



Impact Report

2024 - 2025

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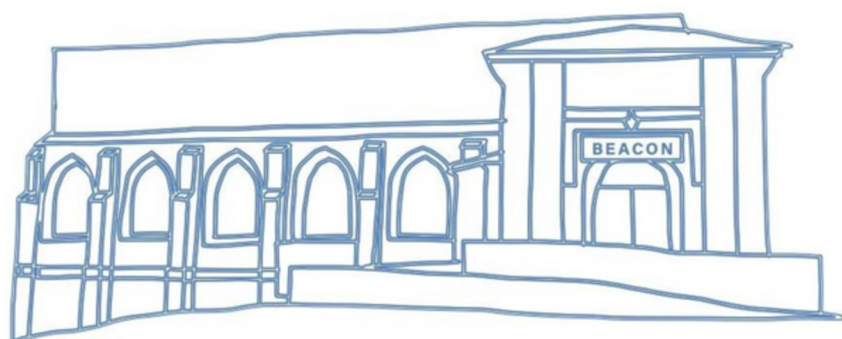
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Introduction

Dear Beacon Academy Community,

We are pleased to present Beacon Academy's 2025 Impact Report. In this report, we are excited to share an overview of our mission, key elements of our program model, and highlights of our progress in leveling the educational playing field. Most importantly, we are proud to share the incredible successes and outstanding achievements of our 380+ students and alumni.

Launched 20 years ago, Beacon Academy remains steadfastly committed to promoting educational equity. We strive to prepare determined and inquisitive students from under-resourced and/or underrepresented communities to succeed in competitive high schools, excel in four-year colleges, and launch meaningful careers. While many students thrive in the Boston Public School system, the highest 4-year high school graduation rate historically is 80%, according to the September 2023 Brookings Institution. By comparison, Beacon Academy's Class of 2020 achieved a high school graduation rate of 100% in 2024. Since Beacon Academy was founded, our overall graduation rate has stood at 97%. Additionally, 95% of our alumni gain admission to four-year colleges, with the majority receiving financial aid packages that surpass the expected contributions from their families or caregivers. Today, our 380+ students and alumni continue to exceed the academic expectations initially attributed to them and are on the pathway to achieving their educational and professional goals.

Our unique 10-Year Program is designed to guide students from their initial day at Beacon Academy and then throughout their high school, college, and careers. During the Academy Year, with academic resources and support from the Beacon Academy community, our students explore their intellectual curiosity, affirm their racial and cultural identity, build their confidence, and discover the power of their voice. Beacon Academy continues its long-term commitment to its students by collaborating with independent schools, colleges, universities, families, and caregivers as students and alumni progress along their individual journeys. Whether students need guidance navigating high school coursework and applying to college, help to secure meaningful jobs and internships, assistance analyzing financial aid packages, etc., Beacon Academy creates life-changing opportunities for all of our students.

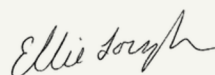
Many factors contribute to Beacon Academy's success, but key among them are the relationships formed throughout our community. Our work is actively supported by mentors, tutors, and volunteers who provide guidance, coaching, and support for our students. As our program continues to grow, our work is also supported by the alumni who actively serve as teachers, tutors, proctors, and board members. This comprehensive support system, bolstered by our strong alumni network, ensures our students' confidence far beyond their Beacon Academy Year.

We simply could not have had the impact we've had over the last two decades without the members of our extended Beacon Academy community. Your participation helps to close the opportunity gap and supports our students as they build lives of agency and impact. We are deeply grateful to you.

With gratitude,



Charles E. Carter, Jr., Ph.D., LICSW
CEO & Head of School



Ellie Loughlin
Chair, Board of Directors

Beacon Academy



The Academy Year

- Offer stimulating academics and engaging co-curricular activities to build confidence and affirm identities
- Assist with applications to independent high schools that meet students' needs
- Secure unique summer experiences post-graduation
- Help students develop advocacy skills for their hopes and needs



“

I like science. I like that we do experiments and that Beacon gives us the freedom to try new things. It's not like in other schools, where teachers just tell you what will happen, but here, you actually do experiments and can see how it actually happens.

– Elizabeth Polanco Valdez BA '25.



High School

- Partner with high schools to ensure student success
- Assist families in transitioning to the high school community with frequent check-ins
- Offer college advising, financial aid guidance, and test prep
- Assist with securing job and internship opportunities



“

Time management is one of the significant skills Beacon taught me. Throughout my year there, I realized it's crucial because time is crucial, and it's something you can never get back. Learning to value my time has always been essential to shaping my routine, especially at a private school like Brooks.

– Kymanni Babb BA '22.

