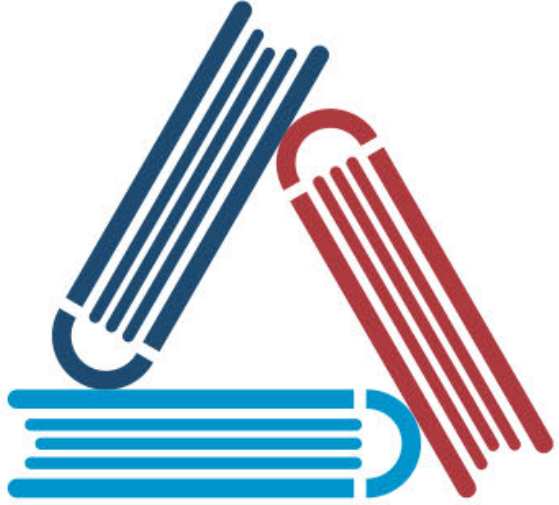




APPENDIX 1.4: UPDATED COMMUNITY OUTREACH

1.4a: Copies of Presentations and Sign-in Sheets

See **Figure 1: February 25, 2020 Community Meeting Presentation** and **Figure 2: Sign In Sheets** on the pages that follow.



CHICAGO PREP

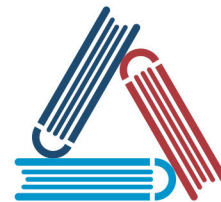
CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Welcome!

- Please sign in and help yourself to fliers, stickers, pens, pizza, and candy
- Take a moment to connect with us on social media:
 - Facebook.com/chi.prep.middle
 - Instagram: @chi.prep.middle

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Overview of Chicago Prep
3. Q&A, Feedback & Ideas
4. Next steps



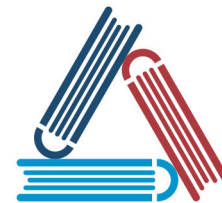
CHICAGO**PREP**
CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL





Overview

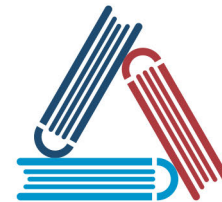
- Proposed public charter middle school, 5th-8th grade
- Tuition-free, open enrollment, ALL students welcome
- Working to open in the fall of 2021 in Bronzeville



CHICAGO PREP
CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mission

Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School
provides academic rigor
in a structured and supportive community,
preparing all 5th-8th grade scholars
to succeed in college and positively impact the world.

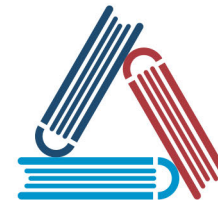


CHICAGO PREP
CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

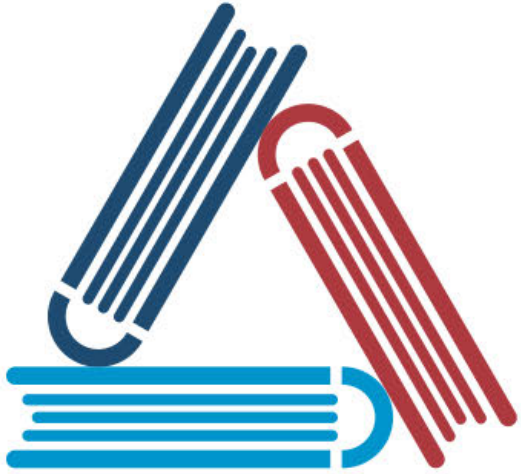
Approach

*Financial Literacy and Entrepreneurship +
Academic Rigor +
Character Development*

*Excellent Teaching +
Structured and Supportive Community +
Family and Community Partnerships*



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CHICAGO**PREP**
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Questions, Feedback, and Ideas

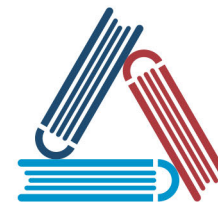
Next Steps

1. Follow us on social media

- Instagram: [@chi.prep.middle](https://www.instagram.com/chi.prep.middle)
- Facebook: facebook.com/chi.prep.middle
- Website: www.chiprepmiddle.org

2. Take our survey

3. Sign our petition



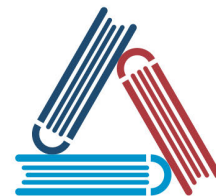
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Upcoming Events

- **Bring your friends, family, and colleagues!**
 - **Saturday, 3/7:** Tabling at Woodlawn Community Summit, 8:00am-12:30pm
 - **Saturday, 3/28:** Tabling at South Side YMCA: Women's History Month Fashion Meets Poetry/Music Showcase and Photoshoot, 2:00-5:00pm
 - **Tuesday, 3/31:** Community Focus Group at Hall Branch Library, 6:30-7:30pm

Check our website for details and

More events: www.chiprepmiddle.org



CHICAGO PREP
CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Thank you!



Remember to connect with us!

