

## Welcome to our Summer Newsletter!

Dear Friends,

I invite you to enjoy REACH Prep's Summer 2020 Newsletter. I am so proud to share news about how our students, families, program team and Prep Academy faculty rose to the challenges presented by this unexpected summer. REACH Prep provided a full range of programming to our Scholars and connected them to available opportunities and experiences to make their summer as constructive and enriching as possible. Please know that your support allows us to respond to the needs of our students and families during this pandemic and we could not be more grateful. You have ensured our capacity to deliver high quality academic preparation, guidance and opportunities across our 12-year continuum. We look forward to updating you again very soon on the new school year.

With gratitude,



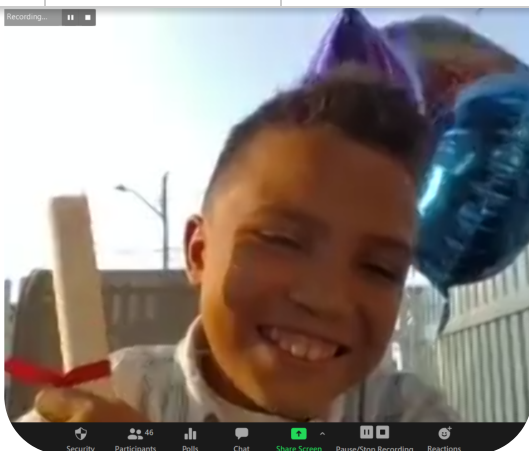
Gina Lucas, CEO

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## Program Highlights

### Our First-Ever Virtual Prep Academy

From the end of June to early August, our faculty and staff were as busy as ever delivering 6 weeks of robust academic programming for Cohorts 26 and 27 -- our newest Cohort of Scholars that we welcomed in May.

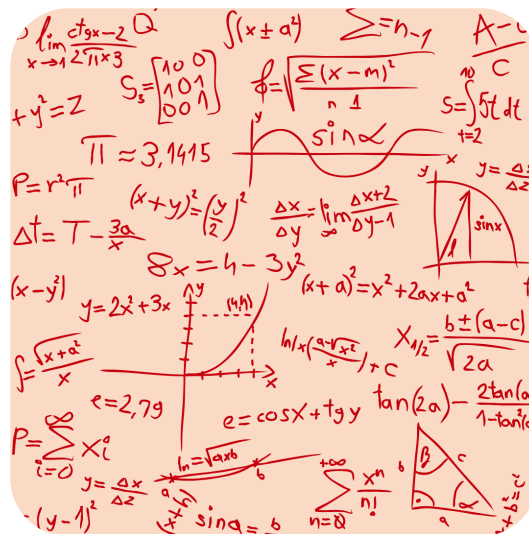


Academy completely virtually, our students and faculty didn't miss a beat. Students took classes in Math, Economics, English, Vocabulary, Latin, Technology, ISEE Test Prep, as well as Art and Coding. Students began each day with a check-in with their Advisors, and two times per week buddy pairs from Cohorts 26 and 27 met to enjoy "snack time" together and participate in activities like Bingo, at-home scavenger hunts, Mad Libs games and talent shows.

Our summer session culminated in a virtual Commencement celebrating Cohort 26 and their completion of Prep Academy. Congratulations Cohort 26!

### Review and Preparation

While Cohorts 26 and 27 were busy preparing for the upcoming school year in their Prep Academy classes, our middle and high school Scholars prepared for fall with our writers' workshops and our online math review/preview sessions. These sessions reviewed key topics covered during courses taken last year and helped to prepare students for topics they will soon encounter. Depending on each student's grade and the offerings at their school, math sessions included review in Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II, and previews in Geometry, Algebra II, Trigonometry and Pre-Calculus. Our writers' workshops focused on researching and exposition writing.



### Congratulations to the Class of 2020!

We hope you will join us in celebrating and

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Over the last two years, these students have worked tirelessly at school, at home and in their extracurriculars to ensure they are set up for success as they transition to college this fall. Although their high school graduations didn't look anything like what we expected, our students took these changes in stride, with grace and positivity.

To commemorate this milestone, we hosted a virtual dinner for graduates and their families in June. We are also proud to share that members of the Class of 2020 were accepted to some of the most outstanding colleges and universities including Yale University, Swarthmore College, Columbia University, Union College, Boston University, Colgate University and University of Chicago, among others.

Congratulations to all graduates from the Class of 2020!

## Preparing for Fall Transitions

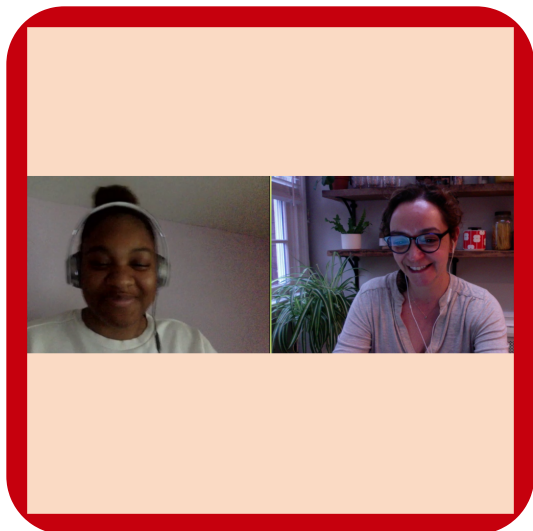
An important piece of REACH Prep's unique and comprehensive model is the programming we provide students and their families in preparation for major transitions, such as entering a new grade or starting at a new school.

This summer we hosted grade-specific workshops and one-on-one meetings to help all of our middle and high school students prepare, not only academically, but also socially and emotionally for the changes the next year will bring. These discussions often focused on expectations and resources, and offered an opportunity for students to hear from



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Workshops were also offered specifically to help parents discover and define their unique roles in the process of transition.



## Responding to COVID-19

With all the changes the COVID-19 pandemic has brought over the last six months, we continue to closely monitor the impact on our students and their families. Whether it involves housing and food insecurity or the emotional and mental well-being of our students, we want them to know we are here for them through these unpredictable times.

This spring and summer we were especially focused on making sure all our students had the proper access to technology to continue their studies with as little disruption as possible. For some of our families that meant helping them assess their connectivity at home, or providing critical resources such as ethernet cables and noise cancelling headphones.

## REACH Prep's 2018-2019 Annual Report

Recognizing 25 years of REACH Prep, the pages of this Annual Report feature members of our vibrant community who help advance our mission to empower Black and Latinx students through individualized support and high-quality educational opportunities.

We want to thank our many supporters and friends whose commitment to educational access over the past 25 years continues to transform each of our



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continue our impact, individually, locally and systemically, through the power of education.

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