In November 2019, when brainstorming the Boston Prep storytelling theme for the school year, one of our high school seniors, Tatiana, suggested a theme that she believed represented the essence of our community: The Phoenix Within Us. After numerous people enthusiastically affirmed how powerfully those words captured what it means to be a member of the Boston Prep community, her recommendation was selected as our theme for the 2019-2020 school year, marking the first time our annual theme was generated by a student.

In that moment, never did we imagine the deeper meaning that theme would take on just months later, when the dual crises of a pandemic and a reckoning with systemic racism would rock our community and our nation.

When looking back at the 2019-2020 school year, it would be easy to focus on the long list of challenges that plagued our community from March onward. However, this is an optimistic story. In the face of a public health crisis, an economic crisis rivaling the Great Depression, and the closure of our school building - all of which amplified existing persistent racial inequities - the Boston Prep community refused to lay down.

• Our teachers reimagined their practice, leading twelve weeks of live, synchronous virtual instruction for all students.
• Our students showed up for their virtual classes, day after day, even if it meant fighting through technological hiccups.
• Our alumni refused to allow the challenges of learning from home, whether it be WiFi hotspots, healthy meals, or financial assistance for housing, utilities, and medical expenses.
• Our families linked arms with one another and with us, supporting each other in times of need and actively participating in our numerous Family Town Halls to help us design a community-driven school reopening plan.
• You, our supporters, showed your persistent, deep commitment to the Boston Prep community. You gave generously and repeatedly to ensure we could offer our teachers, students, alumni, and families whatever they needed to achieve and succeed – whether it be WiFi hotspots, healthy meals, or financial assistance for housing, utilities, and medical expenses.

It has been said that in moments of crisis, a person’s true character is revealed. We would argue that the same is true of a community. We have always known that the Boston Prep community is Phoenix Fierce, embodying the spirit of the mythological phoenix that rises from the ashes. However, that spirit - that fierce resilience, that unyielding drive for excellence, that powerful devotion to one another - has become undeniable in this moment.

Each day, we are in awe of the remarkable students, teachers, alumni, families, and supporters who make up our truly special community. While the challenges are far from over, we know that together we will rise because each and every one of us has the Phoenix within us.

In closing, we offer you the words our students use to inspire one another on the athletic field: “Burn, Phoenix, Burn!” Continue to let your Phoenix burn bright.

With deep gratitude,

Tamara Olsen                    Sharon Liszanckie
Chair, Board of Trustees       Executive Director

ARTIST QUOTE

“BEING A PHOENIX means to have the power of many within us. Each of us has the strength of our Phoenix community inside us. The community we have built - and the unity we have together - is what gives each of us the inner strength and power of the Phoenix.”

Daniela Rojas, Cover Illustration
Grade 10
Countless ancient traditions, from Greek, and Hindu to Persian, Japanese, and many more, tell of a legendary, immortal bird with healing powers and indomitable strength—the phoenix. When faced by seemingly insurmountable challenge, the phoenix combusts in flames, and a new life arises from the ashes. The phoenix is resilient, with a quiet power that endures all time and overcomes all obstacles.

As Boston Prep’s mascot, the image of the Phoenix adorns our walls and our athletic uniforms, reminding us all that, like the phoenix, we are resilient and that from struggles, we emerge stronger, burning brighter than we did before. Despite the tremendous challenges that emerged in the Spring of 2020, the Boston Prep community has continued to embrace the Phoenix spirit. Our students, alumni, families, and teachers have shown day after day that we will not relent. We will continue our work to ensure high-quality public education, and we will continue to fight for our community, racial justice, and equity. We will embrace the opportunity within the challenge because we each have the Phoenix within us.

**ARTIST QUOTE**
Amierah H. Woodley
Grade 9

“**BEING A PHOENIX** means being able to rise through the ashes and burn bright. We all have struggles we go through, hardships we have to deal with, and we all make mistakes. But what’s important is that we learn and rise from those challenges like phoenixes.”