- www.chiprepmiddle.org
- Facebook.com/chi.prep.middle
- Instagram: @chi.prep.middle



Chicago Prep Information Session Sign-In Sheet

Date: 12/11/19

Name	Email	Phone
Carla Jones	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
S. West	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Kamario Martin	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Veteranonestopshop.com



Chicago Prep Information Session Sign-In Sheet

Date: 12/17/19

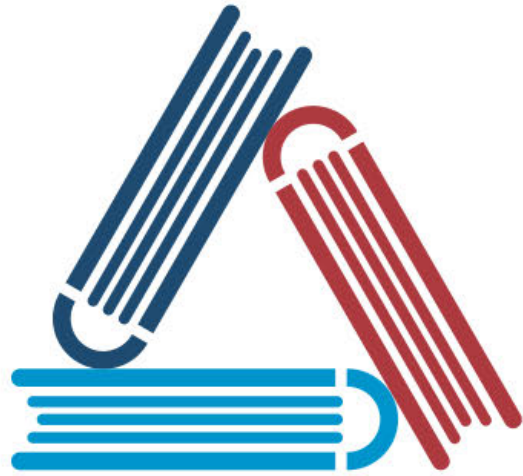
Name	Email	Phone
Nikelecia Marcelin	[REDACTED]	



Chicago Prep Information Session
Sign-In Sheet

Date: 2/25/2020

Name	Email	Phone
LePrecious Motley Theresa Webb	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]



CHICAGO**PREP**
CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Virtual Community Meeting

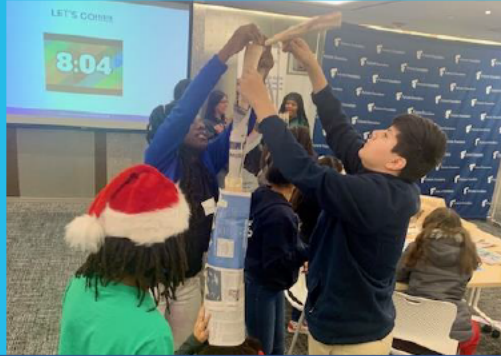
Wednesday, July 29, 2020

Overview

- Proposed public charter middle school, 5th-8th grade
- Planning to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021 with a founding class of 5th and 6th grade
- Tuition-free, open enrollment
 - Welcome students with disabilities, English Learners
- Mission: Prepare students to succeed in college and positively impact the world



Defining Elements



Effecting Positive Change in Our Communities



Daily Small-Group Tutoring



Culturally Relevant Curriculum & Instruction





Meaningful Parent Engagement & Leadership

Ways to Support

1. Complete an enrollment interest form!
www.chiprepmiddle.org/enrollment
2. Sign our petition: www.chiprepmiddle.org/petition
3. Write a letter of support

Figure 4: Photo of Facebook Live Meeting, July 29



 **Chicago Prep Middle School** was live.
Published by Mary Griffin [?] · 19h · 🌐



Watch together with friends or with a group Start

Get More Likes, Comments and Shares ✕
This post is performing better than 95% of other posts on your Page.
Boost it to get more great results.

68 People Reached	183 Engagements	Boost Post
-----------------------------	---------------------------	----------------------------

  12 8 Comments 142 Views

1.4b: Detailed Record of Community and One-on-One Meetings

Date	Engagement	Notes (if applicable)
5/16	Met with Gwynda Jones, Bronzeville resident	Likes community focus.
5/16	Met with Keith Walker, Bronzeville resident	Excited about the academic rigor of the model.
5/16	Met with Martez Rucker, Bronzeville resident	
5/16	Met with Deana Patterson, entrepreneur	
5/18	Met with David Griggs, Bronzeville resident and pastor	Likes community focus.
5/18	Met with Kevin McFall, Bronzeville resident	
5/19	Met with John Cook, Bronzeville resident and Owner, Bronzeville Community Clubhouse	Likes community focus.
5/23	Met with Stephanie Tarr, Bronzeville resident and faculty at Malcolm X College	
5/26	Met with LaShelle Newland-Jordan, Deputy Director of Center for Changing Lives	
5/28	Met with Rhonda Woodson, Bronzeville resident	
5/28	Met with Cawanna Stonewall, educator and prospective Chicago Prep parent	Excited about the academic rigor of the model.
5/28	Met with Arnold Robinson, grandparent to two 8-11-year-old children	Likes financial literacy focus.
5/28	Met with Shirley Newsome, Member of Board of Directors for Department of Planning and Development; Board Chair for SECC	Likes focus on financial literacy and entrepreneurship; understands the need for improved schools in the district; provided guidance for effective community engagement and Board governance
5/30	Met with Joy Hearn, Assistant Professor of Early Childhood Education at Richard J. Daley College; member of AKA Sorority Inc.	
6/11	Met with Lisa Jones, Bronzeville resident	
6/13	Met with Senator Robert Peters, 13 th Senate District	Does not believe that education is the most relevant solution to today's inequity. Not supportive of the focus on financial literacy and entrepreneurship.
6/17	Met with Wendell Harris, Vice President of Lending Operations at Chicago Community Loan Fund	CCLF would potentially be interested in supporting the financing of our project.
6/17	Met with Veryl Britton Boykin, CPS graduate and educator	
6/22	Met with Clarence Phillips, former Bronzeville resident	Likes financial literacy focus.
6/23	Met with Dori Collins, Bronzeville resident	

