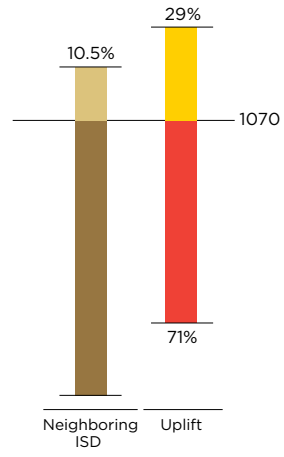
Jacqueline Lovelace
Senior Director of New Schools



Scott Hudnor
Campus Director

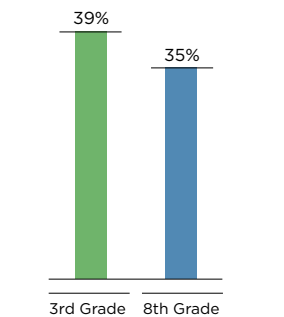
Formula for Innovation and Transparency Around Results

The chart below shows the percentage of Uplift scholars who scored a college-ready score of 1070 (combined math and reading) as defined by the College Board on the SAT.



Percentage of students with college-ready SAT score of 1070 (Math and Reading)

The next chart shows Uplift scholars' competitiveness versus their national peers based on the percentage of our scholars who are in the top quartile based on the Iowa Test of Basis Skills (ITBS)



Percentage of students in top quartile on national norm tests

Data
+ Reflection
Transparency

Our results from 2010–11 pointed to a few areas where our schools and scholars fell short of our high expectations. Because Uplift embraces an attitude of honesty and transparency around what the data tells us, we feel it is important to share those results with our stakeholders, along with our plan for improvement in 2011–12 and beyond. We never stop pushing because we know every gain benefits our scholars.

Our first area for improvement is our SAT scores for our juniors and seniors. Uplift scholars are doing better than their neighboring district, yet 71 percent of our scholars are not achieving a score of college-ready on the SAT. While we continue to view our scholars' performance on state tests with importance, that cannot be our singular focus. We need to care about how our scholars perform at state level AND versus their national peers to ensure they are competitive for national scholarship selection and admission to highly selective colleges.

The next metric of success is based on the percentage of our scholars who are in the top quartile based on the Iowa Test of Basis Skills (ITBS). Uplift has seen that scholars in the 75th percentile and above score higher on AP and IB exams and earn higher SAT scores, which means they have more college choices and are competitive for more scholarship dollars, and are more likely to be successful once they get to college.

Looking Ahead to 2011-12

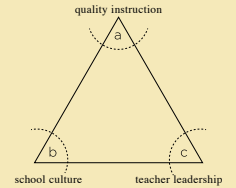
Our big goal for 2011–12 is to increase our scholar's national competitiveness. Uplift's goal is to move primary school scholars who have been with us for three or more years into the top quartile by the time they enter middle school, or by the end of 8th grade if we received them later. To achieve this, our teachers have set the goal for an average 8-point gain in the national percentile rank for the scholars they serve from the beginning of the year to the end of the year.

Our other area of focus for this year will be in the accountability ratings we receive from the Texas Education Agency. Across the state, accountability ratings dropped for many schools this year partially because of the repeal of the "Texas Projection Measure" (TPM) that had allowed campuses to bump up their ratings during 2010 and 2009. Even with the repeal of TPM, Uplift set Exemplary ratings as the "bar" for our organization. A few Uplift schools came so close to that goal but fell just short of achieving top ratings, and, unfortunately, Uplift also had a few schools that performed meaningfully below our expectations.

In the spirit of transparency, Uplift shared our results and plan of action publicly through *The Dallas Morning News* before the results were released through the TEA, because Uplift remains committed that our work positively influences public education in our city as a whole. We hope by openly sharing our story and sharing what it takes to dramatically change performance in a short time frame, it will provide useful learning for other public schools. We have identified the challenges these schools faced and implemented a detailed plan of action to move them in line with Uplift's overall scholar achievement levels by the end of the upcoming school year.

