



2023

**uplift**education

annual report

## Full Circle

Interview with Giovanni Sanchez, Uplift alum and Board member

## Careers Converging

Broader paths after high school

## Giving with Purpose

Make an impact in 2024

27 years serving the children of DFW

27

For 27 years we have been closing the achievement gap in DFW.

45

Our 45 schools offer every scholar a high quality education.

23K

Every one of our 23,000 scholars benefits from our Whole Scholar approach.

100%

100% of our graduates have been accepted to college for 21 years.

78%

78% of our scholars will be the first in their family to attend college.

80%

80% of our scholars are from low socioeconomic households.

Uplift Education is proud to be a flagship tenant at Pegasus Park in Dallas which aims to strengthen North Texas as a globally-recognized center for life science innovation, business, and social impact.



# Is Economic Freedom A Right?

Yasmin Bhatia, Uplift Education CEO

As we reflect on Uplift Education's past year's achievements and challenges, it is with great pride and a clear vision for the future that we address the pressing question: "What is economic freedom?" At Uplift, we firmly believe that the opportunity to achieve economic freedom and prosperity is the right of our graduates. To us, this encompasses more than just financial stability; it includes home ownership, comprehensive insurance coverage, and the capacity to save for the future.

I am thrilled to share that the latest TEA (Texas Education Agency) data not only confirms the success of our approach but also underscores our commitment to our scholars. The statistics reveal that Uplift alums now earn an average of \$64,300, starkly contrasting the \$41,000 reported by DISD (Dallas Independent School District) and the \$48,000 Dallas County average.

Our approach begins in the earliest stages of education, where we instill a deep-rooted love for learning. We show and tell children that the options for their future are endless, from attending one of the colleges and universities represented on the college banners to finding an exciting career path through the guests who speak to them as early as primary school during our career weeks. For children who need more academic intervention, we've invested heavily in giving them more learning time through personalized, high-dosage tutoring or robust summer school programming. We want every child to have an equal opportunity to thrive.

Our commitment extends to providing personalized guidance for each scholar, exemplified by Uplift's exceptional 1:50

college counselor-to-student ratio. This tailored approach equips our scholars with the necessary tools to navigate the complexities of their post-high school endeavors. We believe in fostering a culture where hard work and self-belief are the cornerstones of success, and we remain steadfast in our mission to help our scholars achieve their wildest aspirations.

Even after our scholars leave our schools, our dedication does not waiver. We continue offering support and guidance through our college persistence counselors and alumni career service office. Our goal is not merely to facilitate placement into a first job but to pave the way for a stable career trajectory and long-term economic freedom.

As we look ahead, our commitment to ensuring excellent educational opportunities that empower our scholars and propel them to their brightest future remains. Our scholars' average salary is only one illustration of the dozens of accomplishments we celebrate this year. Every achievement brings us one step closer to our vision of equitable education and opportunity for each child in the DFW area.



# More Time on Tutoring

At Uplift, success is not defined solely by test scores but by the holistic development of each scholar through their educational journey and beyond high school. We take pride in our commitment to equip scholars with the skills, knowledge, and resilience to navigate the challenges of higher education, career, and life beyond the classroom.

We do this by meeting scholars where they are and building personalized learning plans to meet their individual needs.

Uplift raised the bar even higher this past year by providing High Impact Tutoring (H.I.T.) to nearly 4,000 scholars. Unlike traditional after-school tutoring, this support happened during the school day, several times a week in a virtual setting. Across the board, we saw positive progress in literacy and math test scores, meaning more scholars are learning on track and prepared for the next grade level.

