



**BOSTON COLLEGIATE  
CHARTER SCHOOL**

**REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY**  
JULY 1, 2023 – JUNE 30, 2024



**Where Students Learn to Be**

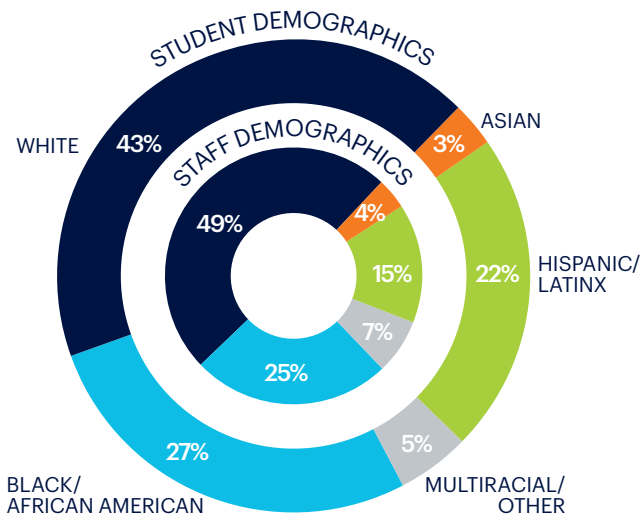
[bostoncollegiate.org](https://bostoncollegiate.org)



## WHO WE ARE

Boston Collegiate is a free public charter school in Dorchester serving 700 students in grades 5 through 12.

## OUR STUDENTS AND STAFF



## OUR MISSION

is simple yet ambitious:  
to prepare each student for college.

## OUR CORE VALUES

Scholarship  
Belonging  
Passion  
Responsibility  
Integrity

Emily



Class of 2030



Boston Collegiate is different from other schools because it's a place where people love you and check on you. It makes me a better learner because I have people watching out for me. Teachers show belonging a lot. If you need help, they will support you.

Dear Friends,

When a student feels welcome and known, they can ask questions, take on new challenges, and embrace opportunities to grow—essential activities for learning. The feeling of *belonging* is both powerful and empowering, which is why at Boston Collegiate, we highlight it as one of our Core Values.

Our commitment to *belonging*, however, signifies much more than attention to individual students. In promoting a culture of belonging, we recognize that **we are all responsible for our shared Boston Collegiate community**. We understand that together, we can create something more remarkable than any of us could on our own.

As community members came together throughout the 2023-2024 school year to support our students and one another, the impact of *belonging* could not be clearer. In January, dozens of alumni returned to the school to share their experiences with current students. In the spring, scores of local professionals visited the school and hosted junior interns so that our students could explore a range of career possibilities. Throughout the year, individuals and corporate and foundation partners who appreciate the importance of our mission responded with critical funding when we appealed for support.

Every moment of celebration and achievement represented the efforts of so many people, from students to families to educators to you, our dedicated volunteers and supporters.

As you read this report, we hope you share our pride and amazement at all we accomplished together. Again and again, our community demonstrated how the commitment to *belonging* strengthens our school—how **when we work together, we thrive**. We are grateful for your part in that community and for all you do to support Boston Collegiate.

Thank you for belonging,

Jenna Ogundipe  
Executive Director

Nicole Chang  
Board Chair





## 2023 ANNUAL CELEBRATION

Thank you to everyone who joined us in October 2023 for our Annual Celebration at the Omni Boston Hotel at the Seaport. The evening featured compelling speakers, great conversation, and the beloved Collegiate Cup Trivia Challenge.

**We are grateful to our sponsors and guests,** who share a deep belief in educational equity and a commitment to sustaining Boston Collegiate’s exceptional academic program. Our dedicated supporters came together to raise nearly \$600,000 for our students.

In one of the evening’s highlights, senior Philippe Jean shared the powerful story of how attending Boston Collegiate helped him embrace his identity as a multilingual, multicultural individual and prepare for a future far beyond what he had envisioned.

Philippe Jean



Class of 2024

“I came from a place where I felt like an outsider. As an immigrant, I still felt like an outsider when I arrived in the United States. But coming to Boston Collegiate, there was no type of shame about not being born here. When I walked in my first day at this school, everyone met me with curiosity and interest. Every student is known, and every individual matters...”

Coming here and having the school build me up to go to college, I see it as the training ground for what’s next. The motto of Boston Collegiate is *where students learn to be*. But I think it should be, *where students are pushed to be*. College used to be a fairy tale I didn’t believe, but here right now, I don’t see a future where I *don’t* go to college.”