School Improvement Plan

Uplift developed the following plan of action to respond when schools fall short of their goals for Exemplary rated schools. We have put this model into practice for the upcoming school year for our campuses which did not meet the "Exemplary" bar. For 2011–12, we explicitly outlined what changes are being made to support higher quality instruction, tighter school culture, and more empowered teacher leadership.



Purposeful Sense of Urgency

We will act with intentionality and intensity to show meaningful scholar gains.

- Intervention scheduled during the day for struggling learners
- Two-week assessment cycle to keep close pulse on learning
- All scholars have parents sign and return ALL quizzes
- Implementation of IB Middle Years Program and Project Lead the Way
- Freshman Seminar every other day for first semester to help with transition to high school and provide additional support in writing and reading
- Data walls to stay focused on the work ahead

Respect

We can only truly be a team and have the school culture that we want when we treat each other and our scholars with respect and compassion.

- Morning meetings 2x/week to reinforce culture
- Increase professional dress to 4 days/week
- Frequent scholar/staff recognition
- Scholars in 6th–12th grades will complete 25 hours of community service

Positive Energy

The work we are doing is hard and we will approach it with positivity to provide strength to our peers.

- Improve scholar engagement by building school pride, recognizing scholar achievements, and increasing community service
- Improve teacher engagement through luncheons, staff recognition, socials, service awards, and mentoring
- Improve parent engagement through Parents of the Year award, parent liaison position, opportunities for feedback, and training to improve scholar performance

Perseverance

We will remain steadfast toward our goals.

Empowerment

We are all empowered and responsible for our destiny.

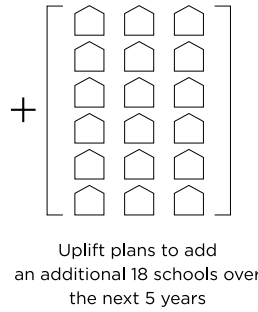
- Expanded leadership team to support assessment and data analysis
- Staff liaison, elected by teachers, for primary and secondary
- Vertical and horizontal teaming
- "Monday Memo" to staff so everyone is informed about campus initiatives

KEY METRICS FOR SUCCESS

- 100% of scholars return signed quizzes
- 80% or more of scholars master biweekly assessments
- Improve average scholar SAT score
- Scholars will grow 8 NCE points based on ITBS
- 60% of staff "Strongly Agree" in quarterly staff surveys
- 90% scholar retention

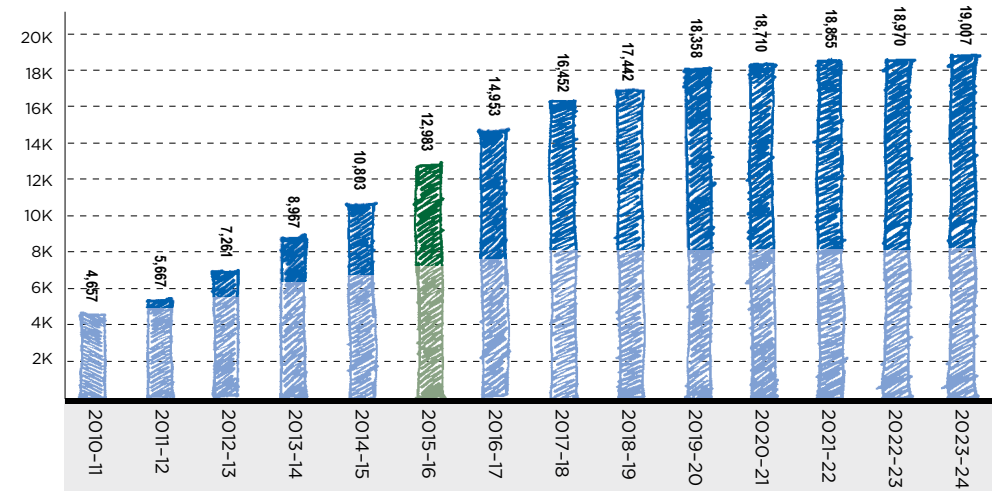


Formula for Growth



Approximately 250,000 primarily low-income students live in the greater DFW region (where Uplift has schools), providing ample opportunity for Uplift's commitment to have at least 80 percent of its portfolio of schools serve low economic communities.

