



2017-2018

# DAYTON LEADERSHIP ACADEMIES ANNUAL REPORT

*Preparing Leaders for  
the Future*

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[www.dlaeagles.org](http://www.dlaeagles.org)  
1416 West Riverview Avenue  
Dayton, Ohio 45402





DLA prepares leaders for  
the future!



Dear Supporters of Dayton Leadership Academies:

As our school name implies, Dayton Leadership Academies is preparing leaders for the future. In this report, we highlight how DLA is preparing students to be leaders in high school, how we are developing teacher leaders, and how DLA families are leading the way.

There were many significant achievements in the 2017-2018 school year, including:

- Student enrollment increased by 12% from 375 to 420 students.
- 94% of our students re-enrolled for the 2018-2019 school year.
- Early Learning Academy was one of only two charter schools in Dayton to earn a B rating on the Ohio State School Report Card.
- Our average academic growth was close to 1.5 years of growth in reading and math for the second year in a row.

As our students grew and developed, so did our staff. We welcomed several new school leaders charged with moving DLA forward to achieve our mission. In June 2017 Tess Mitchner Asinjo transitioned into the principal position from assistant principal. In January, thanks to a \$75,000 school improvement grant, we created a new Teacher Coach for Data and Instruction position. For the 2018-2019 school year, we have also hired a new Middle School Culture Coordinator to ensure that our students are equipped to soar in high school and beyond.

Our family support continued to be strong with 81% of families indicating they are satisfied with DLA as their child's school on our annual parent feedback survey. Our Parent Advisory Council raised over \$1,000 and started the first annual PAC Scholarship. Two students were awarded \$300 to use towards fees at local private high schools. We know that this scholarship served as a springboard for our alumni in their pursuit of college.

The future is very bright for DLA students and our school community. Our academic model is yielding results, our family support is strong, our finances are stable, and our community partnerships are having a positive impact. We look forward to sharing our students' significant achievements in the 2018-2019 school year.

Together in Excellence,



Joshua D. Ward, Board Chair



Tess Mitchner Asinjo, Principal



**“I think DLA is a school that is more  
advanced than regular schools.  
The teachers and the faculty really  
care about the students.”**

**-DLA Parent**







## OUR MISSION

Each child will excel in high school, college and careers by students, parents and teachers working hard together.

## VISION

We educate and nurture each child to perform at his or her highest academic ability in a school culture of pride and excellence.



# THE DLA WAY

## SCHOOL PRIORITIES

Proficiency and Growth

Invest in Teachers

Engage with Families

School Culture of Joy





# DISTRICT PROFILE

The Dayton Leadership Academies school district consists of one building serving students in grades K – 8. The district serves students from around the Dayton area, including students from Dayton, Trotwood, and Jefferson Township.

We operate two charters in the school: Early Learning Academy for grades K-2 and Dayton View Academy for grades 3-8. Both charters are sponsored by the Fordham Foundation. We have an enrollment of approximately 425 students.

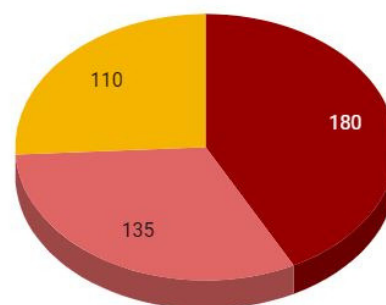
## Student Population

Race: 98.88% African-American

Free/Reduced meal program: 100%

Special Education students: 14%

2017 - 2018 Enrollment Breakdown



● Lower Elementary (K-2) ● Upper Elementary (3-5) ● Middle School (6-8)



# TEACHING AS LEADERSHIP

In 2017-18, DLA expanded our academic team, culture teams, and intervention team to provide more differentiated support for students and more coaching support for teachers.

## Academic Team

**Added Teacher Coach for Data  
and Instruction**

## Culture Team

**Added three culture keepers**

## Intervention Team

**Added 6-8 reading interventionist, 6-8  
math interventionist, and two  
instructional aids**

**85%**

of instructional staff were  
offered contracts, accepted  
and returned to DLA.

