



2025 REPORT CARD

SEPTEMBER 2024 - AUGUST 2025

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

50 years ago, Greg Gannon founded Higher Achievement with the belief that all students deserve access to rigorous academic opportunities and support. That dream became a transformative reality that has shaped countless lives.

Over the past five decades, Higher Achievement has become a beacon of opportunity for thousands of middle school students across the DC region, Baltimore, and Richmond thanks to the dedicated support of families, mentors, school partners, and community leaders.

As we celebrate this incredible legacy, we look ahead to an exciting future – from expanding the number of scholars we serve, to piloting new supports for the transition to high school, and launching an endowment that will bolster sustainability and ensure our continued work for years to come.

Thank you for being part of this mission. The rigorous academic enrichment, caring adult mentors, and comprehensive preparation for high school that Higher Achievement offers are made possible through the power of this community.

HISTORY TIMELINE

“

Higher Achievement encourages you and helps you push your hardest. It shows you so many opportunities. It makes me wonder: ‘What else can I do in life?’

- SAMIR, HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLAR

”



EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES

Field trips, electives, and workshops sparked new interests and career pathways for scholars in 2025.



ACCENTURE HOUR OF CODE

Scholars explored the power of coding and participated in coding games.



EY CONNECT DAY

Scholars developed skills to budget, save, track, and grow their money.



AUTHOR TALK

Dr. Robert Worthington encouraged scholars with themes from his book, including the importance of choices and establishing good habits.



PEPCO ENERGIZE DAY

Scholars explored STEM career opportunities through virtual reality and live line demonstrations.



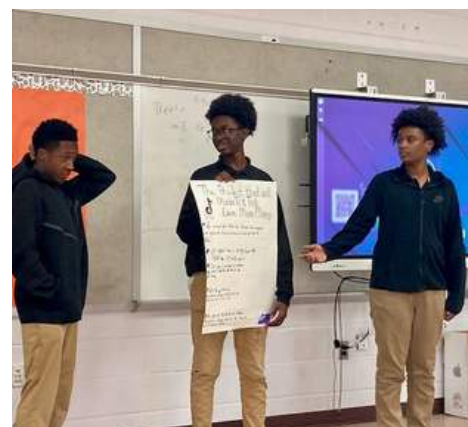
PHILIPS COLLECTION FIELD TRIP

Scholars toured the collection and explored themes of culture, history, and personal identity through hands-on workshops.



ENTREPRENEURSHIP CASE STUDY

Four scholar teams presented pitches on improving TikTok to a panel of entrepreneur judges.



“[Higher Achievement’s] impact on our school community has been significant. From bringing in guest speakers and lecturers, helping students through the high school application process, giving them interview skills, to hosting high school fairs.... I can’t imagine that we would be able to do the work to the degree and the scale that we’ve been able to do it without Higher Achievement’s help.”

- **PRINCIPAL KERRY RICHARDSON**
BROOKLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL



PREPARING TO LAUNCH

Preparation for high school, college, and career is at the cornerstone of Higher Achievement's programming. Trips, retreats, and weekly mentoring expanded horizons and supported scholars' ambitions for the future.



HIGH SCHOOL RESEARCH NIGHT

Thirty-one DC-area high schools attended our High School Fair for 8th-grade scholars to learn about the landscape and find their best-fit high school.



COLLEGE VISIT TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

Scholars toured the UMD campus, asking insightful questions about computer science programs, DNA engineering, performing arts, and dorm life.



9TH GRADE RETREAT

Rising 9th-grade scholars spent three days preparing for the transition to high school by practicing foundational skills in self-advocacy, relationship building, and time management. Assistant Principal Boone from Columbia Heights Educational Campus and Higher Achievement alumni visited to share their insights about the high school experience.



GREEN APPLES GRADUATION CEREMONY

Higher Achievement celebrated a joyful Green Apples graduation ceremony for our 8th graders in the spring. During the ceremony, 8th-grade graduate, Albert, reflected on the challenges he faced when starting middle school and Higher Achievement's support during the transition, sharing:

"Now, with a circle of friends and a supportive network of mentors, I feel like I've finally found my place. The chaos that once felt overwhelming now feels like part of the rhythm of school life. I've learned to embrace it, and in doing so, I've found a sense of peace, a sense of belonging."

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

PROGRAM OUTCOMES



ACADEMIC GAINS

77% of Higher Achievement scholars maintained an A or B or improved a letter grade in English, and 75% did so in Math



SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING

In self-assessment surveys, 87% of scholars responded favorably regarding their self-efficacy skills, and 92% of scholars indicated feeling a sense of belonging at Higher Achievement



HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT

94% of scholars were accepted to at least one of the high schools or programs to which they applied

DEMOGRAPHICS

260

SCHOLARS SUPPORTED

across 5 centers in Washington, DC and Prince George's County, MD

66

VOLUNTEER MENTORS

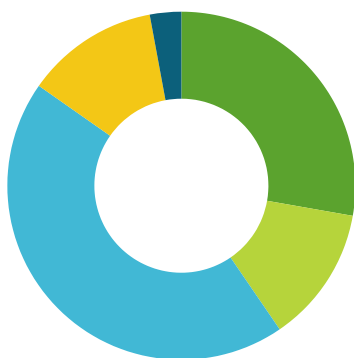
supporting scholars' personal and academic goals

SCHOLARS RACE/ETHNICITY



Black (70%) Latinx (15%) Multiethnic (2%) White (2%)
Asian (2%) Other/Prefer not to say (9%)

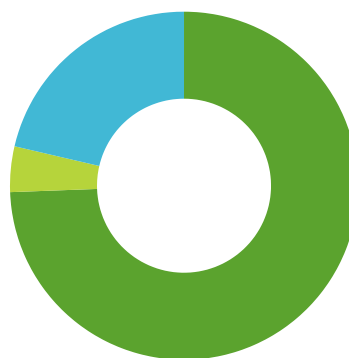
FINANCIALS



FY25 REVENUE

Foundations \$516,805
Government \$235,960
Individuals \$824,129
Corporate \$229,885
In Kind \$54,291

Total FY25 Revenue
\$1,861,070



FY25 EXPENSES

Salaries and Benefits \$1,166,188
Program Services \$66,311
Other \$334,728

Total FY25 Expenses
\$1,567,227



**HIGHER
ACHIEVEMENT
DC METRO**

317 8th St NE, Washington, DC 20002
(202) 861-7753
higherachievement.org



**Talent is everywhere,
but opportunity is not.**

**Thank you for helping us close the opportunity
gap for middle school students.**