10-Year Program



College

- Collaborate with colleges to connect students with necessary resources
- Support students with course selection, school supplies, transportation, and study-abroad guidance
- Offer mentorship opportunities, career development workshops, and networking events
- Assist with securing job and internship opportunities



“

I am an introvert by nature, but Beacon taught me how to be sociable. Now, it's a switch I turn on and off when needed. It started at Beacon, so I have to thank Beacon. They pushed me to my limits, and they believed in me.

– Brian Barrera BA '18.



Career

- Host professional networking events
- Help graduates find jobs and internships
- Connect graduates with volunteers for resume improvement, job search advice, and professional development support



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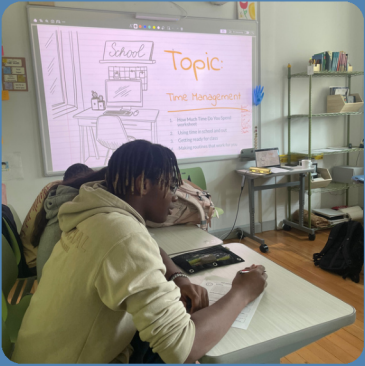
We were all 13 and 14 years old, trying to answer these big questions about what we wanted from our lives and what we would like to do moving forward. For a lot of us, Beacon was a turning point. It was one of those moments when you just knew something in your life was going to be different, a new beginning, I guess.

– Cheyanne Walker-Williams BA '13.



Promoting Educational Equity Beyond Beacon Academy

At Beacon Academy, we provide a powerful education as a pathway for students who desire to elevate their academic opportunities, help others, and be the kind of leaders they dream about and the world needs.



In addition to our direct work with Beacon Academy students and alumni, our mission is to help disrupt injustices and educational inequities wherever they exist – beyond Beacon Academy's walls. We have a responsibility to raise the voice of, create agency for, and celebrate the humanity and value of people often dismissed, discouraged, or marginalized – whether they are Beacon Academy students or not.



We take a multifaceted approach to discovering, disseminating, and utilizing knowledge to drive systemic transformation. We use our platforms to raise public awareness, educate stakeholders on critical issues, and demand a better future for our young people. We advocate for policies that promote educational equity and create opportunities for all students.



We believe in an open-source approach to system change. We share our program design, theories of change, successes, and challenges with educators, school leaders, and education advocates. By sharing our information widely, we hope to foster an informed and engaged community in establishing and sustaining educational equity.

We convene thought leaders, practitioners, policymakers, community members, and those with lived experience to identify chronic barriers to educational equity, share best practices, leverage unique perspectives, and develop system-based solutions.



These coalition-building moments are also a chance for us to learn, engage, and receive critical input from others – all with a goal of continuously evolving the Beacon Academy model to meet the changing needs of our students, alumni, and partners.

By the Numbers

0% Government Funded

We rely entirely on the support from our individual donors, corporations, and foundation partners, to provide students with quality education, mental health services, and other resources.



6:1 Student - Teacher Ratio

Students benefit from personalized feedback and the ability to foster trusting relationships with their teachers.

103 High Schools Attended



109 Colleges Attended



The robust support system we provide through our 10-Year Program is essential for fostering student success in a variety of environments and helping to nurture not just academic excellence but also confidence, advocacy skills, and a deep sense of belonging that lasts long after the Academy Year. **We're thrilled to share that an impressive 97% of our alumni successfully graduate from high school, with 95% of them gaining admission to four-year colleges, often with financial aid packages that exceed their families' expectations. Today, we proudly highlight 181 alumni who are not just surviving, but thriving in successful professional careers.** These outstanding outcomes reflect the efficacy of our 10-Year Program and our unwavering dedication to advancing educational equity.

Beacon Academy Faculty & Staff

Charles E Carter, Jr., Ph.D., LICSW
CEO & Head of School

Lily Ambrosio
Program Coordinator

Jennifer Angelone
Student & Family Support Program
Manager

Nicole Baker
Director of Development &
Engagement

Doly Castro P '20
Admissions and Placement
Officer

Kate Fussner
Development Coordinator

Cary Hammonds
Senior Teacher & DEIJB Coordinator

Annie Jean-Baptiste
Associate Director of Enrollment
and Placement

Nihal Kodavarti
Math Teacher and Co-Curricular
Coordinator

Karen Liberatore
Director of Operations & Chief of Staff

Natalia Lindsey
Program Manager, Alumni
Support

Ashley Miranda
Director of Alumni Support Services

Eric Nett
Director of Enrollment and Placement

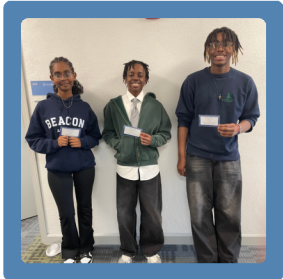
Oliver Parke
Interim Science Teacher

Ben Perez BA '19
Multimedia Design Intern

Joni Shaw-Prophete
School Nurse

Scott Steele
Director of Finance

Anne-Marie Yu-Phelps
Director of the Academy Year



Beacon Academy Board of Directors

Ellie Loughlin, Chair
Jessica Lutzker, Vice-Chair
Julie McKenna, Treasurer
Anna Afeyan
Dayna Atkins, Clerk
Janet Berkeley
Nina Bowman
Tony Brooke
Lee Coffin