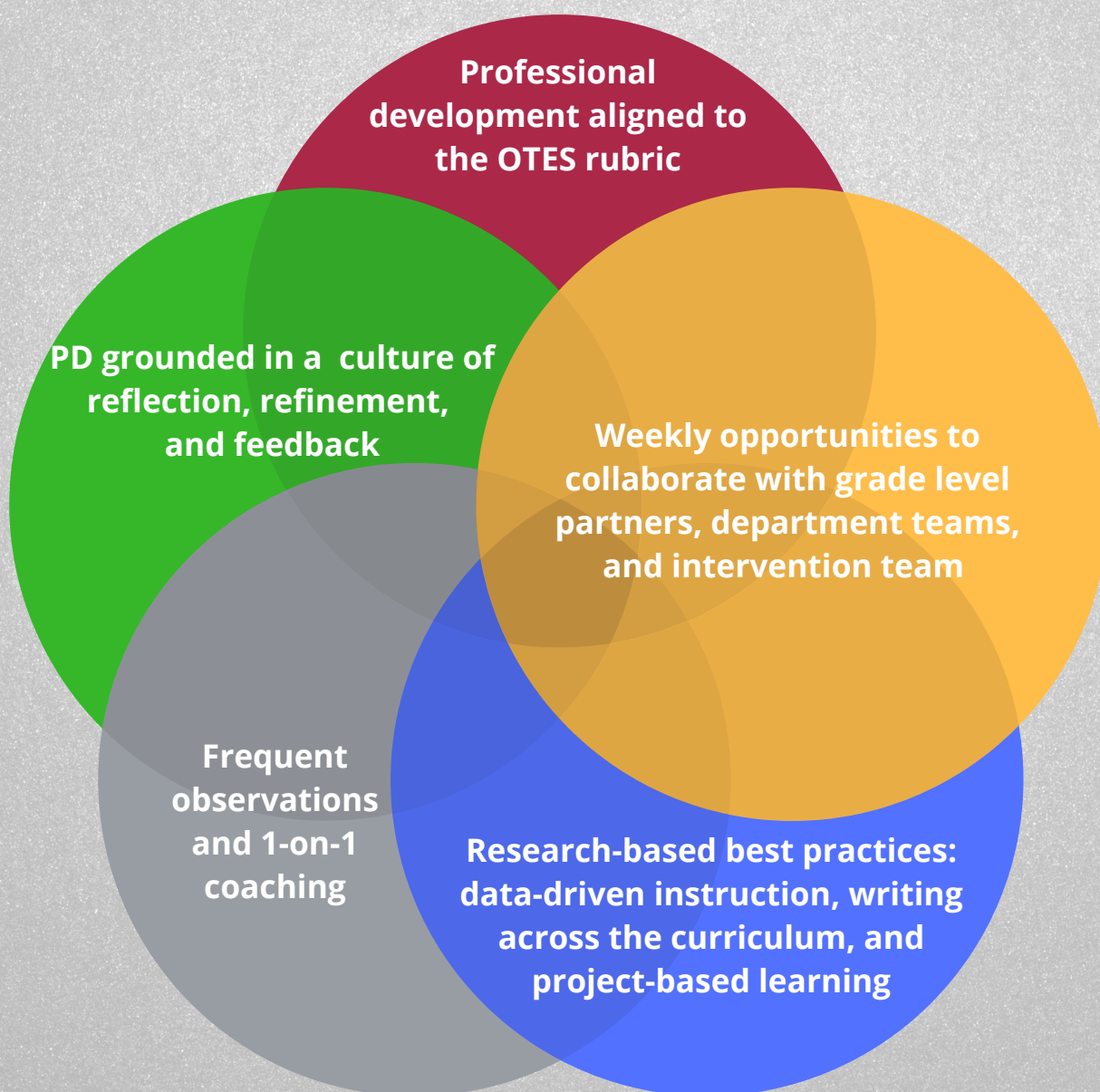
**40%**

of DLA's teachers are  
teachers of color.

