



Patterson Park Public
CHARTER SCHOOL

2018-2023 Strategic Plan

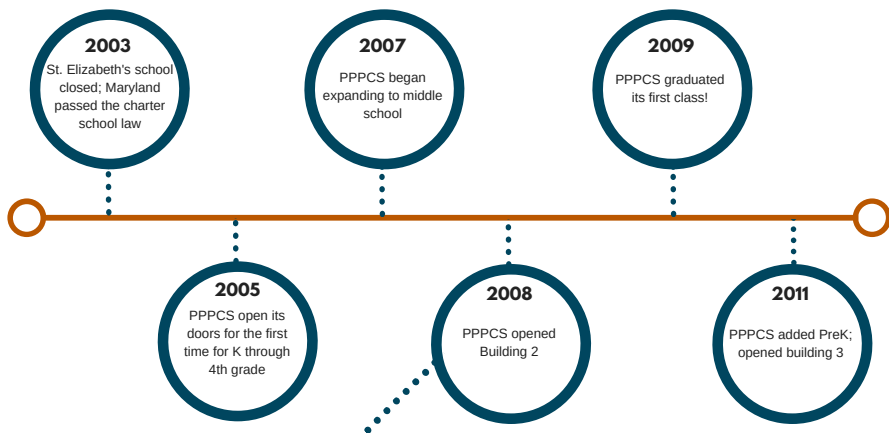


Patterson Park Public Charter School

HOW WE GOT HERE

Patterson Park Public Charter School was founded over ten years ago by a group of community members who started dreaming about the future. They loved the city and wanted to stay, but when they looked around for schools for their young child they didn't see any options that were enriching, joyful, and preparing children to be the future leaders of our city.

And so...Patterson Park Public Charter School was born in 2005. It started as a K-4 elementary located in the building left vacant when St. Elizabeth's Catholic School closed. In the past 13 years, the hard work and determination of an invested Board of Directors, parents, teachers, school leaders, neighbors, and community partners has contributed to our growth and success.



WHO WE ARE



Patterson Park Public Charter School is now in its 14th year of operation as a city-wide public charter school. Patterson Park Public Charter School is a school-wide Title I and Community School. Our facility has expanded to three buildings serving 725 students in grades Pre-K – 8.

Vision



Life-long learners,
healthy families,
strong neighborhoods

Mission



Patterson Park Public Charter School provides a community-centered learning environment that values diversity and embraces a whole child approach to develop well-educated citizens.



Demographics

Racial Make Up

- 49% African American
- 35% Latino-Hispanic
- 14% White
- 3% Other



Services

- 17% receive Special Education Services
- 17% receive ESOL Services

In educating the whole child at PPPCS, we are committed to...



Challenging every child in their **academic development** using interdisciplinary, thematic, hands-on instruction that infuses the arts and fosters creativity, critical thinking, and a life-long love of learning and action.



Providing a safe environment and access to resources to improve and maintain the physical, mental, social, and emotional **health** of every child.

Encouraging the **self-knowledge and identity development** of every child through an understanding of historical contexts of race, gender, and other expressions of self.

Nurturing **skills and values** for personal growth, healthy interpersonal relationships, and social good.



Providing **love and support** to every child by 1) establishing a network of committed and caring individuals and partners and 2) strengthening family and community structures that influence children



Academic Development

Self-knowledge and Identity Development

Health

Skills and Values

Love and Support

...so every child can learn and thrive.