Lisa DiAdamo
Jennifer Dolins
Tim Donohue
Mark Engerman
Henry Fairfax
Georgia Feldman
Rebecca Mailer-Howat
Amelia McCarthy, Chair Emerita
Janet Nahirny

Kneide Nascimento BA '11
Kevin Parke
Carolyn M. Peter, Chair Emerita
Ann Ryan
Carolyn Stafford Stein
Kyle Umemba BA '07
Eli Ward BA '07
Susan Wilkinson P'23



Beacon Academy Ambassadors

Dennishia Bell BA '06
 Bonnie Berger Leighton
 Walker Coppedge
 Pam Dickinson
 Miguel Encarnacion
 Sue Farrell
 Paul Faxon
 Reva Fischman

Clark Freifeld
 Sarah Garrity
 Jennifer Goldsmith
 Lisa Gross
 Alison Hong
 Peter Johannsen
 Rebecca Kellogg
 Kathleen Kelly

Alice Markson
 Allyce Najimy
 Polly Ribatt
 Michael Rubenstein
 Elizabeth Skavish
 Lorraine Smith P '06
 Roberta Steinberg



Corporate and Foundation Partners (through the years)

36 Maloof Union Park Realty Trust	Flagship Pioneering	New York Life Insurance Company
Amazon Smile	Foundation To Be Named Later	One4All Charitable Fund
Anderson-Rogers Foundation	Gallagher Insurance	Orchard Foundation
Autodesk	Garrity Insurance	PROMETRIKA, LLC
Bain Capital Children's Charity	Givinga Foundation	Rhonda S. Zinner Foundation
Bain Consulting Group	Great Island Foundation	Richard K. Lubin Family Foundation
Baker Burton & Lundy	Harvard Pilgrim Health Care	Rockland Trust Charitable Foundation
Battery Ventures	HawkPartners	Sacajawea Charitable Foundation
Biogen	Highland Street Foundation	Santander Bank
Boston Consulting Group	Ice Cream Sunday	State Street Corporation
Buckingham Browne & Nichols School	Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation	The Alchemy Foundation
Century Bank	Jack Satter Foundation	The Furtherance Fund
Cummings Foundation	Jockers Family Foundation	The Hartford
Cummings Properties	John Hancock	The Quin Impact Fund
Deloitte	JPMorgan Chase Foundation	The Thorson Foundation
Downey Family Charitable Foundation	Kane-Barrengos Foundation	The Young Authors Foundation
Eastern Bank	Liberty Mutual Foundation	Vanderweil Engineers
Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation	Lovett-Woodsum Foundation	Wegmans Chestnut Hill
Encore Boston Harbor	Marsh & McLennan Companies	Wellington Management Company
FAO Schwarz Family Foundation	Merrill Lynch The Sharma Group	Wellington Management Foundation
Financial Recovery Technologies	New England Applied Products	




Community Partners

Apogee Adventures	Paul Faxon and Jayne Oliva	Janet and James Nahirny
Jill Block and Wade Rubinstein	Lee Glickenhau and Vicky Moskowitz	Overland Summers
Belmont Hill School	Grad Bag	Riser & Tread
Boston Red Sox	Great Books & Big Ideas Summer Program	Ron Cowie Photography
Boulder Cottages/Brooke Muggia	Molly King	Russell Education
Chief Justice Kimberly Budd	Leadership Brainery	Simmons College
College Affordable	Little People's Playhouse	Southern New Hampshire University
Community Rowing	McMillan Education	St. Mark's School
Concord Academy	Jessica and Josh Lutzker	Talk2Em, Inc
DUET	Rebecca Mailer-Howat	The Roxbury Latin School
Angel Escalante	Julie and Dave McKenna	Mary Warren
Facing History and Ourselves		

Stay Connected

We are sincerely grateful for each and every member of our vibrant Beacon Academy community. The extraordinary generosity and steadfast support play a vital role in advancing educational equity and enhancing our decade-long commitment to the success of our students and alumni. As we move forward together, we eagerly anticipate continued collaboration in making a meaningful and lasting impact for countless years to come. And we look forward to welcoming new friends to our community.



 Learn more



We thank you for your continued support in our programs.

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