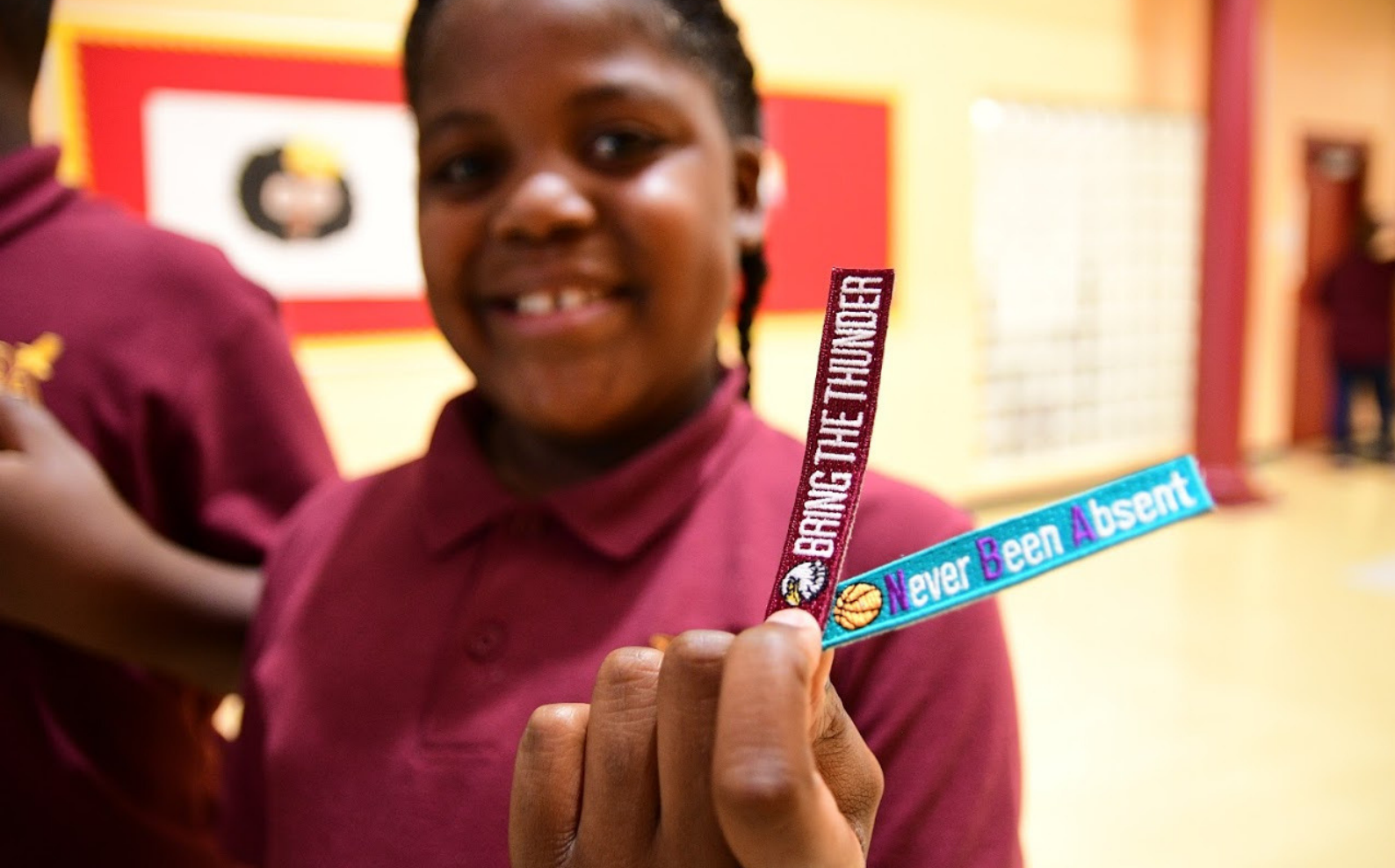




We invest heavily in teacher development through:







## Behavior Improvements

Decreased the number of  
suspensions by 37%  
Decreased number of days  
suspended by 37%