Uplift plans to serve more than 13,000 scholars across its network of schools by the 2015–16 school year. The bar chart below shows the expected scholar growth by year. This chart represents growth on existing campuses (in the light color) as well as new school growth (in the bold color). For financial modeling purposes only, it assumes no new schools are added beyond the last year of Uplift's current strategic plan.



In Dallas, Uplift plans to focus on the educationally underserved and economically distressed communities in East Dallas, Downtown, West Dallas, and Southwest Dallas. Uplift serves all of these communities today. The additional 18 schools Uplift plans to open in Dallas over the next five years, in addition to our existing 19 schools, will educate 9,841 scholars and reach approximately 6.2 percent market share in Dallas.

In Irving, Uplift will focus the majority of its growth in the southern sector, which has demographics similar to the communities Uplift serves in East and West Dallas. Additionally, Uplift will open a new primary school in North Irving that will feed into North Hills Preparatory at 6th grade. This eliminates the current need to take in new 6th graders in order to have a larger secondary school. Each year, more than 2,000 families are on Uplift's waiting list for the 1,400-student North Hills Preparatory campus.

In addition, Uplift plans to enter Fort Worth in 2012–13, opening a cluster of schools that will support its K–12 continuum model.

A Glance at New Schools for 2011-12

New for 2011–12 are Pinnacle Preparatory in Oak Cliff and Infinity Preparatory in Irving South. Pinnacle will ultimately feed into a future downtown secondary school, along with primary scholars from downtown's Laureate Preparatory, where Uplift will continue its relationship with the Museum of Nature and Science. In Irving South, Uplift will continue to grow its presence to serve the full K–12 continuum through a total of two primary schools and one secondary school.

Like many Uplift communities, these neighborhoods reflect a high proportion of low-income and minority families, and a low percentage of college-preparatory school options.