WHERE WE ARE

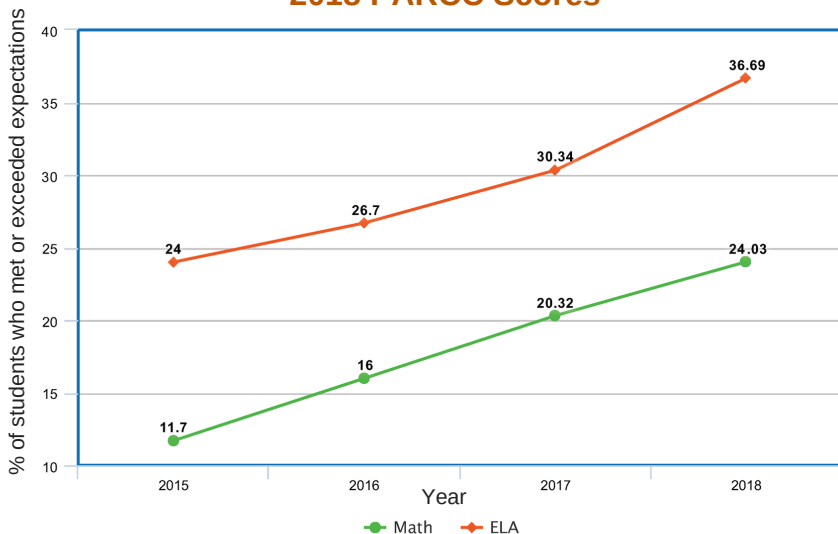
Strengths

Academic Achievement

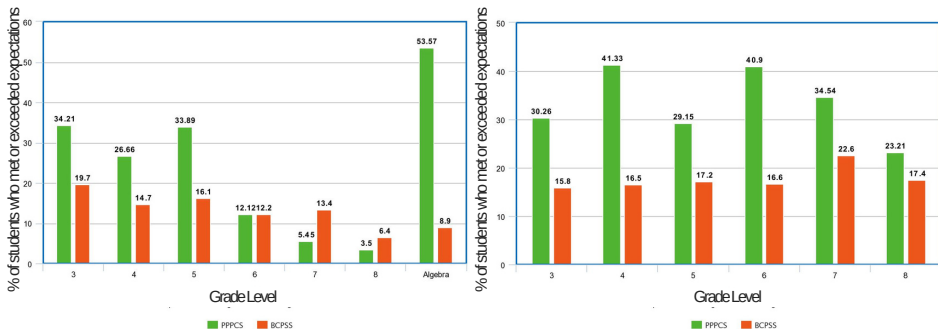
Patterson Park Public Charter School's standardized test scores continue to steadily increase and the school-wide achievement is well above the city's average scores. Recently, PPPCS was noted as one of the schools in the district with the fastest growing PARCC scores in ELA.

However, we know the percentage of students passing is still low compared to the state's average test scores, and we will push ourselves to ensure all of our students are prepared to be life-long learners.

2018 PARCC Scores



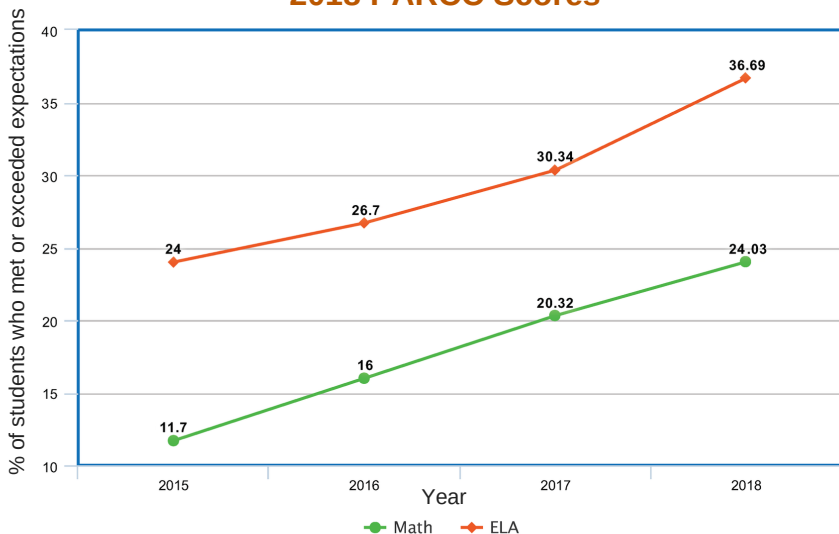
2018 PARCC Scores Compared to City Schools