Arreen Andrew

### IMPACT SPOTLIGHT HRP GROUP

HRP Group (HRP), a national real estate investment firm, has been a proud sponsor of our Annual Celebration since 2022. As HRP Vice President of Corporate Affairs and one of Boston Collegiate’s newest Trustees, Arreen Andrew recognizes how the school’s values align with HRP’s.

“In creating sustainable development, HRP applies a holistic approach that prioritizes the community, the environment, and the economy. We see Boston Collegiate taking a similarly comprehensive approach in their instruction, working to meet the needs of every student with a focus that extends beyond academics to include mental health, physical health, and opportunities for students to uncover and pursue their passions beyond the classroom. We are excited to partner with an organization that shares our commitment to community and whose values resonate with our own.”

# Advancing the 2023–26 Strategic Plan

Boston Collegiate’s strategic plan, launched in the fall of 2023, serves as a touchstone for our priorities as we address urgent issues in education and pursue long-term sustainability. In collaboration with numerous partners, including institutional funders and curriculum specialists, we made significant progress toward our strategic goals over the past year.

## STRATEGIC GOALS



### Engage all students in deeper learning so that they graduate as empowered critical thinkers

**Deeper learning enables students to retain and transfer knowledge through analysis, synthesis, and creation.** In the 2023-2024 school year, Boston Collegiate rolled out curricula rooted in inquiry and aligned to state standards, further fostering our culture of deeper learning. With support from philanthropic partners and the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, we also invested in high-quality professional development to help teachers implement these programs effectively.



See pages 6 and 7 for more on how our community supports deeper learning.



### Invest in the staff and resources to support the academic, social, emotional, and physical needs of each student

We leveraged evidence-based reading instruction in one-on-one and small-group support for students struggling with literacy—an area of learning loss that has persisted since the pandemic.



Pages 8 and 9 highlight activities that enrich our students’ experience in and out of the classroom.



We celebrated literacy with events such as our annual Lower School Readathon.



### Hire and retain talented staff and educators who demonstrate an unwavering commitment to our mission and core values

Boston Collegiate piloted an Associate Teacher program to build a strong teacher pipeline while also creating opportunities for aspiring educators from diverse and unconventional backgrounds. Three of our four inaugural Associate Teachers accepted full-time, permanent roles at Boston Collegiate in the current year, and we welcomed a new cohort this fall!



## Establish a financial structure and reserves to allow for facilities maintenance, reduction of our carbon footprint, and expansion

We leveraged state and philanthropic funding to execute building improvements and energy-efficiency upgrades. As part of our climate action plan, we started composting at our Lower School and offered incentives for staff to commute via bike or mass transit.



Pages 12 through 14 list the generous donors who supported our efforts over the past year. Page 15 provides details about our financial health.

As part of our annual Earth Day activities, students and staff picked up litter and “recycled” some of what they found into colorful flowers.



## Reaffirm our status as an innovative leader exemplifying what is possible when we hold our students to rigorous expectations

Boston Collegiate hosted numerous visits from other schools and partners. A single visit hosted in partnership with education supporter One8 Foundation brought more than 75 teachers to our school to observe teaching practices in support of applied learning.

Print and digital news outlets, including the *Dorchester Reporter* and *Hechinger Report*, covered Boston Collegiate’s activities.



Image courtesy Dorchester Reporter.



# Together We Learn

Boston Collegiate undertook numerous initiatives to advance our goals around deeper learning, relevance, and rigor.

- Educators participated in a range of professional development, including project-based and student-centered learning and teaching strategies for specific content areas.
- At quarterly best practices showcases, teachers shared approaches for better supporting and engaging students.
- Reading specialists focused on individualized literacy interventions complemented by high-quality instructional materials and technology.
- Collaborations within and beyond our school community enriched real-world learning opportunities for students.

## Academic Outcomes

Since our first senior class in 2004,  
**100%**  
of our graduates  
have been accepted  
to college.

In a survey of  
Class of 2023 alumni,  
**95%**  
of respondents felt  
prepared or  
over-prepared for  
college.

**75%**  
of our graduates earned  
a degree within six  
years of graduation  
or are persisting toward  
one, nearly double  
the national rate for  
urban students.



## In Our Backyard

As part of an Advanced Placement Environmental Science project, **Boston Collegiate alumna Caitlin Coppinger**, Deputy Director of Comprehensive Planning for the City of Boston Planning Department, shared details about the city's permitting and development process. Her presentation informed students' work as they evaluated the environmental impact of a development proposal for a parcel of land in Dorchester.



