

# KEEPING OUR PROMISE

ANNUAL REPORT  
2015-2016



## DEAR UCAP FRIENDS,

Twenty-seven years ago, the Urban Collaborative Accelerated Program opened its doors with a promise to help middle school students who were at serious risk of dropping out to succeed in high school through personalized and accelerated learning. Today, we remain committed to that promise.

Our school has helped over 1,000 young people achieve their educational potential and better their lives and futures. Through the generosity of donors to the Fund for UCAP, we are able to augment our public funding and provide students with additional learning opportunities through our *Beyond U* programs as well as offer supports and services that help each student feel special.

As we look to ensure that we continue our success, this past year, we reached out to community leaders, educators and UCAP supporters to get a pulse on how well we were doing in living up to our promise. We gained great insight into the positive impact we are having on the lives of our students and their families. Many spoke of the deep devotion and connection UCAP has to our students; the innovative, creative and rigorous academics we offer; the incredible work of our impressive students; our engaging teachers that make dreams come true for our students; and the generosity of the community who support us.

These conversations inspired us to reflect and think deeply about what makes UCAP special, the elements that have enabled us to live up to our promise, and how we could better articulate that in our name. We believe our new name, **The UCAP School: Unity, Community, Achievement, Possibility**, speaks to all that we are, our brand - our promise.

Thank you for helping to make **The UCAP School** a special place for our students and a source of pride for our community.

Sincerely,



Robert DeBlois, Director

## ENSURING THE PROMISE

Our outreach work this past year provided rich information to help us review, assess and enhance our pioneering academic techniques. We focused on enhancements in our key areas:

### Acceleration and Personalization Make the Grade

We underwent an evaluation conducted by the Center for Leadership and Educational Equity to assess the influence UCAP's culture and practice of acceleration and personalization has had on our students' success. The evaluation identified acceleration as a means to develop high status and high expectations for students who had experienced difficulties in their previous schools. The report also noted that UCAP's culture of personalization encourages and supports students at all stages of their academic and social learning.

### Deepening our Personalized Approach

We took our personalized learning to a new level through "blended learning" which encourages students to explore

and study areas of interest through online and digital media with the guidance of their teacher. Through the support of the Fund for UCAP and the generosity of our donors, we were able to purchase 70 Chromebook computers along with computer carts, software, headphones, and projectors to make blended learning a way of teaching and learning in our classrooms.

### Enhancing Early and Intensive Intervention for all at Risk

UCAP's mission is distinctive from just about all other schools - public, private and charter. We seek to work with students who are not doing well in school. Many of these students have repeated a grade and are appropriate for our "Accelerated Pathway" - meaning that they can complete more than one grade in one year. Other students who have not repeated but who need intensive focus on their academic and social learning are eligible for the traditional pathway.

For More Information About Our Enhanced Programming Visit: [Ucap.org/Enhancements](http://Ucap.org/Enhancements)



## BEYOND U EXPANDING SOCIAL LEARNING AND ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

One of UCAP's key ingredients of success is the *Beyond U* program, a 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC), that provides our students with enriched experiences that go well beyond text books and classrooms, and are essential for students to be successful today. *Beyond U* programs are totally reliant on private donations. **Last year, 100% of UCAP students participated in *Beyond U* programs**, which are held after school, on the weekends and throughout the summer. Half of the students participated in 30 days or more of programs.

***Beyond U* increased the number of Science Technology Engineering Arts Math (STEAM) related programs including Save the Bay, STEAMBox and DownCity Design.** These programs provide our students the opportunity to expand their understanding of the math, science and technology they are learning in the classroom with hands-on learning activities that are grounded in real world experiences. Through these programs, students built a fresh water tank, a STEAM green screen, and a mobile school store.

**A key element of *Beyond U* is building student leaders.** Through *Beyond U*'s Youth Advisory Committee (YAC), students shared their input on how to bring about changes that will continue to improve the school, and in planning events, including the school dance. YAC members also focused on being good citizens and on ways to support to the community, such as holding bake sales to raise awareness and funds to help end world hunger.

# WE CANNOT FULFILL OUR PROMISE WITHOUT THE GENEROSITY OF OUR DONORS

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## FY16

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

### A NEW FUNDING FORMULA

To help ensure The UCAP School's fiscal stability, we are now funded in the same manner as charter schools in Rhode Island. As such, UCAP's budget is part of the budgets of the State of Rhode Island, the participating school departments, and the Federal Department of Education.

### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS:

#### The UCAP School

<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 2,711,241</b>
<b>Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 2,797,690</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>\$ 86,450</b>

#### The Fund for UCAP

<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 254,837</b>
<b>Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 341,003</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>\$ 86,166</b>

#### Fund for UCAP Realty Corp.

<b>Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 540,368</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 486,445</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>\$ 53,923</b>



### UCAP Board of Superintendents

Victor Capellan  
Christopher Maher  
Jeannine Nota-Masse

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### Fund for UCAP Event Committee

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### UCAP Staff

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