Pinnacle Preparatory

Year opened: 2011–12

Grades served: K–1

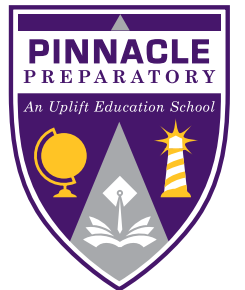
Number of scholars: 101



Jacqueline Lovelace
Senior Director of New Schools



Karen Salerno
Campus Director



Infinity Preparatory

Year opened: 2011–12

Grades served: K–1, 6

Number of scholars: 215



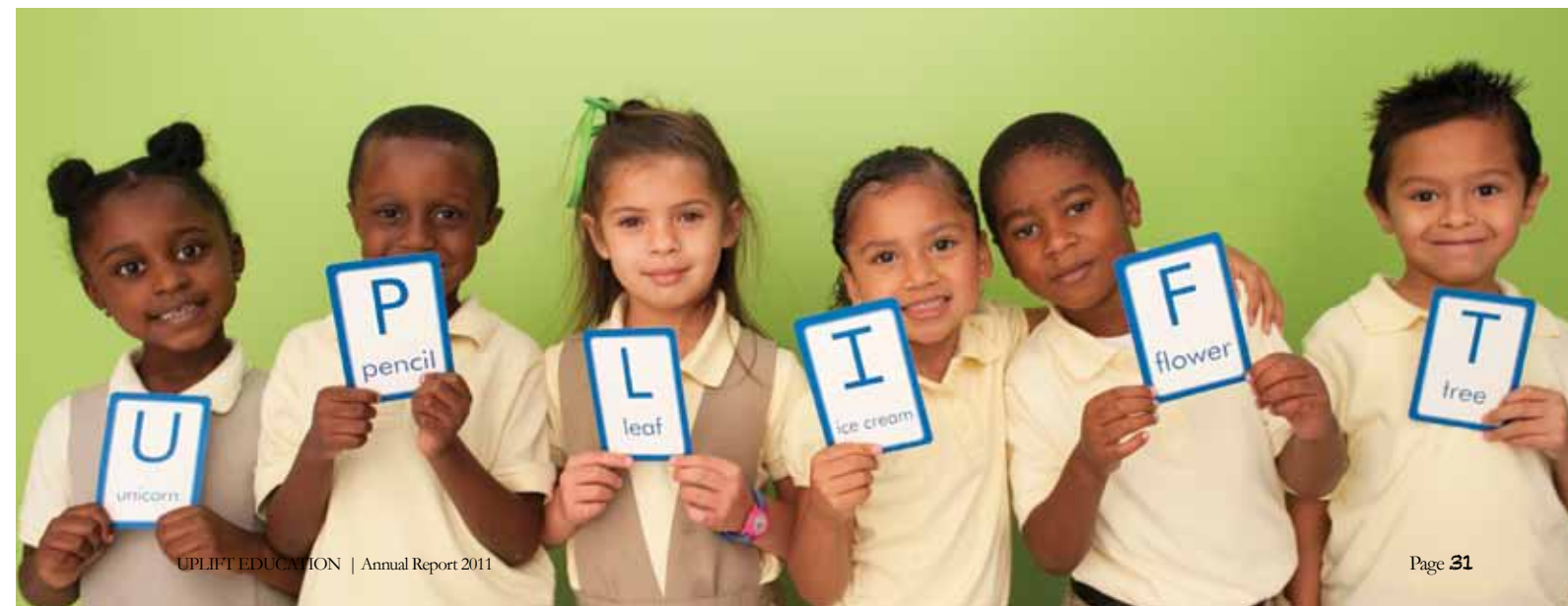
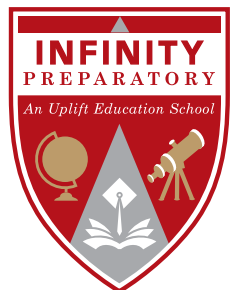
Jacqueline Lovelace
Senior Director of New Schools



Alex Briggs
Primary Director



Nina Bhatia
Middle School Director

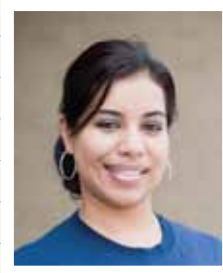


Formula for Great Teachers and Leaders

Uplift's Teachers of the Year exemplify its commitment to college preparation, striving year over year to ensure their scholars are on track to enter and succeed in college.



Sharlene Andrews
4th Grade
Hampton Preparatory



Lythia Awe
2nd Grade
Peak Preparatory



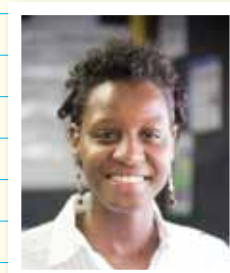
Erin Chester
Art/Technology
Williams Preparatory



Samantha Fils
9th Grade English
Williams Preparatory



Megan Fliss
10th Grade Chemistry
Peak Preparatory



Shaquela Ford
5th Grade Teacher
Summit Preparatory



Julie Hills
2nd Grade
North Hills Preparatory



Chloe LaFrance
1st Grade
Laureate Preparatory



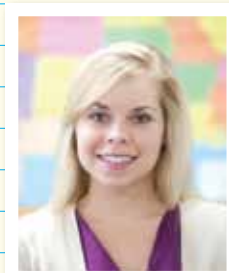
Kari Mills
7th Grade Math
Peak Preparatory