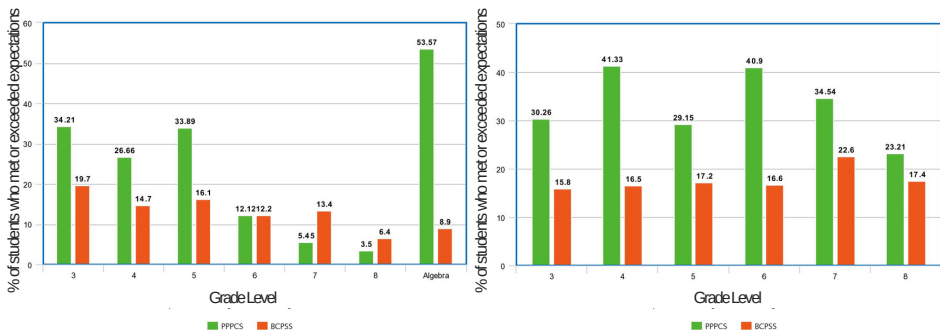
Academic Achievement

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2018 PARCC Scores



2018 PARCC Scores Compared to City Schools



PPPCS's whole-child approach helps our students become life-long learners who achieve now and go on to do great things.

Where is the Class of 2018?

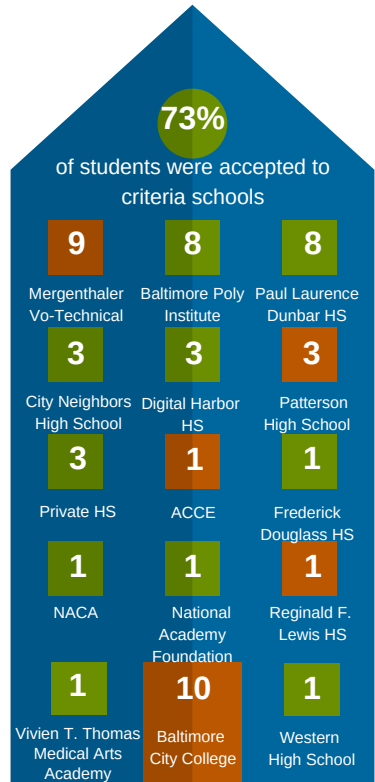
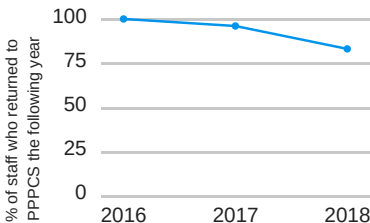
Kailah Foreman was a member of the 2014 8th grade graduating class at PPPCS of the Baltimore Polytechnic Institute class of 2018. Kailah was named this year's recipient of the Fred Lazarus Art Prize for Artscape 2018. This prestigious award is awarded to only one Baltimore City high school student, including a stipend to produce a solo exhibit with mentorship from the Baltimore Office of Promotion and The Arts staff. Kailah will be attending MICA in the Fall.



Staff Satisfaction

95% of staff would recommend PPPCS to others

Staff Retention



* One student moved out of Baltimore City

Teacher Testimony

I love teaching the children at this school, because my own children were at this school. My students deserve to have the best experience while they are here. I live on the other side of the park, and I often run into students and their families while I am going about my real life outside of school. I love it when that happens! That shows that we are all part of one community and we can learn and live and grow together.

I love working with the staff and administration at this school, because it is a place where everyone is treated as a professional, capable of making great decisions about curriculum and instruction. I feel incredibly grateful for the opportunity to work with so many talented dedicated people who always go above and beyond in providing a high quality education for our diverse community of students.

I love coming to work each day. I love making connections with my students and their families. I love teaching the younger brothers and sisters of students I taught years ago. I love seeing those students from years ago turn into leaders in the school as they enter middle school. I love the feeling of walking into my classroom ready for a new day of learning and laughing and enjoying our community.

- Mrs. Anne Hendrick, 2nd Grade Teacher

At the core of PPPCS's educational philosophy, we believe students with involved families will succeed in school, college, careers, and life overall. An involved family builds an irreplaceable support system, that all children need throughout their development. We set an expectation of families to complete 20 hours of family engagement each year.