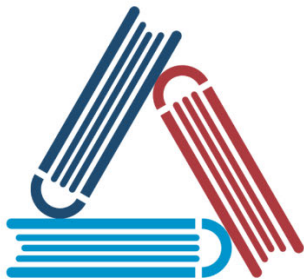
6/24	Met with Caryn Lichtenberg, Director of Alumni School Leadership at Teach for America Chicago-NWI	
6/24	Met with Charles and Kim Edoigawrie, residents	Likes community focus.
6/24	Met with Yvette Love, CPS graduate and community networker	Likes community focus.
6/24	Met with Phillip Jones, Chief of Staff for State Representative Lamont Robinson, 5 th District	Excited about the academic rigor of the model; inquired about IB programming. Plans to share what we discussed with Rep. Robinson and get back to us.
6/24	Met with Elizabeth Overstreet, former Bronzeville resident	Likes financial literacy focus.
6/24	Met with Della Taylor, Bronzeville resident	
6/24	Met with Jennifer Hatch, Bronzeville resident and parent	
6/24	Met with Ed Chapman, CPS graduate and community networker	
6/24	Formally presented Chicago Prep to 15 members of the GBCAC Executive Committee; answered questions and received feedback. (This was the second presentation after our initial meeting in February.)	Positive feedback included: extensive community engagement conducted so far, including engaging early with the GBCAC; focus on financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and social/emotional learning; potential to improve educational outcomes in Bronzeville and encourage more families to stay in the region for school. Questions/concerns included: where will you recruit from; how will you minimize harm to existing schools.
6/25	Met with Pastor Eddie Williams, Pastor at Metropolitan Baptist Church (MBC), who was born and raised in Bronzeville	Has close connections with South Park Baptist Church in Bronzeville; may be open to helping our team speak to the congregation. Very supportive of our school model and focus on financial literacy.
6/26	Met with Sabrina Wilkins, Bronzeville resident	
6/26	Met with 3 rd Ward Alderman Pat Dowell	Alderman Dowell was pleased to hear the extent of our community engagement so far, as well as the focus on financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and cultural relevance. She also expressed that generally, she has not been a fan of charter schools and fears that they take away resources from existing schools. Alderman Dowell asked for a list of community organizations we have met with so far, and asked what the reaction of the GBCAC and The GAP CO had been, as their opinion matters a lot to her. In July, Alderman Dowell then joined the

		scheduled community meetings for both groups, at which we presented.
6/29	Met with Chanel Sims, Bronzeville resident	Excited about the academic rigor of the model
6/29	Met with Representative Kambium Buckner, 26 th House District	Representative Buckner seems generally supportive of our proposal and did not express any serious concerns. Has not yet agreed to publicly support Chicago Prep.
6/29	Met with 4 th Ward Alderman Sophia King	Alderman King shared that she is focused on improving neighborhood schools; has concern about a new charter taking away students/resources from existing schools.
6/30	Met with Robin Smith, Bronzeville resident	Likes middle school focus.
6/30	Met with Laurie Bryant, Bronzeville resident and Owner, Mathnasium Learning Center	Likes middle school focus.
6/30	Met with Patricia Akuamoah, Community Engagement at The Community Builders (TCB)/The Cornerstone Apartments	Patricia is very excited about our model and has completed an enrollment interest form for her own rising 4 th grade daughter. Believes that Chicago Prep and TCB could be great partners, and is interested in providing space and instructors for extracurricular programming if we are approved to open.
7/3	Met with Parrish Hobbs, CPS graduate and tennis instructor	
7/5	Met with Karen Riley, Bronzeville resident	
7/5	Met with Robert Hazzard, Bronzeville resident	
7/5	Met with Mell Monroe, Bronzeville resident and Owner, Bronzeville Bed & Breakfast	
7/5	Met with Gachelle Coffey, Bronzeville resident and former radio personality	
7/5	Met with Kim Turner, Bronzeville resident	
7/7	Provided overview of Chicago Prep for 35 community members at The GAP Community Organization monthly meeting; answered questions and received feedback.	The members of The GAP CO were highly engaged and asked many questions at the end of our presentation (through live video interaction), including: more details regarding entrepreneurship and social/emotional learning, and whether we plan to partner with a bank or credit union to make financial literacy more tangible; Alderman Dowell recommended partnering with South Side Community Federal Credit Union, and Kendall Herbert suggested Providence Bank. Members also asked about Lead Founder Mary Griffin's test score growth and achievement at her previous school. At the meeting, there was no openly expressed opposition to our proposal.

7/9	Keronn Walker, Founder of B.I.G. Baseball and Scout for the Chicago Cubs; Bronzeville resident and De La Salle alumnus	Likes the vision of Chicago Prep, interested potentially partnering if Chicago Prep is approved to open, to help expand baseball on the South Side.
7/13	Formally presented to 45 members of the GBCAC at the Quarterly meeting (first presentation to full group; third presentation in front of the Executive Committee); answered questions and received feedback.	The members of the GBCAC were highly engaged and asked many questions at the end of our presentation (through the Zoom chat function), including: what is the source of our academic data; why look at IAR data; how many instructional minutes in math and ELA; which community partners have we engaged; how are we engaging families; how will we support adolescents' identity development and SEL; how will we approach discipline; and how will we work with existing schools. At the meeting, there was no openly expressed opposition to our proposal.
7/28	Met with Harold Lucas, President and CEO of Black Metropolis Convention and Tourism Council	Is excited about the opportunities Chicago Prep is creating and has committed to writing a letter of support for inclusion with our Tier III Application.
7/28	Met with Dr. Barrington Price, Vice President for Student Success and Engagement at Dominican University	Excited about how we are thinking holistically (i.e., academically but also socially/emotionally and practically/financially) about how to prepare students for college and beyond.

1.4c: Examples of Flyers and Outreach Materials

Figure 1: Chicago Prep Family Postcard



Chicago Preparatory Middle School provides academic rigor in a structured and supportive community, preparing all 5th-8th grade scholars to succeed in college and positively impact the world.

Make your Voice Heard

Fill out our community survey
bit.ly/chiprepmiddle

Spread the Word

Help us connect with families, educators, and community leaders.

Get in Touch

Mary Griffin, Lead Founder
mgriffin@bes.org



Stay Connected:
[@chiprepmiddle](https://www.instagram.com/chiprepmiddle)
chiprepmiddle.org

Figure 2: Chicago Prep Flyer



CHICAGOPREP

CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

A proposed 5-8 charter school for the students of Chicago



Our Mission

Chicago Preparatory Charter School provides academic rigor in a structured and supportive community, preparing all 5th-8th grade scholars to succeed in college and positively impact the world.



