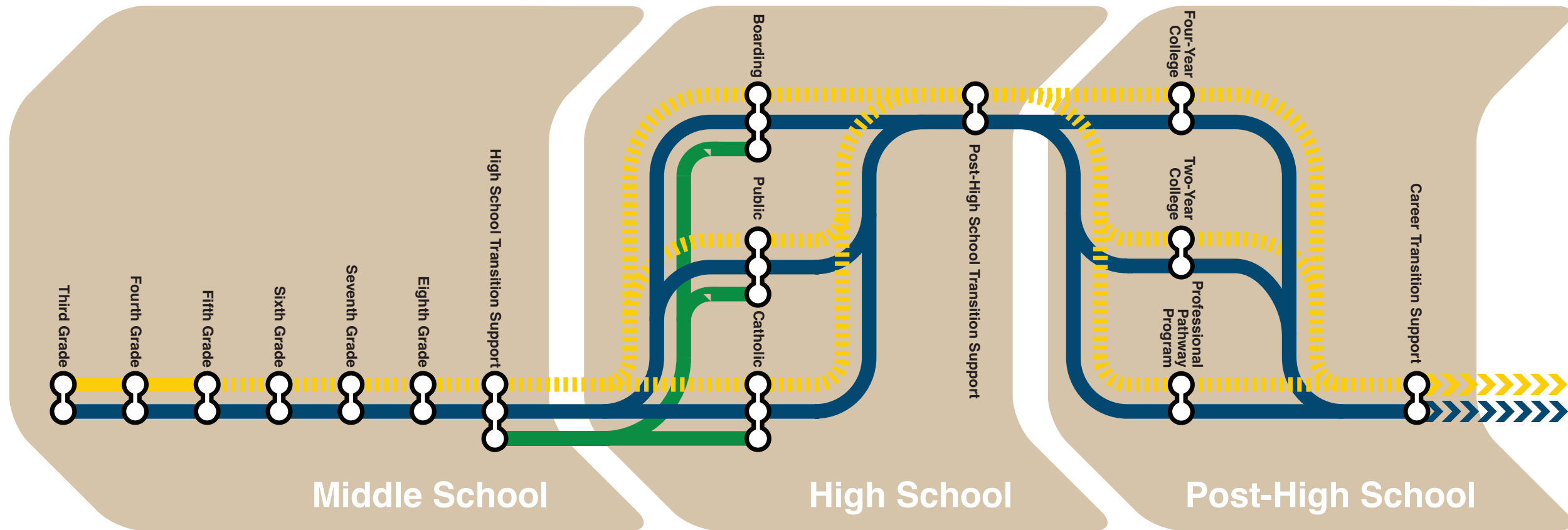







CHICAGO JESUIT ACADEMY

**CJA At A Glance**

# A Long-Term Commitment With A Loving Community



There are as many routes to success as there are students, and we are prepared to accompany our students and alumni however they chart their paths to meaningful employment. CJA's relationship with our students and alumni formally spans 17 years, but once a family joins the CJA community, they have the opportunity to be a part of it for life.

-  Chicago Jesuit Academy Boys' Program
-  Chicago Jesuit Academy Girls' Program
-  High School Bridge Program



# Elementary School



### Co-Institutional Model

Single-sex academic classes allow students to focus without distraction, and co-ed social and co-curricular times build community across the school.



### Learning Resource Center

A team of learning interventionists and a speech pathologist provide tailored academic plans for each student's needs.



### Social Work & Nursing

We believe in *cura personalis*: care for the whole person. A full-time school nurse and team of full-time social workers support students' physical and emotional health.



### Nutritious Meals

All students receive a nutritious breakfast, lunch and snack every day.



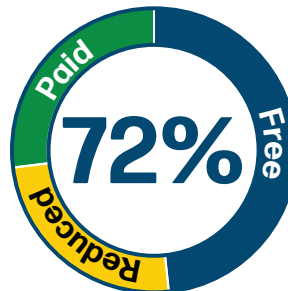
### Low Student to Teacher Ratio

A 10:1 student to teacher ratio allows faculty to personalize each student's learning.



### Extended School Day & Year

CJA's 9-hour day and 11-month school year includes summer programming for all students.



72% of CJA students are eligible for free or reduced-price school lunch based on family-reported income and household sizes.



83% of CJA students identify as African American or Black, 15% as Hispanic or Latinx, and 2% as biracial.