## Collaborating Across Subjects

In a unit on ecosystems, **5th graders worked across science and art** to deepen their learning. Students gathered information in science class and then constructed three-dimensional models of ecosystems in art class. The unit culminated with presentations to peers, staff, and families.

## Showcasing Student Work

At the One8 Foundation's Applied Learning Student Showcase this spring, 43 Boston Collegiate students joined more than 1,000 others from across the state to present projects on topics ranging from genetics and ecology to robotics and computer science. Industry professionals evaluated their work, and **our 11th grade quantitative reasoning class was one of only eight teams to receive an award.**

Natalia stands with her award-winning presentation on school rankings.



## Middle School STEM Explorations

Part of Boston Collegiate's Explorations program—classes in grades 5 through 8 covering STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), theater, music, and writing—STEM Explorations puts students in the role of researcher, engineer, and designer. **Emily Arlauskas, a member of Boston Collegiate's Class of 2014,** teaches the class, bringing her trademark enthusiasm to the hands-on lessons. In October 2023, she was recognized by education innovator Project Lead the Way (PLTW) as the PLTW Massachusetts Rookie of the Year.

“When students have more choice, they have more engagement. Kids get so into it when they design a project, and they are so proud of their own creations. They are all engineers in their own way, and it's exciting to see them develop and grow.”

## IMPACT SPOTLIGHT The Clough Family

Michelle and Jeff Clough understand firsthand the value of a Boston Collegiate education: their son John graduated with the Class of 2024.



It took John a while to find his way with school, but Boston Collegiate has been such a good fit for him. Especially with his senior year English and literature classes, he really started loving school. We would peek in his room and see him reading instead of watching TikTok or playing video games. We are so grateful for his time at Boston Collegiate. It was such a great experience for him, and we want to help ensure that all Boston Collegiate students can enjoy similar opportunities to discover their passion for learning.”



Emily helps STEM Explorations students test their skimmers, vehicles made from simple materials such as paper and tape, that glide across hard surfaces.

# Together We Explore

At Boston Collegiate, we strive to provide a wide range of opportunities for students to uncover their passions, pursue their curiosity, and enrich their perspectives on the world. This past year we expanded our in-school arts programming and invited students and community members to share their talents. We also worked with local organizations to help students explore college and career possibilities that they might otherwise never have considered.

## Greater Access to the Arts

Thanks in large part to a generous capacity-building grant from the Linde Family Foundation, Boston Collegiate expanded our Music Explorations program to include 5th grade; now all students in grades 5 through 8 receive dedicated music instruction. We also created a Theater Explorations class for these grades. **A new music and theater space at the Lower School**, complete with soundproofing, helped make this growth possible.



The new Lower School music and theater room includes space for storing ukuleles and other equipment.



**Representative Stephen F. Lynch**, a co-founder of our school, joined the 10th grade Career Symposium to talk with students about the work of an elected official.

## College & Career Discovery

College and career exposure begins for our students in grade 5, with opportunities for even our youngest students to visit colleges and hear from practitioners about their career paths. In March, **more than 50 professionals (including two Boston Collegiate alumni)** participated in our 10th grade Career Symposium. Students learned about everything from surgery to graphic design. In May, juniors took part in our off-site internship program, shadowing workers in career fields of interest for two weeks.



# Community Performances & Gatherings



At our Black Excellence Celebration in February, students, families, and community members gathered for an evening of great food and performances, including dancing by OrigiNation Cultural Arts Center.

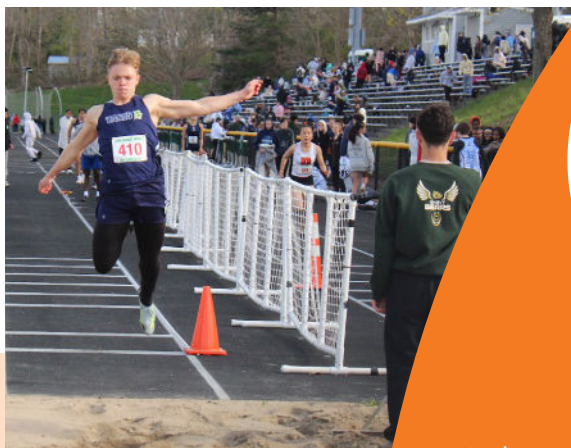


This spring, more than a dozen talented High School actors and singers performed in *Footloose* at the Boston Center for the Arts (pictured above). Earlier in the year, nearly 40 students in grades 5 through 8 performed in the musical *Newsies!*

## Athletics

The Boston Collegiate Hurricanes made strong showings in all three seasons of the 2023-2024 school year. Overall, **some 200 students participated in our competitive team sports.** Go 'Canes!