## Student Attendance

K-2: 92.8%  
3-8: 93.9%  
Overall: 93.43%  
2.3% increase from 16-17



# WE BRING THE THUNDER!



**"FOR IT IS NOT LIGHT THAT IS NEEDED,  
BUT FIRE; IT IS NOT THE GENTLE SHOWER,  
BUT THUNDER."**

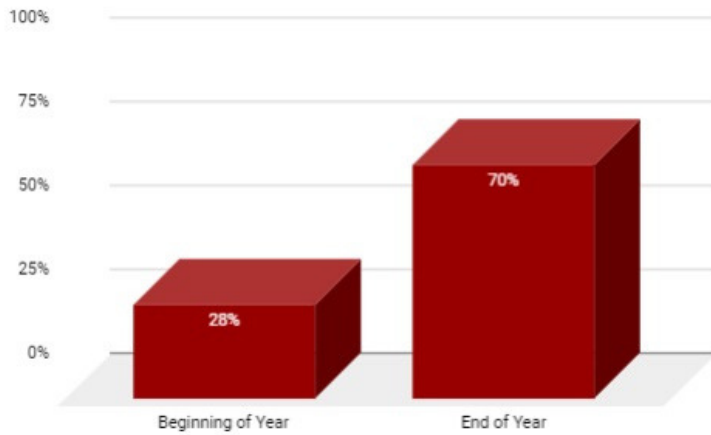
**-FREDERICK DOUGLASS**

Bring the Thunder is Dayton Leadership Academies school culture model to develop student leaders. The purpose of Bring the Thunder is to provide positive, proactive supports for students in order to promote positive school culture, academic success, decrease misbehavior in the school setting and engage families in the DLA community. Our students are supported using a social skills curriculum to develop leadership skills aligned to our core values: we are safe, respectful, responsible and positive leaders.



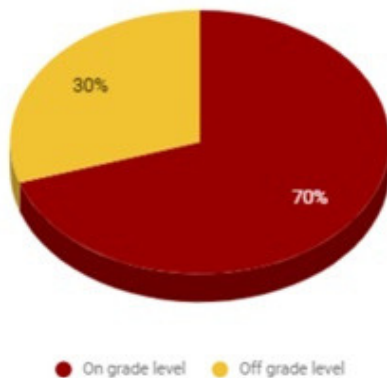
# ACADEMIC RESULTS

On Level Reading Performance



K-2 Reading increased from 28% in beginning of year to 70% at end of year

K-2 End of Year Grade Level performance



70% of K-2 students scored on grade level in Reading at the end of the year

**Early Learning Academy scored**



**on the Ohio State School  
Report Card**



# ACADEMIC RESULTS

1.45 years of  
growth in Reading

1.38 years of  
growth in Math

Proficiency average  
on end of year state  
tests increased  
2% in Reading and  
5.74% in Math.

Early Learning Academy  
one of the only two  
charter schools in Dayton  
to earn a B rating School  
Report Card.





DLA PREPARES LEADERS FOR

# Selective High Schools

Serenity Harris, DLA alumna, is a 10th grade student at Ponitz High School

*How well did DLA prepare you for high school?*

DLA prepared me well for high school. I felt ready for high school because a lot of the material we covered in 8th grade is what we did in 9th grade.

*What do you miss most about DLA?*

I miss being at DLA in general. I miss the teachers, my teammates, and the family atmosphere. I really miss DLA.

*What are your plans for college and your future?*

I received one of the College Promise Scholarships, so I would like to go to Ohio State to study law. I eventually want to go to Harvard or Yale to get a higher degree—a Master's and hopefully a Ph.D and then practice law as a prosecutor.







## Laniya Cunningham,

DLA alumna, is a 9th grade student at Thurgood Marshall High School

*How well did DLA prepare you for high school?*

With 10 being the best, I would rate DLA a 9.5 or 10. My teachers really worked with me and didn't give up on me. Last year, we had lots of high school readiness activities. The high school transition coordinator gave us lots of information about high school, so I was more prepared than a lot of my peers here at Thurgood. Because of my middle school teachers, I knew about college credits, GPAs, and transcripts. A lot of my current peers weren't taught that when they were in middle school. My Thurgood teachers talk about these things in class and asks who's familiar with these terms. I'm confident to say that I learned about all this at DLA.

*What do you miss most about DLA?*

I really miss the support that I got from my teachers and admin. I am like fresh meat here, so I still have so much to learn and student and teacher relationships that I have to grow.

I was able to connect with more people at DLA because it's smaller. Overall, I had a great support system at DLA. There were people willing to connect me to resources and talk to me when I needed someone to listen.