We Believe

- All students can achieve academic excellence.
- Students thrive in a structured, supportive community.
- Rigor is the foundation of achievement and opportunity.
- Strong character leads to lifelong growth and success.
- Financial and entrepreneurial education make learning real.
- Family and community partnerships are essential.



Join Our Board

We are looking for high-capacity professionals with backgrounds in law, marketing, fund development, community engagement, and education.

Spread the Word

Share our mission with students, parents, educators, and community leaders who can help make our vision a reality.

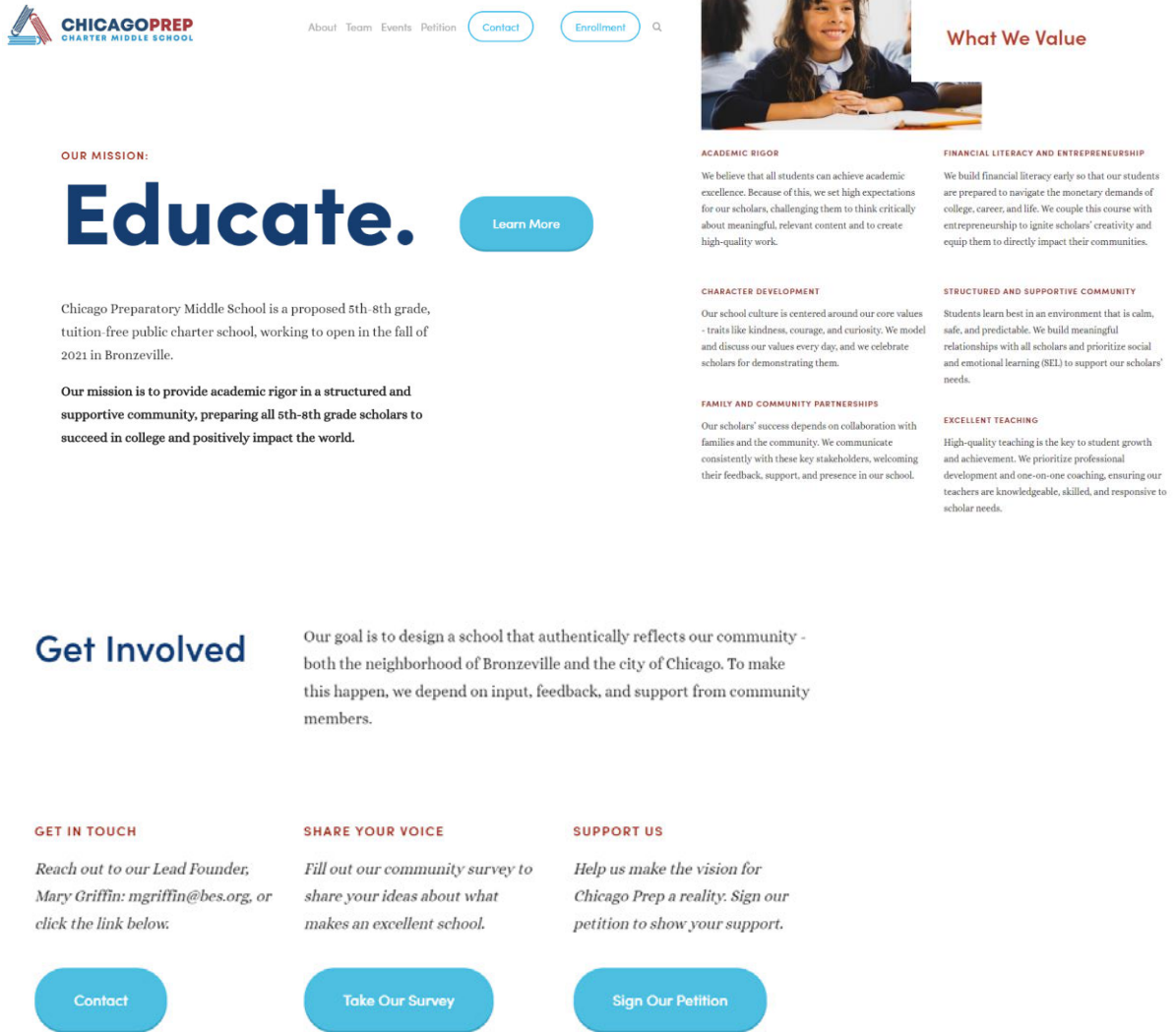
About the Lead Founder

Mary Griffin is a committed educator on the South Side of Chicago. As a former middle school teacher and principal with a track record of success, she understands the profound impact that a college-prep and character-building education can have on students' lives. Through her Fellowship with BES, a highly selective national non-profit that trains school leaders, Mary is currently studying top-performing urban schools across the country and is eager to bring those best practices to a new school in Chicago, ensuring equality of opportunity for all of our young scholars.

Contact

Mary Griffin
773-394-1311
mgriffin@bes.org
bes.org

Figure 3: Chicago Prep Website



CHICAGOPREP
CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

About Team Events Petition [Contact](#) [Enrollment](#)

OUR MISSION:

Educate.

[Learn More](#)

Chicago Preparatory Middle School is a proposed 5th-8th grade, tuition-free public charter school, working to open in the fall of 2021 in Bronzeville.

Our mission is to provide academic rigor in a structured and supportive community, preparing all 5th-8th grade scholars to succeed in college and positively impact the world.

What We Value

ACADEMIC RIGOR
We believe that all students can achieve academic excellence. Because of this, we set high expectations for our scholars, challenging them to think critically about meaningful, relevant content and to create high-quality work.

FINANCIAL LITERACY AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
We build financial literacy early so that our students are prepared to navigate the monetary demands of college, career, and life. We couple this course with entrepreneurship to ignite scholars' creativity and equip them to directly impact their communities.