**THE PHOENIX WITHIN US**

**WE WILL CONTINUE OUR WORK TO ENSURE HIGH-QUALITY PUBLIC EDUCATION, AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO FIGHT FOR OUR COMMUNITY, RACIAL JUSTICE, AND EQUITY. WE WILL EMBRACE THE OPPORTUNITY WITHIN THE CHALLENGE BECAUSE WE EACH HAVE THE PHOENIX WITHIN US.**
A school is not a building—it is the people within it.

On March 13, 2020, we decided to close our school building for what would become the remainder of the school year. Within one week, we provided every single student a chromebook, we installed WiFi hotspots for families who needed them, we learned how to video conference, we shipped whiteboards and document cameras to our teachers’ homes, and our teachers adapted their practice for the virtual environment.

Just days after the closure of our building, teaching and learning resumed, with live virtual instruction for all classes. Contrary to common news of student disengagement, Boston Prep students showed up.

“In times as challenging as this, I am so fortunate to be able to work with such amazing students. They have taken an incredibly difficult situation and have truly shined. Every day, I’m driven to work harder and be better than the day before for them.”

- Peter Kaplan
8th grade math teacher

**AP EXAMS**

Most importantly, our students kept learning and achieving. After weeks of learning and studying from home, juggling the distractions of the health pandemic and systemic racism, our high school students enrolled in Advanced Placement courses were among the first to complete AP exams from home. Despite all odds, these students not only succeeded, they achieved some of the highest rates of success in Boston Prep history. While we know we still have room to grow and work to do, we are incredibly proud of the growth our students and teachers achieved.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AP US History</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AP Biology</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AP Calculus AB</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AP Language</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data represents the percent of students who earned a 3 or above in 2018 and 2020.

**THE PHOENIX LEARNS ANYWHERE**

"Being a Phoenix means persevering and working hard to get to your goals. And when you reach those goals, graduate, and move on to college, Boston Prep will still be there, cheering you on and helping you along the way."

- Mairéad Conlon
Grade 7

28% OF STUDENTS ATTENDED
65% OF STUDENTS ATTENDED
87% OF STUDENTS ATTENDED
90-100% OF CLASSES
70-100% OF CLASSES
50-100% OF CLASSES

Less than 1% of students were disengaged.
Faced with campus closures, we knew we could not allow this public health crisis to become a college completion crisis.

We have always been committed to supporting our alumni’s success in college through our Persistence Project supports. As colleges across the nation began to announce the closure of their campuses, we immediately intensified our existing financial, academic, and coaching supports for alumni. Without hesitation, we offered our alumni whatever they needed to ensure they could continue their college studies and achieve success doing so.

**THE COLLEGE JOURNEY BEGINS**

**COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE**

100% of graduates were accepted to four-year colleges for the TENTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

**COLLEGE ENROLLMENT**

- **Boston Prep Class of 2020**: 100%
- **U.S. average**: 62%
- **Low-income average**: 51%
- **High-income average**: 75%

Comparison data provided by the Pell Institute.

**PERSISTENCE**

Despite the numerous threats to their success, 92% of Boston Prep’s alumni maintained or accelerated their progress toward graduation throughout the spring of 2020, with only 8% slowing their progress toward a degree. Boston Prep alumni are working hard at colleges around the country, including those listed here.

- American University
- Bates College
- Bentley University
- Boston College
- Bowdoin College
- Bridgewater State University
- Brown University
- Bucknell University
- Columbia University
- Dartmouth College
- Davidson University
- Framingham State University
- Lafayette College
- Mount Holyoke College
- Northeastern University
- Occidental College
- Smith College
- Tufts University
- Union College
- University of Chicago
- UMass Amherst
- UMass Lowell
- Wesleyan University

**GRADUATION**

- **Boston Prep Classes of 2011-2014**: 55%
- **U.S. average**: 36%
- **Low-income average**: 16%
- **High-income average**: 62%

4X Boston Prep graduates successfully earn their bachelor’s degrees at a rate nearly 4x their peers from similar economic backgrounds.

**ARTIST QUOTE**

Semilobre A. Grade 9

“**TO BE A PHOENIX** is to be bold and confident in the face of adversity, to never give up, to stand strong, to remain fearless, and to encourage and help others along the way.”