Daniel Polk
6th Grade ELA
Heights Preparatory



Brandon Pope
High School Teacher
Summit Preparatory



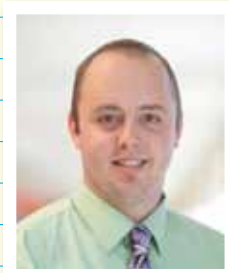
Lauren Rozanski
8th Grade
North Hills Preparatory



Jamie Sammis
Physics
Williams Preparatory



Charles Taylor
8th Grade Math
Hampton Preparatory



Shaun Thompson
High School Technology
Hampton Preparatory



Sharice Williams
12th Grade
North Hills Preparatory

Exemplar Teachers

In May 2011, Uplift announced its 2011–12 cohort of Exemplar Teachers. Exemplar Teachers represent the best instructional classroom leaders at Uplift. They not only put best practices into use on a daily basis in their classrooms, but they are also reflective and can articulate what they do to drive scholar achievement. Exemplar Teachers continually work to grow in their craft and learn new skills to inspire learning. Exemplar Teachers have the data and results that show what they are doing is making a meaningful impact on advancing scholars toward college readiness.



Sharlene Andrews
Primary
Hampton Preparatory



Abby Baer
Primary
Summit Preparatory



Mary Butler
Mathematics
North Hills Preparatory



Karen Edwards
Technology
North Hills Preparatory



Chloe LaFrance
Primary
Laureate Preparatory



Andrea Parks
Science
Summit Preparatory



Daniel Polk
English
Heights Preparatory



Brandon Pope
Science
Summit Preparatory



Adam Reichow
Primary
Laureate Preparatory



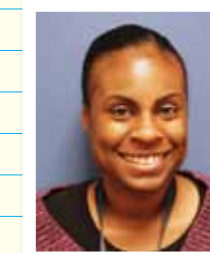
Candace Reid
Science
Summit Preparatory



Dakota Rubin
Primary
Williams Preparatory



Shehnaz Wadhwan
ELA
North Hills Preparatory



Misti Whitley
Mathematics
Peak Preparatory

Dynamic Day in Dallas

Also based upon performance against their 2010–11 goals, 78 teachers, school leaders and staff members were selected for the 2011 Dynamic Day in Dallas. These members of the Uplift team were rewarded with an Oscar-themed party, pampering, golf, spa services, and fine dining.



Participation in the Dynamic Day in Dallas is based on metrics such as:

- Scholar performance on ITBS
- Percentage of graduates accepted to college
- Progress toward scholarship goals for campus
- Parent and staff satisfaction
- Scholar retention
- Scholar growth on ITBS
- Percentage of scholars scoring a 3 or better on AP tests or a 5 or higher on IB exams
- Other meaningful contributions to our campuses and college readiness