CJA students are roughly 18 times more likely to graduate from college by age 25 than students attending neighborhood CPS schools near CJA

# College & Career Persistence



### High School Transition

The College & Career Persistence (CP) Team works with 7th and 8th graders to find their best-fit high school. CP support continues throughout high school, including SAT prep, campus visits and workshops.



### Post-High School Transition

CP works with high school seniors to map out plans for college, certificate programs or immediate workforce entry. CP ensures that regardless of next steps, alumni will be ready.

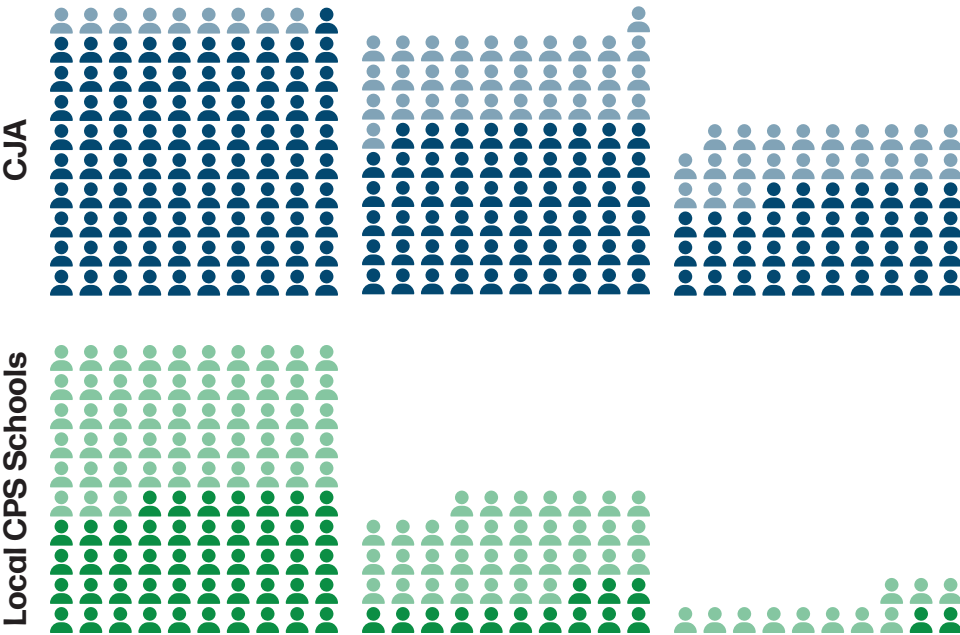


### Career Transition

CP continues to be a strong advocate as alumni chart their paths toward meaningful employment including supporting networking, mock interviews and professional writing.

## What CJA Alumni Achieve

Milestone	CJA Alumni Achievement	Comparable CPS Alumni Achievement
High School Graduation	91% of CJA alumni graduate from high school in four years	47%
College Enrollment	64% of CJA alumni immediately enroll in a four-year college	28%
College Degree	63% of CJA alumni earn a college degree within six years	15%



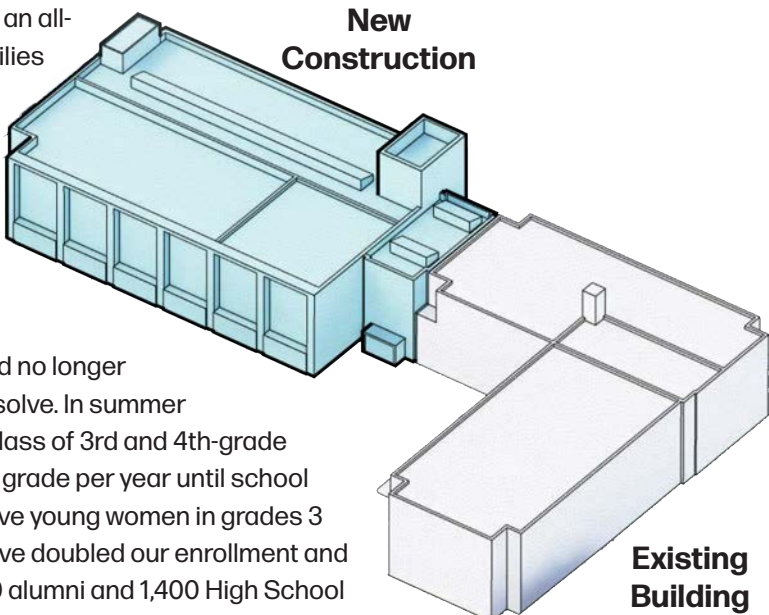
All CPS data from UChicago's To&Through Project. Comparison is made with a student population-weighted average of three West Side neighborhood high schools.