## H.I.T. Highlights



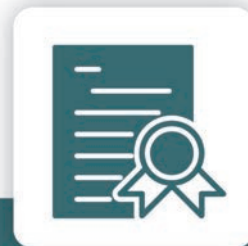
4,000  
Scholars



42  
Schools



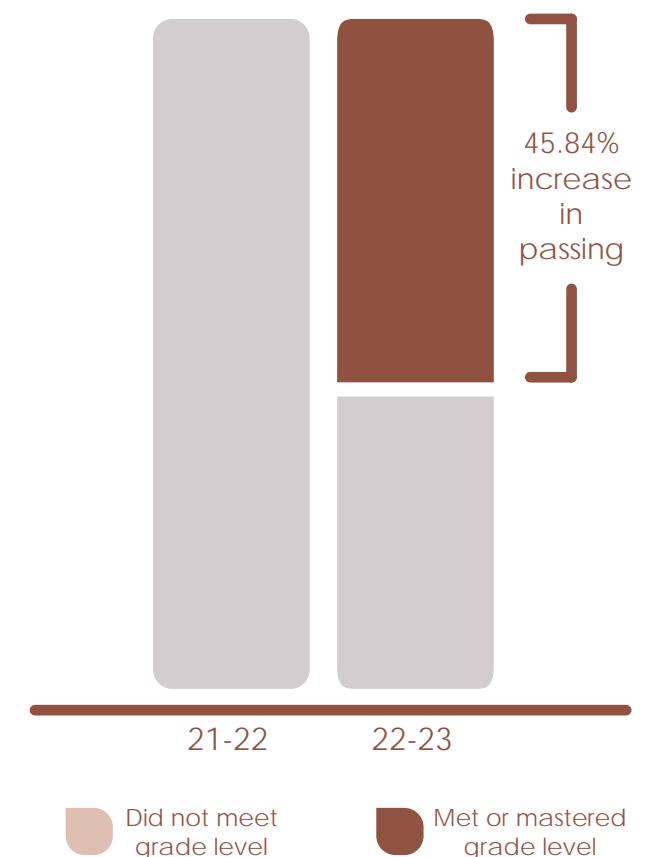
37,433  
Total Hours of Tutoring



46%  
passed STAAR exam after failing the previous year



Scholars who received high impact tutoring in 2022-23





# Coming Full Circle

Giovanny Sanchez Gives Back

Giovanny Sanchez was not just the first in his family to go to college but also the first to attend high school. When he graduated from Uplift Williams in 2012, he was excited to pave a new way for his younger brothers.

Now, just ten years later, Gio has earned his college degree and is employed as an account executive at a rapidly growing tech company in Dallas. Gio owns a home, provides for his family, and serves on the Board of Directors of Uplift Education.

“I never would have thought I was only a decade away from sitting in the governance seat at the organization that supported my dreams,” Gio shared. “Before I attended Uplift, I did not think college would be an option.

Uplift’s culture and rigorous academic approach helped instill a work ethic that has supported the success I’ve achieved in college, my professional life, and leadership in the community.” Gio’s story is a testament to the transformative power of education. It reminds us that education is not just about acquiring knowledge but also about empowering individuals to redefine their destinies.



Read Giovanny's Story!

“When asked what

success means to me, I reflect on my journey. In conventional terms, I’m considered successful. I am an account executive at a

rapidly growing tech company in Dallas, own a home, and provide for my family. Uplift education paved the way for my economic opportunities. However, I define success not by my hard work and achievements but by the opportunity to reinvest in the community that nurtured me. Please join me in supporting Uplift Education. See page 12 for how to empower our scholars with your investment.

”