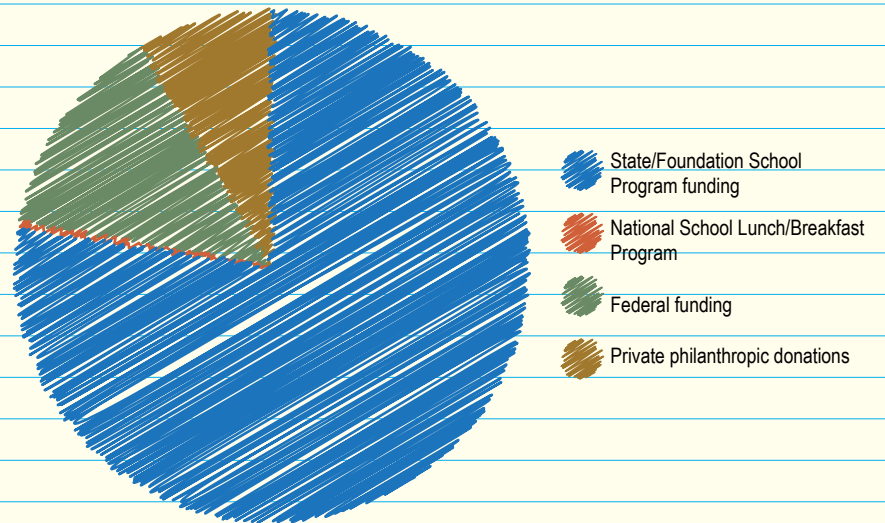
Financial Summary for Uplift Education

Audited income statement for fiscal year 2010-2011

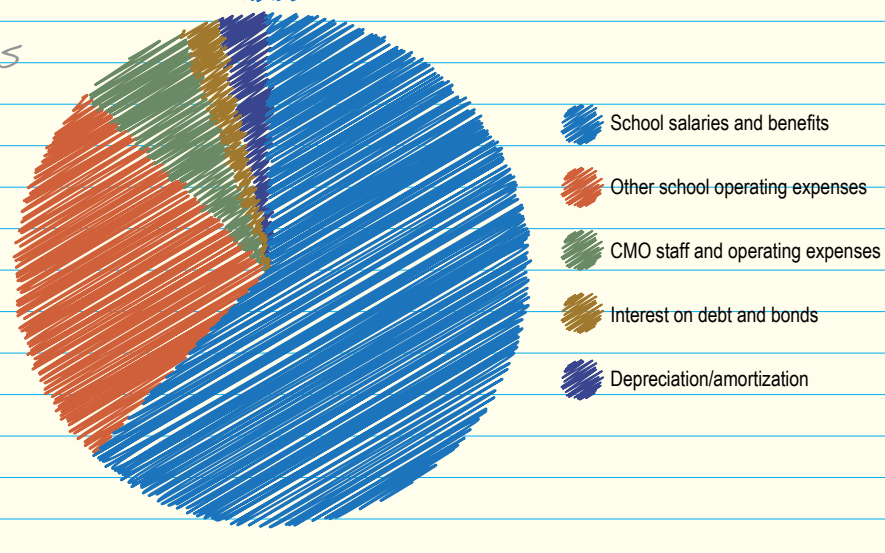
Statement of Activities for the Year Ended June 30, 2011

Revenue	
State/Foundation School Program funding	= \$37,954,659
National School Lunch/Breakfast Program	16,397,0
Federal funding	6,730,483
Private philanthropic donations	4,161,474
Total Revenue	\$49,010,586
Expenses	
School salaries and benefits	= \$29,553,932
Other school operating expenses	12,100,065
CMO staff and operating expenses	3,491,502
Interest on debt and bonds	1,130,200
Depreciation/amortization	1,515,359
Total Expenses	\$47,791,058
Addition to cash reserves before debt repayment	= \$1,219,528

Revenue



Expenses



Donor Recognition

Thank you to the following donors for their generous gifts to support Uplift's mission.

\$1,000,000 +	\$250,000 to \$999,999	\$100,000 to \$249,999
Charter School Growth Fund Communities Foundation of Texas Communities Foundation of Texas - Texas High School Project The Michael & Susan Dell Foundation The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation The Harold Simmons Foundation	The Rees-Jones Foundation The Walton Family Foundation U.S. Department of Education Teacher Incentive Fund The Todd & Abby Williams Foundation	Anonymous The Brown Foundation, Inc. The Hillcrest Foundation The Hoblitzelle Foundation M.R. & Evelyn Hudson Foundation The Posey Leadership Enhancement Fund TI Foundation

Gifts of \$250,000 and up The Boone Family Foundation Charter School Growth Fund The Michael & Susan Dell Foundation The Rees-Jones Foundation Harold Simmons Foundation Texas Instruments Foundation U.S. Department of Education-Teacher Incentive Fund The Walton Family Foundation	Mr. and Mrs. Franco Davis Delta Healthcare Mr. and Mrs. Mahendra Devabhaktuni Mr. and Mrs. Robert Drinkwater Mr. and Mrs. James Eiler Mr. and Mrs. Ted Endsley Mr. and Mrs. Jyothi Eppalapati Expedia Inc. 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