8,200

Total Volunteer Hours Last Year

125

Volunteers Completed 20 or More Hours



Notable Family Groups

HOPPP

Hands on Patterson Park Public is the organized parents and guardians group at PPPCS. They support parent involvement, advocate for the well-being and education of our students, and make sure our teachers and staff are supported.

Mis Raices

Mis Raices is the organized group for Latinx families at PPPCS. They offer social networking and support, increase school-connectedness, and empower families to be themselves.

School Effectiveness



In December 2017, Patterson Park Public Charter School's Charter was renewed for another 5 years by Baltimore City Public School System! A five year renewal of our contract is the longest possible renewal and recognizes the excellent and inspiring work that goes on at our school each day—work that is possible because of the shared vision and commitment of our community of students, families, staff, partners, supporters and board of directors.

As a result of our success, PPPCS is in demand. For the 2018-2019 school year, we received 613 applications. Our 46 Pre-K seats this past year were primarily filled by siblings or staff preferences. We expand to serve 96 students in Kindergarten, but with Pre-K matriculation, that means there are just 50 open lottery spots in kindergarten each school year for a city-wide lottery. This represents the bulk of our open seats.



**6 APPLICATIONS
FOR EVERY OPEN
SEAT AT PPPCS**



**SEAT DEFICIT OF
1,800 STUDENTS IN
BALTIMORE CITY**

Our school is located in a district that is experiencing significant overcrowding – approximately an 1,800 seat deficit – PPPCS sees an opportunity to address this need.

Families stay at PPPCS. 95% of students return to PPPCS for the following academic year. This is evidence of student and family satisfaction.

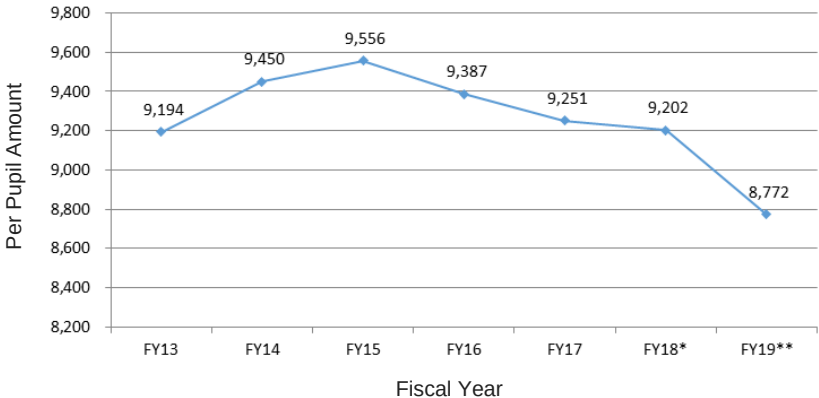


**95% OF STUDENTS
RETURN TO PPPCS**

Fiscal Challenges

Despite our success, Patterson Park Public Charter School faces significant financial challenges that threaten the sustainability of our school and our ability to deliver the programming we believe matters for kids. The factors leading to this challenge are complex, but the situation is not insurmountable if handled strategically. One of the main drivers of the growing budget pressure is a significant decrease in per pupil funding, our main source of revenue. At the same time salaries and benefits have increased and Baltimore City Public School System started charging mandatory fees.

Net per pupil allocation to Charters



Patterson Park Public Charter School is not alone in its financial woes. The school district as a whole is facing a similar challenge. The main drivers of which are declining enrollment, increasing personnel costs, facility costs, and stagnant state funding, all of which lead to declining per pupil funding.



Another major factor in our financial picture is paying Baltimore City Public Schools System's facilities debt service to cover the cost of facilities PPPCS and its students do not use and will not use. It is a significant, yearly cost to the organization. We own our school building, which is a unique and major asset. However, when you pay regular payments against a \$13.085 million bond and the facilities debt service fee, there is a significant strain on resources.

Facilities cost per pupil

\$720 (BCPSS Debt Service)
+\$1,400 (PPPCS Building)

\$2,120 per pupil

What could PPPCS do with the \$720 per pupil?