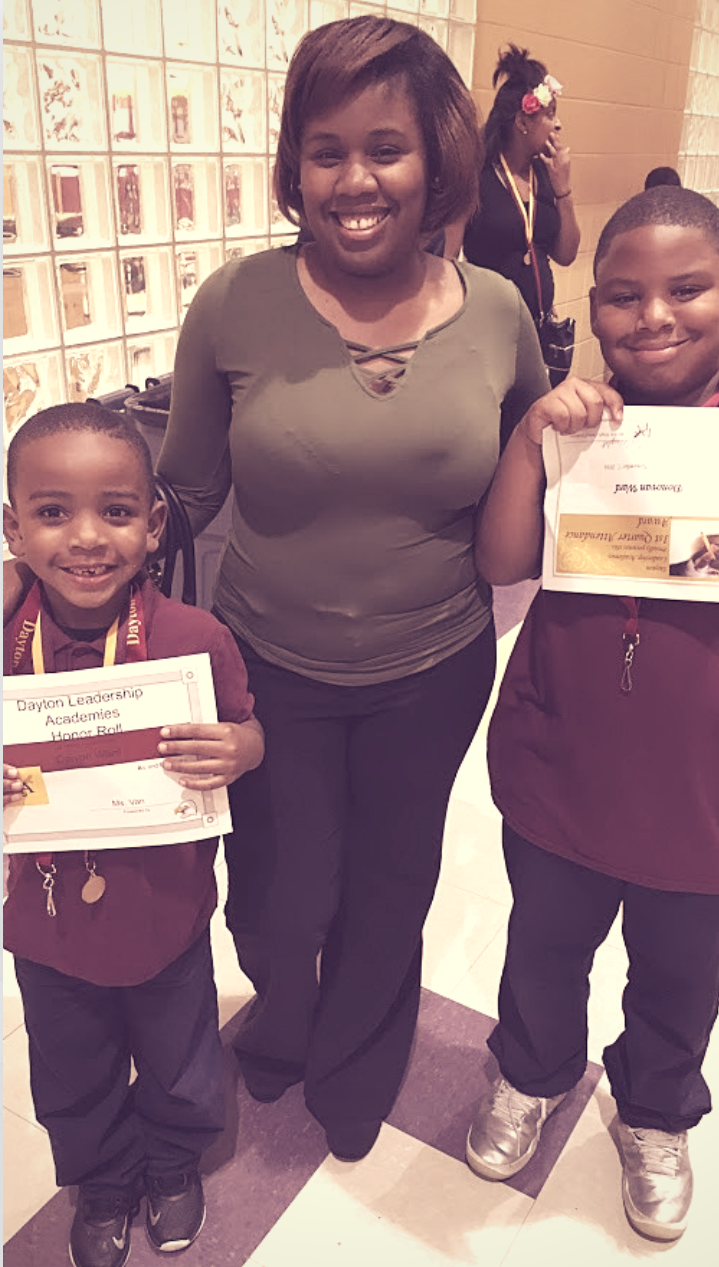
*What are your plans for college and the future?*

I have been thinking a lot about going to Miami of Ohio to study civil engineering or ethnic studies. I am really, really looking forward to college!

**"I had a great support system at DLA. There were people willing to connect me to resources and talk to me when I needed someone to listen."**



# DLA FAMILIES LEADING THE WAY



**“DLA is a wonderful school! I love the staff and teachers. I love how supportive DLA is of their students and parents.”**

**-DLA parent**

# 81%

of families are satisfied with DLA as their child's school.





## Parent Advisory Council

DLA's Parent Advisory Council (PAC) is in its third year of active service to our school community. The PAC is made up of over ten DLA parents and guardians who support our school goals and initiatives.

Last year, PAC hosted fundraisers throughout the school year and raised over \$1,000 and awarded (2) scholarships to 8th grade students attending selective high schools with tuition or enrollment fees. The scholarships were meant to offset the costs for the families of students attending these schools.

Due in part to the efforts of our teachers, staff, and the PAC, 94% of our families returned to DLA for the 2018-19 school year!

**80%**

of families rated the quality of education their child receives at DLA as an A or B.



## Parent Testimonial

"My son has been at DLA since kindergarten. His Kindergarten teacher was awesome. She worked really well with me and made sure my son had what he needed to be successful. This year, his first grade teacher has also been awesome to work with. Both teachers communicate very well with me about my child's education. My son is reading at a 2nd/3rd grade reading level in the first grade, and I attribute his success to the teachers and staff at DLA. I also read to him all the time. They are very good teachers, and I hope my daughter is lucky enough to have them when she starts next year.