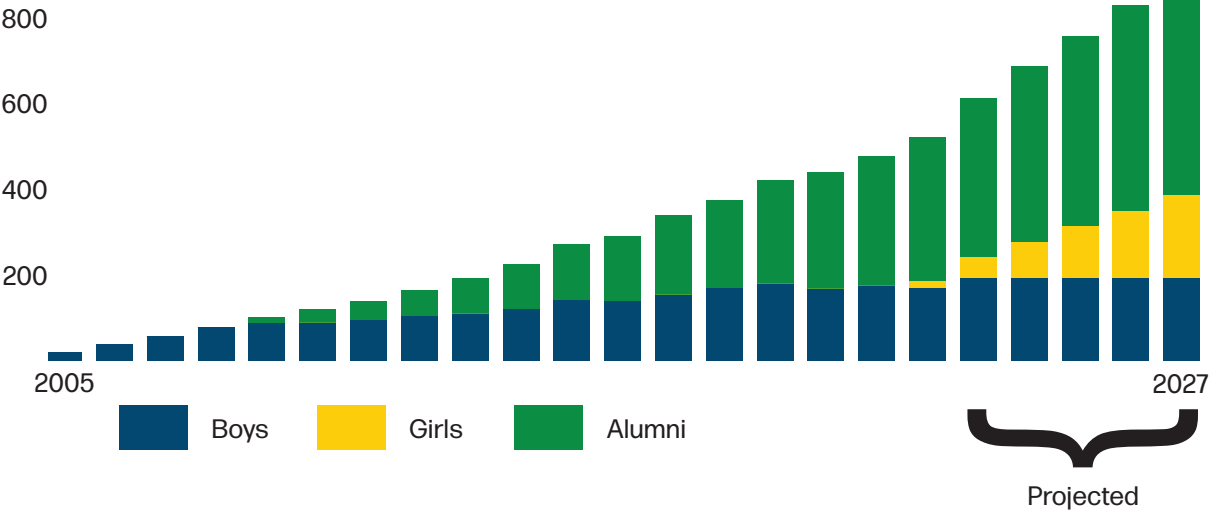
# Our Growth: Campus Expansion and Girls' Program

In 2005, we opened our doors as an all-boys school. Over the years, families with sons and daughters have shared that navigating multiple school systems is a barrier to enrollment. They have also shared there is no comparable school for young women in their communities.

This was an equity issue we could no longer wait for another organization to solve. In summer 2021, we enrolled our inaugural class of 3rd and 4th-grade girls. We will continue to add one grade per year until school year 2026-2027, when we will serve young women in grades 3 through 8. At that time, we will have doubled our enrollment and will be serving 384 students, 480 alumni and 1,400 High School Bridge partner-school students.



CJA Enrollment, 2005-2027





# Our Growth: High School Bridge

While High School Bridge (HSB) is a more recent addition to CJA's work, the College & Career Persistence Office has supported CJA students and alumni for over a decade. The success of CJA's alumni demonstrates the difference a trusted advocate can make when navigating key transitions such as the one from middle school to high school. Over the years, local principals have come to CJA and asked for support creating similar programs to guide their students through the high school application process.

The challenge of making the elementary-to-high-school transition can be overwhelming for even the most well-resourced families. There are over 500 high schools to choose from in the Chicagoland area. The quality of each private, public and charter school varies greatly, and the barriers to enrolling in the most well-resourced schools are steep.

Chicago students have the right to a well-resourced high school education, but the placement process is complicated to navigate alone. HSB helps students attending elementary schools in communities impacted by systemic disinvestment find and succeed in their best-fit high schools. We advocate for 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th graders and their families as they build the foundation for their success in high school, post-secondary education and the start of their careers.

## HSB's Competitive Advantage

We spent two years examining over 75 community organizations and the post-high school outcomes of over 10,000 students in Chicago. We found that access to well-resourced high school education is especially steep for those who 1) Attend elementary school in historically disinvested and under-resourced communities 2) Will be among the first in their family to earn a college degree and 3) Have GPAs below 3.0 coming out of 7th and 8th grade. High School Bridge leverages CJA's expertise in this space in response to this unmet need.