Hire 5 more teachers
or
Host 350 more students in after-school
programming

Inclusion and Equity

When we review our school data holistically, we recognize there are concerning gaps that fall along racial lines and those gaps are not consistent with our vision of inclusion and equity.

Both the school and the Board of Directors have accepted a call to action to recognize and proactively address issues of equity and access, and created a Diversity and Equity Work Plan to take action on:

- Addressing significant gaps in achievement between our white students and our students of color
- Addressing significant difference between our students who attend our Pre-K program, most of whom enter Kindergarten on level in reading, and those who do not and struggle to catch up in reading
- Creating an inclusive curriculum and equity lens in pedagogy
- Creating opportunities to what we have learned nationally



SWOT

Strengths

- High demand for enrollment
- Academic Achievement - PPPCS performs better than the city average on PARCC testing
- High staff retention rate
- High rate of students returning to PPPCS
- Over 45 community partners
- Experienced school leadership and teaching staff
- Consistent positive reviews on the School Effectiveness Review
- Recent 5 Year Charter Renewal
- Diverse school community

Weaknesses

- Achievement gaps between our white and Latin(x) and African American students
- Overrepresentation of African American students and students with disabilities in suspension data
- Inconsistencies in curriculum development amidst changes to Common Core and PARCC
- Lack of an inclusive curriculum and equity lens in pedagogy
- Staff is not representative of student population
- Lack of information on high-school and college graduation rates for our alumni, which would be the most telling data point for our mission of “life-long learners”

Opportunities

- 1,800 student seat deficit in Baltimore City
- Neighborhood demand for another school in the SE
- Willing partners
- To be a model of a diverse and inclusive school community
- Room to grow our gifted and talented program

Threats

- Unstable per pupil funding
- Inadequate state funding
- Inequitable per pupil fees
- Significant yearly cost for facilities fees



WHERE WE ARE GOING

The strategic plan is organized around three thematic priorities



Academic Excellence

As an educational institution, Patterson Park Public Charter School prioritizes academic excellence. We are committed to challenging every child in their academic development using interdisciplinary, thematic, hands-on instruction that infuses the arts and fosters creativity, critical thinking, and a life-long love of learning and action. In the coming years, we will prioritize creating a consistent, identity affirming curriculum that scaffolds learning from PreK - 8th grade, cultivates a love of learning, and empowers students to be life-long learners.



Equity

At Patterson Park Public Charter School, it is our responsibility to serve a diverse community and to operate with an equity lens. In the coming years, we will prioritize using an equity lens to create a culture of inclusivity, develop a more inclusive curriculum, diverse hiring practices, supportive social-emotional learning, growth towards equitable achievement, inclusive family events, and representative decision making processes. We want a nurturing foundation for all of our students, realizing our mission and preparing our students for success in a global society. We are committing to fostering a culture that operates with an equity lens.



Bright Future

The bright future of our students is dependent on the sustainability of Patterson Park Public Charter School. Recognizing the growing need, we can also provide a bright future for more students. In the coming years, we will prioritize advocating for adequate and equitable funding and expanding our impact by serving more students in a second school.

Board of Directors

Sarah Sandoval-Mohapatra, President

John Wesby, Vice President

Chris Scott, Treasurer

Candace Caraco, Secretary

Marlon Amprey

Keisha Campbell

Charles Conner III

Aaron Fries

Patrick Irish

Tasha Johnson

Charletta McClean

Paul Rishar

Jason Trageser, Parent-at-large

Doug Barr, Parent-at-large

Deborah Fajuyigbe, Teacher-at-large

Bess Aquila, Teacher-at-large

Administration

Jane Lindenfelser, Executive Director

Chad Kramer, Principal

Emily Augustine, Assistant Principal

Liz Obara, Community School Coordinator

Heather Lindh-Payne, Social Worker

Kelly O'Conner, Director of Teaching and Learning

Staff

Klinton Kinder, Technology Coordinator

Benito Islas, Facilities Manager

Debbie Mattera, Business Manager

Marisa Moschelle, Family Engagement Coordinator

Sola Ogundele, Main Office Assistant

Andrea O'Hara, Controller

Heather Savino, Development Coordinator



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