At the first family event I attended at DLA, I found out about the Parent Advisory Council, and I joined soon after. The PAC has also attributed to my son's success and it feels good to be a leader. I think being involved and participating allows me to be informed and make informed decisions for my son. I can't wait until my daughter is at DLA next school year. Thank you for a great experience, DLA!"

**Sincerely,**

**A grateful parent**





# Community Partners Leading the Way



Credit: AmeriCorps

## AmeriCorps Foster Grandparents

Since DLA has been in existence, the Foster Grandparent program has been part of our school community. They serve primarily in our K-2 classrooms, but all of our students benefit from the life lessons that prepare them to be leaders in their community.



## Eastway Behavioral Healthcare

Eastway provides services within DLA that are based on the fundamental concept that people are responsible for the choices they make in their own lives and, with support, are capable of solving their own problems. The mental health professionals help students by guiding them through the processes (thoughts, feelings, actions) they experience when making choices. The results are children who demonstrate the understanding that their better choices will positively improve their lives and future outcomes.



## Teach For America

Dayton Leadership Academies partners with Teach For America to hire teachers for positions that are hard to fill, such as math, science, and special education. Teach For America corps members go through a rigorous selection process, complete a six-week summer training, and are provided frequent coaching and professional development during their first two years of teaching. In 2017-2018, DLA had four first year TFA corps members, one second year TFA corps member, and six alumni on staff.



**nccj** The National Conference  
for Community and Justice



# Building Leaders through Enrichment

## 21st Century Community Learning Grant

DLA was one of only a few schools in Dayton awarded a 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant. This \$600,000 grant provides an additional 15 hours of before and after school programming. Known at DLA as the Soaring Eagles Enrichment Program (SEEP), SEEP is a free educational opportunity that includes a morning and extended day program.



The goals of SEEP are to increase math and reading scores, to support social emotional learning, and to develop leadership skills. Each month, we feature a new theme that is wrapped around a social emotional focus, along with a parent activity that is parallel to the month's focus. In 2017-18, there were 75 students participating in tutoring, enjoying enrichment opportunities provided by Muse Machine, Rites of Passage, and Girls on the Run.





# Summer Launch Program

130 students impacted

85% average daily attendance

65 additional instructional hours

Over the summer DLA students participated in DLA's Summer Launch Program. The free program provides reading and math instruction, enrichment classes, and weekly field trips. DLA's Summer Launch Program is a unique combination of additional learning time, opportunities to explore interests, and field experiences.

## Field trips to:

- University of Dayton
- Camp Kern ropes course
- Newport Aquarium
- Boonshoft Museum of Discovery
- Learning Tree Farm
- Camp out in Possum Creek Metro park