**WE PROVIDED OUR ALUMNI:**

- Transportation home from college
- Academic resources for those who relied on library reserves
- Technology for those without laptops or wifi at home
- Access to meals, for those who relied on campus dining halls
- Tutoring, for those who relied on campus resource centers
- Financial support, for those who relied on work study for tuition or living expenses

Sharmarke Yusuf
Boston Conservatory at Berklee, Class of 2020

**BOSTON PREP | THE PHOENIX WITHIN US**
To be a community means to strive for the common good, to prioritize relationships and commit to the success of all - not the few.

At Boston Prep, we say that we are Phoenix Family. While always looking ahead and reaching one hand forward to reach toward our goals, we extend the other hand back, bringing others, who may need a helping hand, along with us.

In the Spring of 2020, as the challenges piled on, we expanded our partnership with families to offer critical supports, from food to technology access to financial assistance.

**ARTIST QUOTE**

Laila Hammond Gunn
Grade 11

“**BEING A PHOENIX** means being reborn, multiple times, as you find yourself along your journey. It means being part of a community that values culture and the diversity that brings us all together as a beautiful community.”

**The Phoenix Family Fund**

We established the Phoenix Family Fund to offer our Boston Prep families financial assistance to help with groceries, rent, utilities, and medical expenses. Upon announcement of the Fund, we were overwhelmed with offers of support - from existing and new donors, from teachers, from Boston Prep families who felt the pain of their friends and wanted to offer whatever help they could.

“I want to express my deepest gratitude to the Phoenix Family. I have been furloughed since March 2020. I feel so ashamed saying I need help, but as a single mom of two, it’s hard, and I’m trying to do anything I can to pay my rent and catch up on bills. I literally don’t know what we would do without you. Thank you for providing me and my children a second family.”

- Phoenix Family Fund Recipient

**Weekly family support sessions and community dialogues**

**45 family communications**

**Free breakfast and lunch offered daily for all children and their parents**

**343 family tech support issues resolved**

**487 MICROGRANTS**

**$74,180 IN SUPPORT**

**AND GROWING...**

Families continue to submit about 25 requests per week.
At Boston Prep, we believe that there is no neutral. Each and every one of us must take action to create racial equity and justice.

In the Spring of 2020, Black and brown communities experienced disproportionate loss of loved ones, housing, and income as a result of COVID-19, and we again witnessed the persistent assault on Black and brown bodies across our country. Thus began a national reckoning on race and a movement to end the systemic racism that has caused centuries of oppression and inequitable opportunity. As a community, Boston Prep is committed to action and has placed the work of this movement at the core of our school.

“STUDENTS OF BOSTON PREP—YOU ARE THE ANSWER. DON’T FORGET THIS ANGER, THIS PAIN, THIS FRUSTRATION. WE CANNOT GET COMPLACENT AGAIN; USE YOUR VOICE, USE YOUR PLATFORMS, GET YOUR EDUCATION, BE THE CHANGE AGENTS WE NEED!”

Valenda Harris, Assistant Principal, at Black Lives Matter Town Hall community dialogue

“Y’all are more powerful and influential than you know. If you ever doubt that, just remember that we planned a Senior Skip Day on March 13th and didn’t ever return back to school! Seriously though, don’t ever doubt the power you have. Don’t let the way others see you change who you are. Don’t ever stop fighting for what you believe in. Don’t ever be silent.”

- Desireé Lyons, Class of 2020 Salutatorian, at Class of 2020 virtual graduation

ARTIST QUOTE
Akani Harrison
Grade 8

“TO BE A PHOENIX means to strive for greatness everywhere you go. Our determination is fierce and lethal like the fire from the phoenix. As Phoenix, standing in our strength, we have the power to break the ground beneath us.”

As an organization, we committed ourselves to a set of immediate actions while also planning for a stronger future through the development of a community-driven anti-racism vision statement.