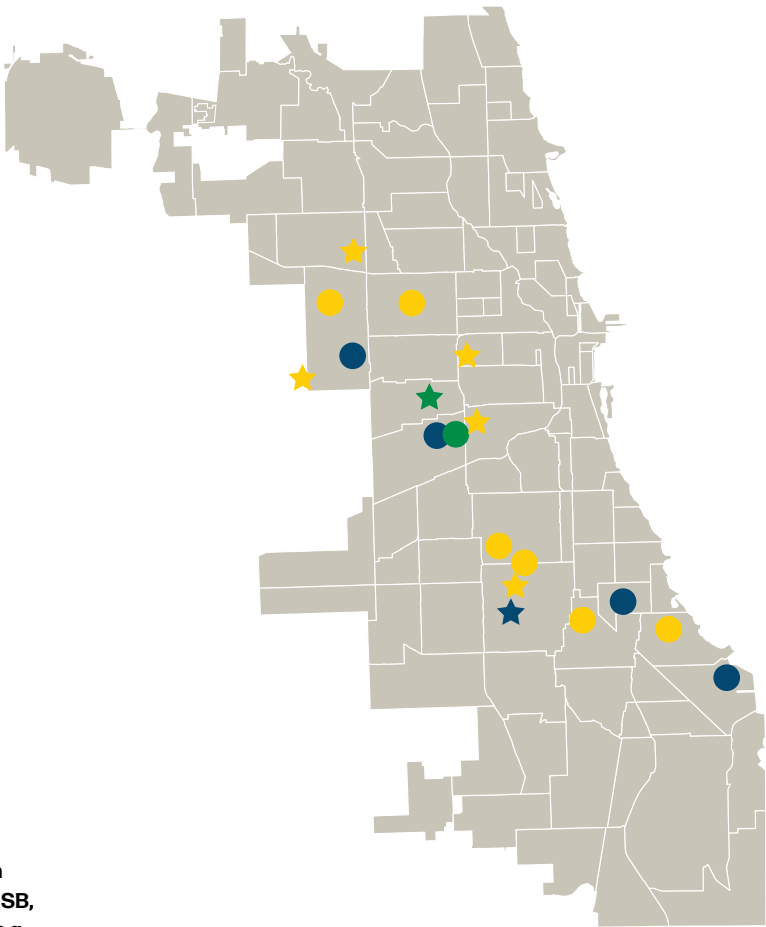
	Example Neighborhood Schools		Example Best-Fit High Schools	
High School Freshmen	100%	100%	100%	100%
High School Graduates	56%	64%	92%	90%
College Enrollees	28%	22%	62%	67%
College Graduates	15%	6%	38%	36%
	CPS School, Austin	CPS School, Back of the Yards	CPS IB School	Noble Street

## HSB Partner Schools

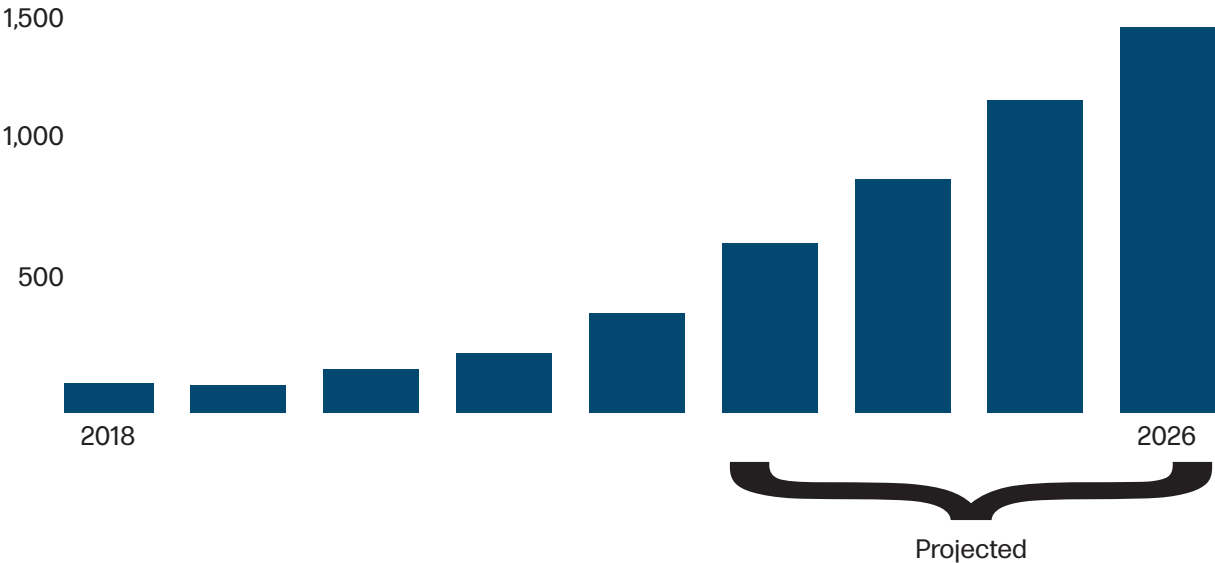
- ★ Current Partner Catholic School
- ★ Current Partner CPS/Charter School
- ★ Current Partner Independent School
- Future Partner Catholic School
- Future Partner CPS/Charter School
- Future Partner Independent School