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT
Our school culture is centered around our core values - traits like kindness, courage, and curiosity. We model and discuss our values every day, and we celebrate scholars for demonstrating them.

STRUCTURED AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY
Students learn best in an environment that is calm, safe, and predictable. We build meaningful relationships with all scholars and prioritize social and emotional learning (SEL) to support our scholars' needs.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
Our scholars' success depends on collaboration with families and the community. We communicate consistently with these key stakeholders, welcoming their feedback, support, and presence in our school.

EXCELLENT TEACHING
High-quality teaching is the key to student growth and achievement. We prioritize professional development and one-on-one coaching, ensuring our teachers are knowledgeable, skilled, and responsive to scholar needs.

Get Involved

Our goal is to design a school that authentically reflects our community - both the neighborhood of Bronzeville and the city of Chicago. To make this happen, we depend on input, feedback, and support from community members.

GET IN TOUCH
Reach out to our Lead Founder, Mary Griffin: mgriffin@bes.org, or click the link below.

[Contact](#)

SHARE YOUR VOICE
Fill out our community survey to share your ideas about what makes an excellent school.

[Take Our Survey](#)

SUPPORT US
Help us make the vision for Chicago Prep a reality. Sign our petition to show your support.

[Sign Our Petition](#)

Figure 4: Chicago Prep Instagram

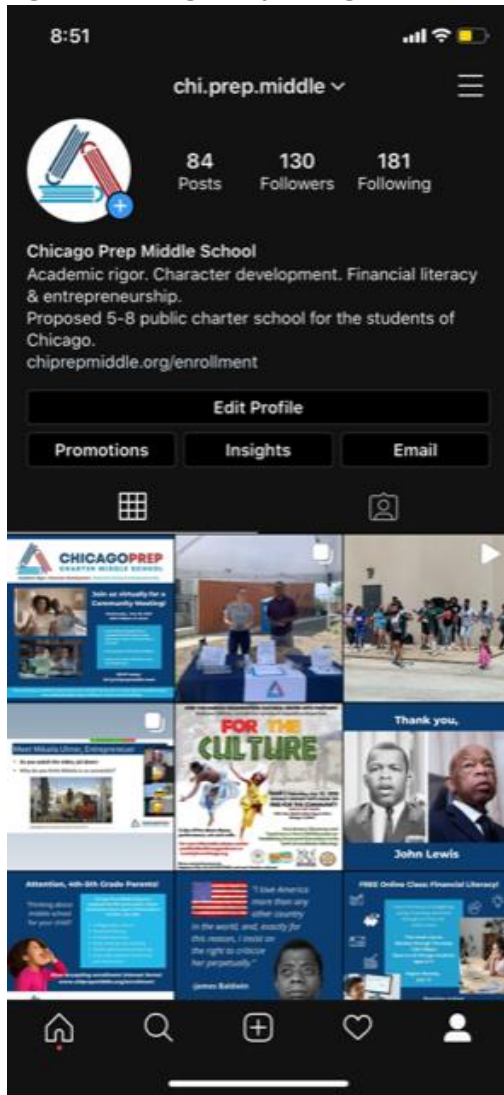


Figure 5: Sample Instagram Posts: February 9, February 28, March 11, April 26, and May 13

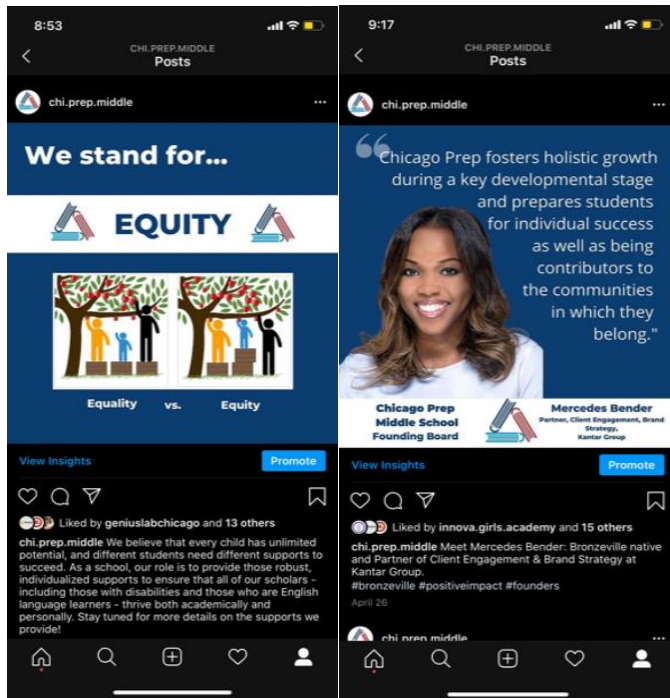
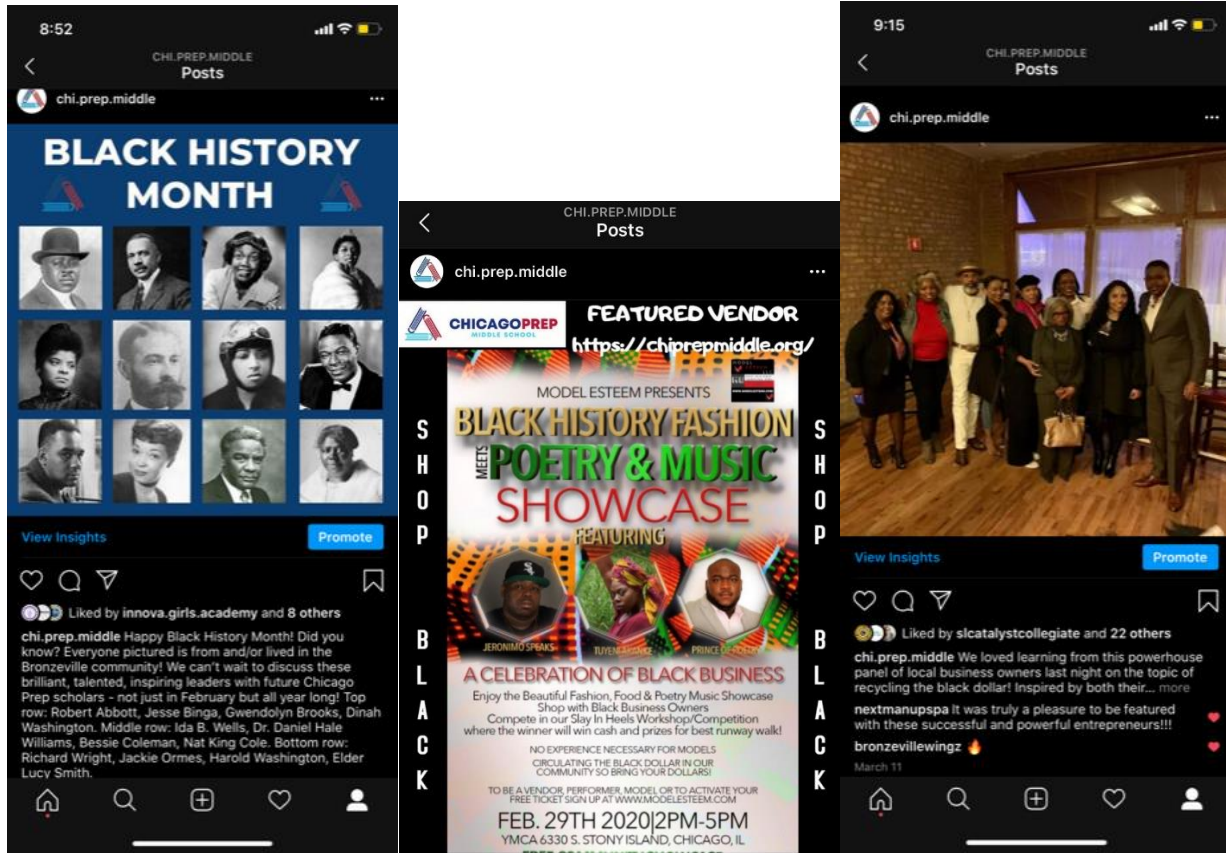