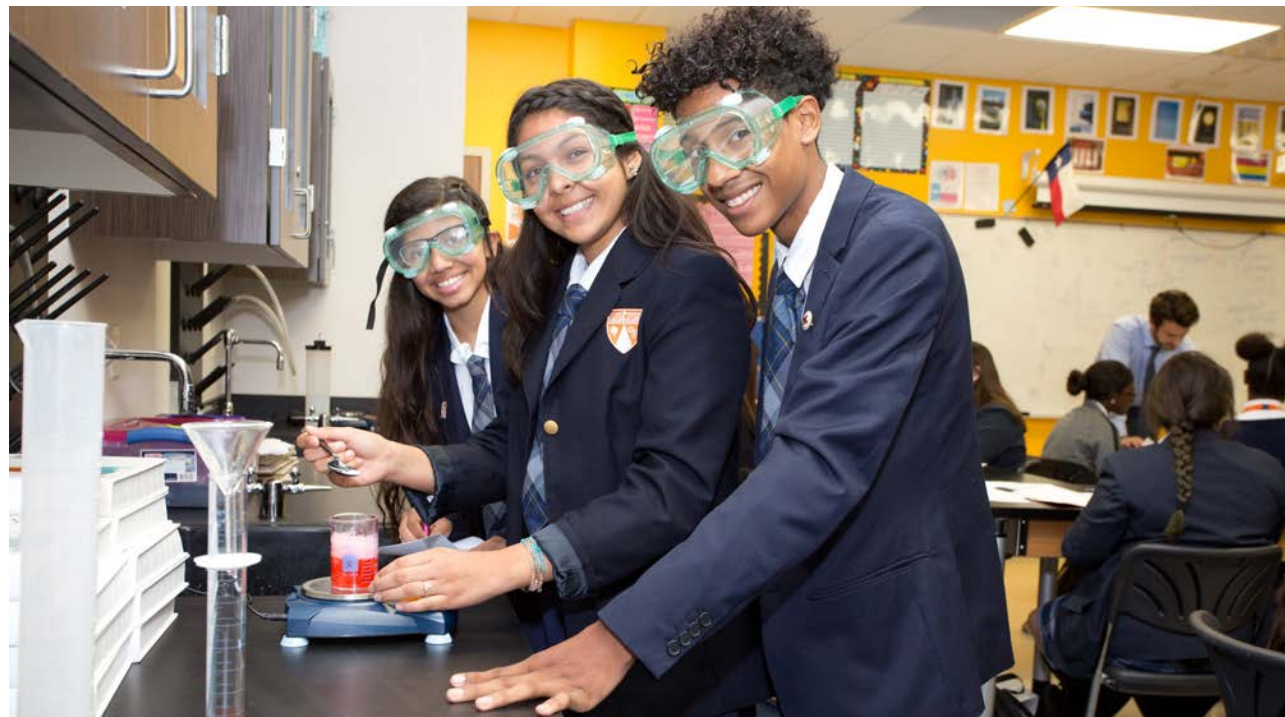


# The Building of Futures

Uplift Education is not just a network of schools; it is a launchpad for a future yet to be built. Uplift goes beyond traditional education. We recognize that college is not the only route to success. We allow scholars to explore myriad professions beginning in middle school. These experiences help scholars discover their passions and interests, laying the groundwork for informed future decisions.

Through our Career Solutions program, we offer career pathways into healthcare and computer science with an intent to add teaching in the coming years to meet a critical need in classrooms. While some scholars choose to enter careers immediately, others will leverage certifications to earn substantial salaries while in college to help offset the cost of higher education.

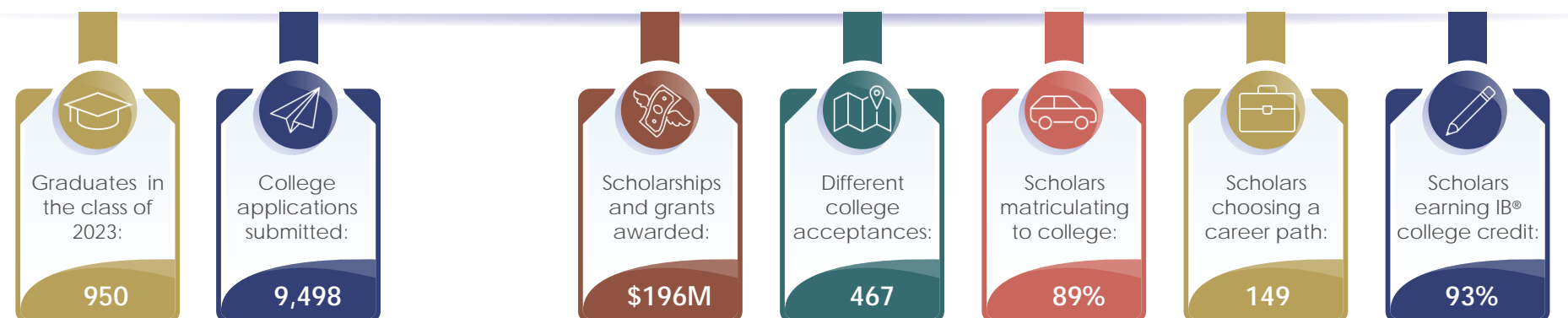
Uplift is creating options that lead to economic mobility. Our success is measured not only in academic achievements but also in the tangible impact it has on the lives of our graduates. Uplift Education is not just building futures; we are shaping destinies, proving that every dream is within reach with the right formula and support.



Post Graduate Decisions for Uplift Graduates



Uplift Education Class of 2023



The centerpiece of Uplift's commitment to a holistic education is the Uplift Career Solutions program. Unlike conventional technical training, it is designed to provide practical skills that lead to industry-recognized certifications and actual careers that align with the job market demands.





# Our Supporters

With our donors' generosity, Uplift can provide an education for the 23,000+ scholars enrolled for 2023-24. We extend a heartfelt thank you to the following donors for their generous 2022-23 gifts and lifetime donations over \$25K to support Uplift's mission.