# FORDHAM SPONSOR GOALS

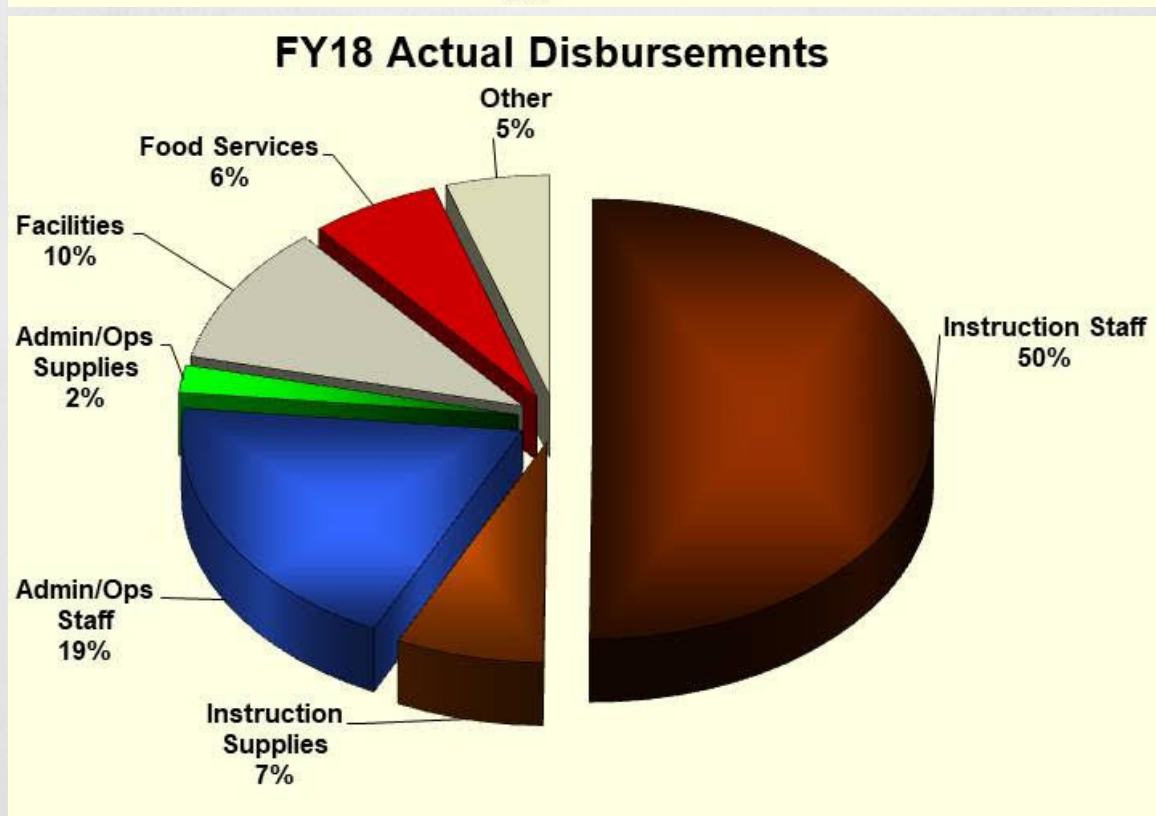
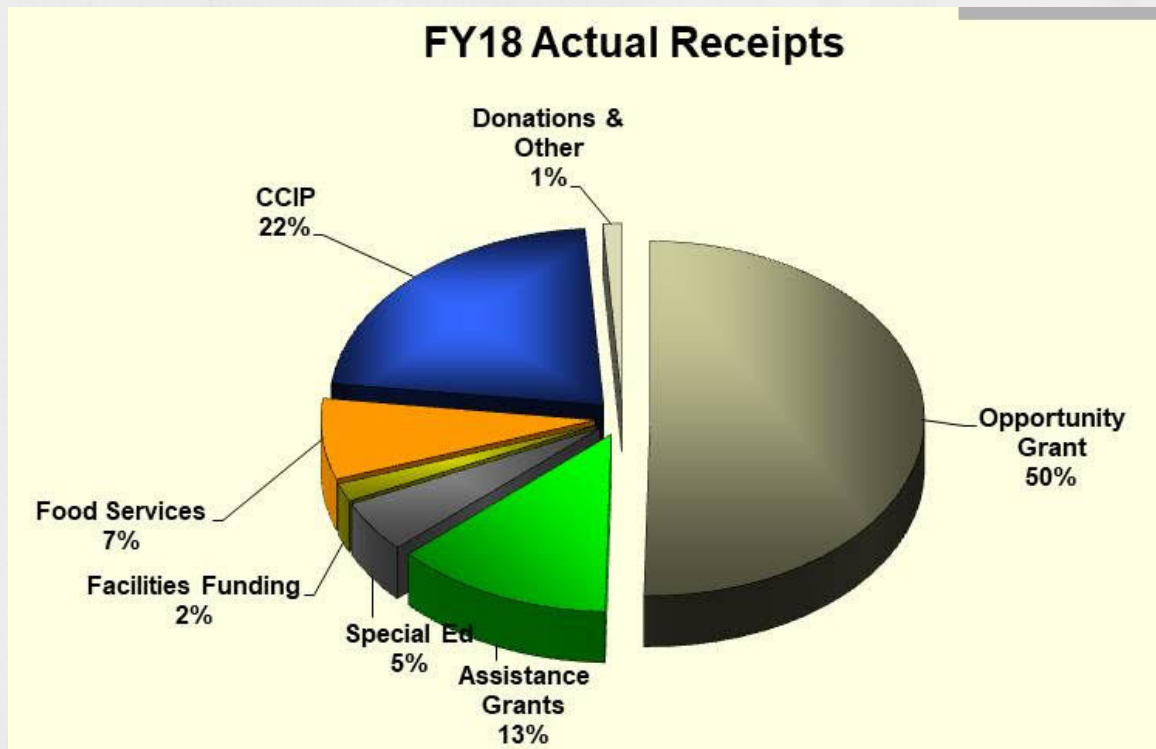
## Thomas B. Fordham Report