- We established a Board-level Anti-Racism Committee, including parent, student, and faculty representation.
- We terminated racist punitive discipline policies that contribute to the school-to-prison pipeline, eliminating the Dean’s Office, detentions, and in-school suspensions, in favor of a relationship-based, collaborative skill-building model.
- We rooted out racist language, ceasing use of our prior motto, Effort Determines Success, a phrase that, in today’s context, masks the inequitable playing field created by years of systemic racism.
- We launched a search for an anti-racism consulting partner to conduct an equity audit of our organization to help us identify our next action steps.
- We expanded our ongoing professional development, led by our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion teacher working group, to ensure more regular collaboration and learning to drive anti-racism in our classrooms.
Statement of Revenues and Expenses
JULY 1, 2019 – JUNE 30, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ordinary Income/Expenses</th>
<th>INCOME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOE Per-Pupil Revenue</td>
<td>11,070,734</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants Revenue</td>
<td>799,664</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-Kind Transportation and Pension</td>
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<td>Program Fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private Revenue</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries, Benefits &amp; Related</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Fees &amp; Recruitment</td>
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<tr>
<td>School/Student Expenses</td>
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<td>In-Kind Transportation</td>
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<td>General &amp; Administration</td>
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<td>Facilities</td>
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<td>Depreciation</td>
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<td>Contingency</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expense</strong></td>
<td><strong>15,682,776</strong></td>
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**Net Ordinary Income**
471,867

Statement of Financial Position
JUNE 30, 2020

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<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Current Assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts Receivable</td>
<td>242,971</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepaid Expenses and Other</td>
<td>165,599</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Assets</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fixed Assets, Net</td>
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<td>766,194</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,073,224</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>966,365</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accrued Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital Lease Obligation</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Equity</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,632,231</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,073,224</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The reports that follow are audited statements.

ARTIST QUOTE
Jayonna Coston-Adams
Grade 11

"Being a Phoenix means surpassing the limit of what society expects you to be and showing everyone what you really can be. We are strong, and we are beautiful, and at Boston Prep, we’re constantly reminded that we can reach high and make our mark on this world".
Yet, amidst tremendous economic uncertainty, we were humbled time and time again by the generosity of our community. Each of you, whether you gave $100 or $100,000, has made a felt and deeply valued impact in incredible, generous support for our donor recognition. The Phoenix is within TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY IN A UNANTICIPATED COSTS INCURRED WAYS, INCLUDING FUNDRAISING. WE OUR SUPPORTERS

14
15

Support is for Boston Prep and the Preparatory Foundation, Inc. from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. Please accept our apologies for any errors or omissions.

BOSTON PREP | THE PHOENIX WITHIN US

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020
As a student in high school, I did not appreciate the meaning or power of our Boston Prep mascot - the Phoenix. After all the obstacles in my journey, I have a better understanding of what it means to be a Phoenix. It means being willing to ask for help. It means leaving work early to attend office hours with my physics professor. It means late nights studying for the MCAT, with tired eyes but a committed heart. It means believing that the impossible is possible. It means being a Phoenix. After all the obstacles in my journey, I have a better understanding of what it means to be a Phoenix. It means being willing to ask for help. It means leaving work early to attend office hours with my physics professor. It means late nights studying for the MCAT, with tired eyes but a committed heart. It means believing that the impossible is possible. It means being a Phoenix.
"My classroom will be reborn into this remote world, just as beautiful as before, rising from the ashes of our current separation. Because STUDENTS are what make my classroom beautiful!!"

Jacqueline Story Stephenson
Language Department Chair

"I will push myself every day, even when I want to give up, and I will do the same for my classmates."

Gisleyne, Grade 12

"I will never accept defeat."

Khyier, Grade 8

"I will give my best in everything I do. I will not back down from any challenge."

Yoka, Grade 11

"I WILL CHALLENGE MYSELF AND ACTUALLY BE THE PERSON I WANT AND KNOW I CAN BE INSTEAD OF JUST WISHING FOR IT."

Cecil, Grade 12

"WHEN I GET KNOCKED DOWN, I WILL COME BACK BETTER THAN BEFORE."

Keyounce, Grade 8