Figure 6: Focus Group Flyer and Instagram Post, February 25



CHICAGO PREP
CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL
Academic Rigor. Character Development. Financial Literacy & Entrepreneurship.

Proposed public charter school
Bronzeville, 5th-8th grade
chiprepmiddle.org

Mary Griffin, Lead Founder
mgriffin@bes.org
@chi.prep.middle

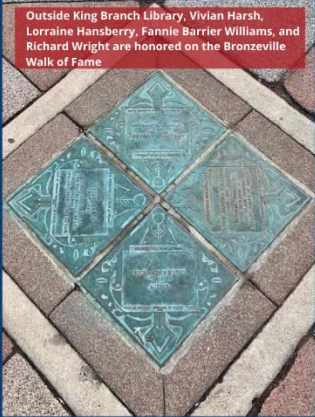
Join Us!

Learn about our school and share your ideas at one of our upcoming community focus groups:

<p>Community Focus Group 1 Tuesday, February 25 5:00pm Chicago Public Library King Branch 3436 S King Dr.</p>	<p>Community Focus Group 2 Wednesday, March 4 5:00pm Chicago Public Library Bee Branch 3647 S State St.</p>
--	--

BRONZEVILLE Community Focus Group

- Tuesday, February 25 at 5:00pm
- King Branch Library, 3436 S King Dr.
- Join us to learn more about Chicago Prep and share your vision for an excellent school!
- FREE pizza!



Outside King Branch Library, Vivian Harsh, Lorraine Hansberry, Fannie Barrier Williams, and Richard Wright are honored on the Bronzeville Walk of Fame

Figure 7: Chicago Prep Sample Facebook Posts, June 6 and June 20

Chicago Prep Middle School
Published by chi.prep.middle [?] · June 6 · 🌐

Happy #SmallBusinessSaturday ! Featuring Pearl's Place Restaurant, a Black-owned restaurant in Bronzeville with delicious Southern-style comfort food and excellent service. Pearl's graciously hosted the Chicago Prep Founding Board for our March Board meeting and we had a great experience!



139
People Reached

23
Engagements

[Boost Post](#)

6
Shares

[1 Share](#)

Chicago Prep Middle School
Published by chi.prep.middle [?] · June 20 · 🌐

It was so nice to be out in the community again today! 🥰💙 Huge shoutout to @pennyup_ for organizing this fun event full of resources and giveaways. @boxville51 #bronzeville #chicprepmiddle #financialliteracy



175
People Reached

14
Engagements

[Boost Post](#)

Figure 8: South Side Weekly Ad, June 2020



CHICAGOPREP

CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Chicago Prep is a proposed 5th-8th grade school, working to open in **Bronzeville**, fall 2021.

About Us

- Tuition-free, open enrollment
- All students who live in Chicago can attend
- Mission: Prepare students to succeed in college and positively impact the world

Student Experience

- Academic rigor
- Financial Literacy & Entrepreneurship
- Social & emotional learning
- Small-group tutoring
- Structured learning environment
- Daily meditation




chiprepmiddle.org



[@chi.prep.middle](https://www.instagram.com/chi.prep.middle)

Now accepting enrollment interest forms!

chiprepmiddle.org/enrollment | **Forms are non-binding**


Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School does not discriminate against or limit the admission of any student on the basis of ethnicity, race, gender, disability, language background, national origin, intellectual ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, athletic ability, creed, housing status religion, or ancestry.