Performance	DLA Dayton View Campus -Rating	DLA Dayton View Campus - calculation/Note	DLA Early Learning Academy-Rating	DLA ELA calculation/Notes
<b>Primary Academic Indicators</b>				
Performance Index (PI)	Falls Far Below	42%		
Value Added (VA)	Falls Far Below	-5.96		
K-3 Literacy Improvement	Does Not Meet	F	Meets	C
Performance v. Local Market (PI)	Falls Far Below	Bottom 50%		
Performance v. Local Market (VA)	Falls Far Below	Bottom 50%		
Performance v. Statewide Charters (PI)	Falls Far Below	Bottom 50%		
Performance v. Statewide Charters (VA)	Falls Far Below	Bottom 50%		
<b>Secondary Academic Indicators</b>				
Value Added: Overall	Falls Far Below	F		
Performance Index: Overall	Falls Far Below	F		
Value Added: Disabilities	Does Not Meet	C		
Value Added: Lowest 20%	Does Not Meet	F		
AMOs	Does Not Meet	C		
<b>Financial Measures of Success (Current Year)</b>				
Ratio of Assets to Liabilities	Exceeds	19.2 ratio	Exceeds	48.7 ratio
Days Cash	Exceeds	110 days	Exceeds	135 days
Enrollment Variance	Exceeds	104%	Meets	94%
<b>Financial Measures of Success (Prior Years)</b>				
Multi-year Ratio of Assets to Liabilities	Exceeds	4.29 & 5.84	Exceeds	15.84 & 5.62
Cash Flow	Does Not Meet	Negative 2015, 2016	Exceeds	FY16 Positive, FY15 Positive
Total Margin and Aggregated Three-Year Total Margin	Does Not Meet	-0.28 ATM & -0.05 TM	Does Not Meet	-0.53 ATM & 0.08 TM
<b>Operations/Governance Primary Indicators</b>				
Records Compliance	Exceeds	100%	Exceeds	100%
On-Time Records Submission Rate	Exceeds	97%	Exceeds	97%
Financial Records Submitted Monthly	Exceeds	100%	Exceeds	100%
Annual Audit	Does Not Meet	FY16 Audit contains one noncompliance/finding for recovery repaid under audit and one Noncompliance/Material weakness -Allowable costs. Audit contains less than three findings, noncompliance citations, question osts, material weaknesses or findings for recovery less than \$5000	Does Not Meet	FY16 Audit containsone noncompliance/finding for recovery repaid under audit and one Material Weakness-Financial Statement Misstatements. Audit contains less than three findings , noncompliance citations, questioned costs, material weaknesses or findings for recovery less than \$5000.
LEA Special Education Performance Determination (most recent annual)	Does Not Meet	Needs intervention	Exceeds	Meets Requirements
<b>Operations/Governance Secondary Indicators</b>				
Five-Year Forecasts Submitted by Deadline	Meets	Submitted 5/22/2018 and 10/25/2017	Meets	Submitted 5/22/2018 and 10/25/2017
Pre-opening Assurances Documentation	Meets	Submitted 7/18/2017, first day 8/10/2017, 19 business days prior	Meets	Submitted 7/18/2017, first day 8/10/2017, 19 business days prior
Annual Report	Meets	Submitted 10/27/2017	Meets	Submitted 10/27/17
Safety Plan and Blueprint Submitted to OAG (last three years)	Meets	12/12/2017	Meets	12/12/2017
Family Survey Results	Exceeds	81% families satisfied with DLA as their child's school	Meets	81% families satisfied with DLA as their child's school



# FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

- 63% of total expenses were for student education and care.
- Total cash balance on June 30, 2018 was \$1,669,700.
- FY18 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) student enrollment was roughly 40 higher than FY17.





# Core Values

## We are Safe

Be safe in actions  
Be safe in words

## We are Respectful

Be respectful to self  
Be respectful to others

## We are Responsible

Be responsible for my work  
Be responsible for my choices

## We are Leaders

Be a leader in my school  
Be a leader in my community

DLA alumni who are excelling at  
Alter High School.