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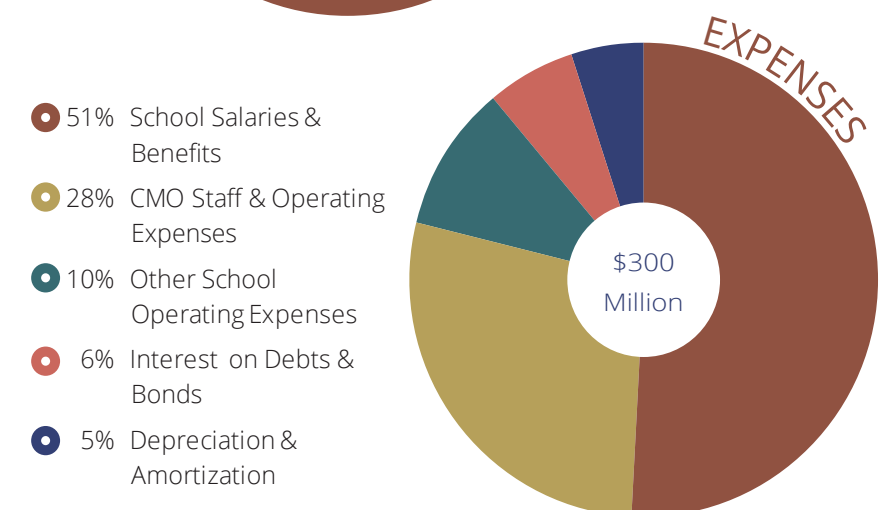
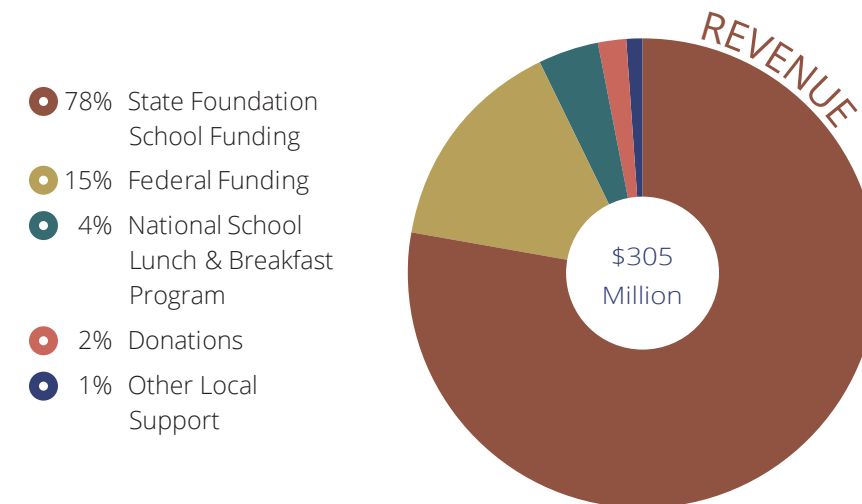
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# Financials

As in years past, Uplift maintains its investment-grade rating and continues to grow and fund innovation through private philanthropic support. Additionally, Uplift advocates to find ways to bridge the funding gap through state policies.





Thanks to supporters like you, Uplift Education community charter schools are educating more than 23,000 scholars across DFW, ensuring a college and career preparatory PreK-12 education, best-in-class college and career counseling, on-campus support, and critical career guidance.

# Empower Our Scholars With Your Investment

## Our Annual Fund

Join us in championing our scholars' success by contributing to our annual fund through monthly or yearly donations. Your support directly fuels critical programs that transcend traditional boundaries, catering to the needs of both current scholars and alums alike.

Notably, our commitment to the "Road To College and Career" initiative and the indispensable "Social and Character Counseling" program incurs an additional cost of \$1,200 per scholar annually. These vital programs go above and beyond, providing invaluable guidance and support on their educational and personal journeys.

We invite you to lend your support to our annual fund, which plays a pivotal role in sustaining and expanding these impactful programs. Your contribution will make a tangible difference in shaping the future of our scholars and preparing them for academic and personal success. Together, let's invest in a brighter tomorrow for our scholars and alums.



## Our Capital Campaign

### PreK Expansion

Access to free, high-quality PreK programs remains uneven across different zip codes. Recognizing the significance of our widespread presence throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) area, Uplift is committed to enhancing our impact by building additional PreK classrooms to serve more of our youngest scholars.

Our PreK program aligns with our overarching academic philosophy, fostering a classroom atmosphere prioritizing joy, curiosity, and feeling welcome.

The anticipated cost of this PreK expansion initiative is \$8,000,000. Your collaboration will be vital in ensuring more children have access to a nurturing and enriching early education experience.



### Athletic Facilities



At Uplift Education, our commitment to fostering a well-rounded learning environment extends beyond academics. We recognize the importance of physical health and active lifestyles for our scholars during and after the school day.

In our early years, we prioritized creating exceptional academic spaces that aided scholars' learning journeys through natural lighting, purposeful design, and engaging

aesthetics.

As part of our ongoing commitment to comprehensive scholar development, we are poised to expand our educational landscape further by introducing upgraded athletic facilities, including the implementation of turf soccer fields and a competitive track field. These enhancements, valued at \$16,000,000, will provide our scholars with opportunities for physical well-being and the pursuit of sporting excellence.

## Contribute

To learn more about how you can support these transformative efforts, don't hesitate to **contact Deborah Bigham** at **dbigham@uplifteducation.org**. Your involvement will create an enriched educational experience that encompasses our scholars' academic and athletic dimensions.



# Our Mission

Uplift's mission is to create and sustain public schools of excellence that empower scholars to reach their highest potential in college and the global marketplace and that inspire in scholars a life-long love of learning, achievement, and service in order to positively change their world.