Figure 9: Chicago Prep Online Financial Literacy Class Posts: June 8, July 1, and July 22

Chicago Prep Middle School
Published by Mary Griffin · June 8

We still have a few spots left in our free online financial literacy course starting tomorrow! Register students ages 8-11 at bit.ly/chiprepmiddle-finance

Help your child build a strong foundation in personal finance. We'll explore topics like goal-setting, budgeting, credit cards, entrepreneurship, and compound interest.



Sign Up for FREE Online Financial Literacy Class!

Chicago Prep Middle School is a proposed 5th-8th grade public charter school. We are working to open in the Bronzeville community in August 2021.

Amidst the challenges of COVID-19, we are excited to offer a FREE online class that teaches the basics of financial literacy to students ages 8-11. The class, led by Chicago educator Mary Griffin, will provide one-on-one instruction on saving, budgeting, investing, and more.

Our next class begins on Monday, August 10. This is a two-week course. We will meet Monday through Thursday, from 4:00-5:00pm, for a total of eight sessions, ending on Thursday, August 20. Note: If you are interested in the class, but this time doesn't work for your child, let us know in the comments section.

DOCS.GOOGLE.COM

Sign Up for FREE Online Financial Literacy Class!

Chicago Prep Middle School is a proposed 5th-8th grade public charter...


65 People Reached 23 Engagements **Boost Post**

7 Shares

Chicago Prep Middle School
Published by chi.prep.middle · July 1

We are thrilled to offer a July session of our virtual financial literacy class! Class runs for two weeks, Monday - Thursday, and provides a strong foundation in personal finance. Your child will leave each class excited about earning income and managing it responsibly! It's summer, so the possibilities are endless even for our youngest entrepreneurs...

Space is limited, so register today! Link in bio.



FREE Online Class: Financial Literacy!

Learn the basics of budgeting, saving, investing, and more through our free, live online class!

Two-week course
Monday through Thursday
2:00-3:00pm
Open to all Chicago students
Ages 8-11

Begins Monday, July 13

Register today!
bit.ly/chiprepmiddle-finance

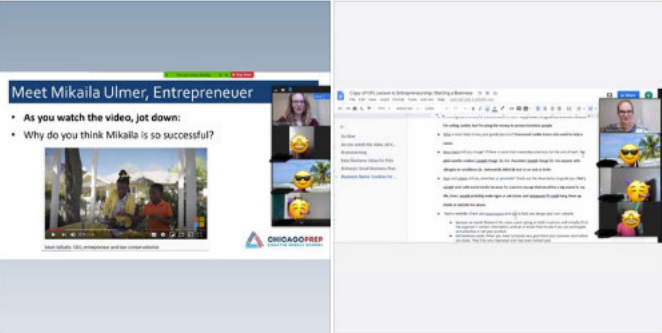
Led by Mary Griffin, experienced Chicago educator and Lead Founder of Chicago Prep Middle School

749 People Reached 60 Engagements **Boost Again**

Chicago Prep Middle School
Published by chi.prep.middle · 5d

Teaching Online Financial Literacy has been one of the highlights of the week! Students learned about Mikaila Ulmer, Founder and CEO of Me & the Bees Lemonade; then had the opportunity to create their own small business plan and share with their peers. ✨

Know a student who might be interested in participating? Our next class will start in August - details coming soon!



46 People Reached 9 Engagements **Boost Post**

Figure 10: Chicago Prep Team Members at Community Event, June 27



Figure 11: Enrollment Interest Post, July 16



Attention, 4th-5th Grade Parents!

Thinking about middle school for your child?

Chicago Prep Middle School is a proposed 5th-8th grade public charter school planning to open in Bronzeville in Fall 2021. We offer:

- College-prep culture
- Financial literacy
- Entrepreneurship
- Daily small group tutoring
- Social and emotional learning
- Culturally relevant curriculum and instruction

Now accepting enrollment interest forms!
www.chiprepmiddle.org/enrollment



CHICAGOPREP
CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Academic Rigor. Character Development. Financial Literacy & Entrepreneurship.

Figure 12: Direct Mailer, July 23



*Now accepting enrollment interest forms!
Forms are non-binding*

www.chiprepmiddle.org/enrollment

Open to all Chicago students

WHAT: 5th - 8th grade charter school
WHERE: The Bronzeville neighborhood
WHEN: Proposed opening in Fall 2021
COST: Tuition-free, open-enrollment

Chicago Prep Middle School

Student Experience:

						
Encourages academic rigor in the classroom	A character and values -based culture	A curriculum prioritizing financial literacyand entrepreneurial -thinking.	Social-emotional learning (SEL)	Meaningful family and community involvement	Culturally relevant curriculum and instruction



CHICAGOPREP
CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Academic Rigor. Character Development. Financial Literacy & Entrepreneurship.



Our mission is to provide academic rigor in a structured and supportive community, preparing all 5th - 8th grade scholars to succeed in college and positively impact the world.

Social media:
  @chi.prep.middle

Get involved!
 Visit www.chiprepmiddle.org to:

- Express interest in enrolling your child in Fall 2021
- Sign the petition to open Chicago Prep
- Submit questions or feedback
- Donate funds to support our work

PRSR STD
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U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM Retail

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER

Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School does not discriminate against or limit the admission of any student on the basis of ethnicity, race, gender, disability, language background, national origin, intellectual ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, athletic ability, creed, housing status, religion, or ancestry. If you would like to view the application for our proposed new school, it will be publicly posted on www.cps.edu/2020RFP.

Figure 13: Virtual Community Meeting Post, July 27



CHICAGOPREP
CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Academic Rigor. Character Development. Financial Literacy & Entrepreneurship.