Students enrolled in a best-fit high school, like those recommended by HSB, are up to six times more likely to earn a college degree than students enrolled in their neighborhood CPS schools



## HSB Students Served, 2018-2026



# Ways to Support

## Scholarship Opportunities

CJA relies entirely on the generosity of others to offer a full-scholarship, college prep lower and middle school education to students who could not otherwise afford it. By funding a scholarship, you are supporting our students and alumni on their path to becoming leaders in their schools, careers and communities.

## Other Ways To Invest In CJA

### Corporate Giving

Corporate and foundation giving is a critical element to the success of Chicago Jesuit Academy. If you know of a company or foundation that would be interested in supporting our work, please contact CJA.

### Legacy Giving

Making a provision for CJA in your will leaves a legacy that enables us to provide quality education for students on the West Side of Chicago now and into the future.

To read more about planned giving opportunities, please visit [chicagojesuitacademy.org/plannedgiving](https://chicagojesuitacademy.org/plannedgiving).

### Volunteer

Chicago Jesuit Academy depends on the dedication of many volunteers to help care for our students and alumni. Please contact our volunteer coordinator, **Dave Zalesky**, at [zalesky@cjadecademy.org](mailto:zalesky@cjadecademy.org) to learn about opportunities at CJA.

### Gifts of Securities

Some individuals find significant tax savings by making their gift in the form of appreciated securities. Please contact **Danielle Pernini**, at [pernini@cjadecademy.org](mailto:pernini@cjadecademy.org) for CJA's account and DTC number.

### Matching Gifts

Your company may have programs that could double or triple your gift to the students of Chicago Jesuit Academy. Many corporations offer matching gift programs to encourage charitable giving among current and retired employees and their spouses.

### In-Kind Donations

If you are interested in donating goods or services to CJA, please visit our Wish List at [chicagojesuitacademy.org/support-us/wishlist](https://chicagojesuitacademy.org/support-us/wishlist).

If you would like to share additional items or services with us that are not already on our Wish List, please contact **Danielle Pernini**.







## Mission

Chicago Jesuit Academy is a loving and academically rigorous tuition-free Catholic elementary school for students and families from resilient communities impacted by historical disinvestment. We accompany our students and alumni from enrollment through the start of their careers as they develop their gifts and grow as men and women for others.

## Means

Located in Austin on Chicago's West Side, CJA admits students to all grades in our lower and middle school without regard for their race, ethnicity or religion, and CJA enrolls 3rd-, 4th- and 5th-grade students without regard for their past levels of academic achievement.

We use small class sizes, extended school days and an 11-month school year to give personal care to our students and help them develop as whole persons.

We accompany our alumni on their unique paths to meaningful employment and support them throughout high school, their post-secondary education and the start of their careers, always welcoming them back as leaders at CJA and in the broader community.

CJA students, alumni, parents, faculty, staff, volunteers and benefactors listen to and learn from one another and make disciplined sacrifices to accomplish our shared mission.

We partner with other schools and the broader community to create access to better educational resources, confront systemic racism and remove obstacles to educational equity.

We call one another to find God in all things and be men and women for others who are open to growth, loving, religious, intellectually competent and committed to doing justice.

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