Join us virtually for a Community Meeting!

Wednesday, July 29, 2020
6:00-7:00pm on Zoom

- Learn about Chicago Prep, a proposed 5th-8th grade school planning to open in Bronzeville in Fall 2021
- Ask questions and share feedback
- Drop in for a few minutes or stay the whole time!

RSVP today!
bit.ly/chiprepmiddle-meet

Now accepting enrollment interest forms for Fall 2021! Be the first to know when enrollment opens.
www.chiprepmiddle.org/enrollment | Forms are non-binding

On the pages that follow, please find **Figure 14: Chicago Prep Newsletter, January 2020.**

From: [Chicago Prep Middle School](#)
To: marygreggriffin@gmail.com
Subject: Chicago Prep Newsletter January 2020
Date: Friday, January 17, 2020 8:43:39 AM

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Academic Rigor. Character Development. Financial Literacy & Entrepreneurship.

Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School Newsletter
January 2020

[Visit Our Website](#)

Chicago Prep is a proposed 5th-8th grade school for the families of Chicago.

Our mission is to provide academic rigor in a structured and supportive community, preparing all 5th-8th grade scholars to succeed in college and positively impact the world.

Dear **Chicago Prep** Friends and Supporters:

Happy New Year! We enter 2020 with one unwavering goal: to found a truly excellent, college-preparatory middle school for the young scholars of Chicago. We deeply believe that *all* children – no matter their zip code, race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status – can achieve academic success. At **Chicago Prep**, slated to open in Bronzeville in August of 2021, we are committed to providing the positive school culture, excellent teaching, and individualized supports necessary for our scholars to achieve their dreams.

This newsletter welcomes you to the **Chicago Prep** family and shares the details of our mission and vision. You will receive updates each month sharing our progress and ways to get involved. We encourage you to share our newsletter with family, friends, and colleagues as we work together to make **Chicago Prep** a reality for the scholars and families of Chicago.

With gratitude,

Mary Griffin
Lead Founder, **Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School**
mgriffin@bes.org

IT TAKES A VILLAGE: HOW YOU CAN HELP

Chicago Prep is committed to ensuring that *all* of our scholars achieve their dreams, and we need your support to make it happen.

- **Spread the Word:** Forward this email, like us on [Facebook](#), and follow us on [Instagram](#) (and invite 1-2 friends to do the same).
- **Sign Our Petition:** Demonstrate your support for Chicago Prep by signing our [online petition](#), which will be used to illustrate community support for **Chicago Prep** so that we can bring our school to Bronzeville in 2021.
- **Provide Your Feedback:** Complete our [community input survey](#) to share your thoughts on what you would like to see in an excellent school in Bronzeville.

- **Volunteer:** If you are interested in leveraging your valuable time, personal talents, and professional expertise in support of **Chicago Prep**, [send us an email](#).
-

OUR PROGRESS

- **Chicago Prep** is building a passionate and diverse Founding Board committed to building a college-preparatory middle school for the scholars of Chicago. We are proud that **Michael Altheimer, Mercedes Bender, Ken Dickerson, Dr. Andrea "Drea" Elzy, Brandon Kimble, Jack Pritchett, Rupa Ramadurai, and Julia Strauch** are bringing their skills in finance, law, marketing, education, real estate, and business development to **Chicago Prep**.
 - As part of the BES Fellowship, Lead Founder Mary Griffin is currently completing a Leadership Residency at the Collegiate School of Memphis, a high performing 6th-12th grade school. This residency provides a model of strong school culture and academic rigor that will inform the design of **Chicago Prep**.
-

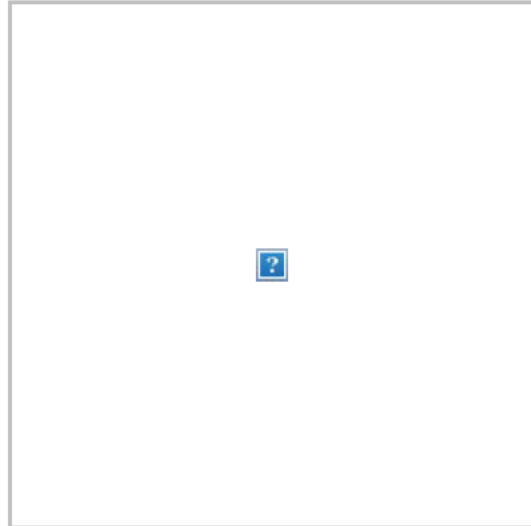
OUR MODEL

Curious about the story behind our logo? The three books are stacked into a triangle – a symbol that means *change*. *Change* is what we are all about at **Chicago Prep**. *Changing* education with innovative and uplifting practices. *Changing* the trajectory of our students' lives. And preparing our scholars to *change* the world. Each book also represents one of our three focus areas:

- **Academic Rigor:** We hold all scholars to high expectations, challenging them to think critically about meaningful content and to produce high-quality work.
 - **Character Development:** We center our school culture around six core values – kindness, courage, gratitude, curiosity, responsibility, and perseverance – and celebrate our scholars for showing them.
 - **Financial Literacy and Entrepreneurship:** We provide a foundation of financial and entrepreneurial skills to motivate scholars and prepare them to navigate the challenges of college, career, and life.
-

OUR TEAM

The Lead Founder of **Chicago Prep** is Mary Griffin, a committed educator on the South Side of Chicago. As a former middle school teacher and principal with a track record of success, she understands the profound impact that a college-prep and character-building education can have on scholars' lives. Currently, Mary is in the [BES](#) Fellowship, a highly selective national training program for charter school leaders. She believes that every child has unlimited potential, and she is looking forward to leading the founding team of **Chicago Prep**.



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