Senior Jared Frith set a school record in long jump and qualified for the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association state tournament.



Nelson

Class of 2028

Nelson, who completed 8th grade last year, played on the Middle School basketball team and pitched on the varsity baseball team.

“My goal in high school is to maintain a good GPA. I’m a student first, athlete second. I can go to teachers’ office hours if I need help. And I know my teammates will be there for me. If someone is down, they bring them up.”



The varsity girls soccer team finished second in the Massachusetts Charter School Athletic Organization state championships.

# Together We Thrive

## The Class of 2024

Boston Collegiate’s Class of 2024 began high school remotely, learning online during the pandemic in the 9th grade. In senior year, they faced upheaval in the college application process with the overturning of affirmative action in admissions and the delays and confusion associated with the new Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Although their high school years were bookended by uncertainty, the Class of 2024 rose to every challenge, demonstrating an unusual degree of perseverance and camaraderie. **Every graduating senior earned acceptance to a four-year college—the 21st consecutive Boston Collegiate class to do so.**

In his career at Boston Collegiate, Wesley Ekes—now an undergraduate at Harvard University—was much more than a standout student. He was a varsity athlete and debater who also served on the Mayor’s Youth Council. Most significantly, he was a friend and leader to his classmates.



## Innovative College Opportunities

Three members of the Class of 2024 will join the inaugural cohort of Boston College’s Messina College, a program that offers first-generation, low-income students a highly affordable way to earn credits toward an associate degree and entry into Boston College’s full undergraduate program. Our College Counseling team worked closely with Boston College to identify and support students for whom Messina College would be a good fit.



Teresa Peyron, a member of the Class of 2024, will be part of the first cohort of Messina College students.



The community at Boston Collegiate is really unique. We’ve developed great friendships and lifelong connections. The experiences you get being a student at Boston Collegiate are so special. We’re such a tight-knit community, whatever grade you enter, Boston Collegiate is going to feel like home.”

## Class of 2024 College Matriculation

- Bentley University
- Bridgewater State University\*
- Bunker Hill Community College\*
- Dartmouth College\*
- East Carolina University
- Emmanuel College\*
- Framingham State University\*
- Harvard University
- Long Island University
- Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
- Massachusetts Maritime Academy\*
- Massasoit Community College
- Messina College\*
- Morgan State University
- Northeastern University\*
- Northeastern University, Foundation Year\*
- Plymouth State University
- Saint Anselm College
- Suffolk University\*
- Syracuse University
- Trinity College Dublin
- University of Massachusetts Boston\*
- University of Massachusetts Dartmouth\*
- University of Massachusetts Lowell\*
- Wentworth Institute of Technology\*
- Worcester State University

\*Multiple students matriculating

# Our Vibrant Alumni Community

Boston Collegiate's more than 800 alumni include consultants, doctors, educators (some of whom have returned here to teach), engineers, entrepreneurs, graphic designers, public employees, undergraduate and graduate students, and the list goes on. With their collective experience in postsecondary education and the workforce, they have become a powerful resource for our current students and one another.

In October 2023, some 40 alumni from the Classes of 2004 (our first graduating class) through 2012 gathered at our Upper School for a celebratory reunion. In January 2024, we welcomed more than three dozen alumni for our Alumni Day. They reconnected with one another and their former teachers and participated in a question-and-answer session with current 11th and 12th graders.

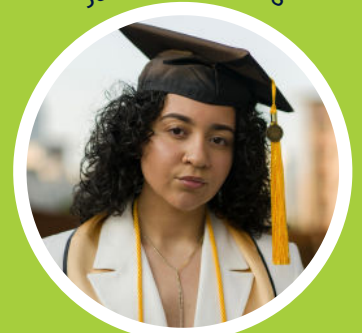
## Supporting Alumni Success

Boston Collegiate's Edward M. Kennedy Scholarship Fund provides grants to alumni with small but urgent financial needs, helping to prevent relatively minor financial burdens from becoming obstacles to college access or completion. This fund is supported and administered by the Collegiate Council, Boston Collegiate's board of young professionals. Last year, **the fund supported 17 alumni with grants totaling approximately \$12,000.**



Members of our Collegiate Council gather at Boston Collegiate's May fundraiser to benefit the Edward M. Kennedy Scholarship Fund.

Jasmine Burgos



Class of 2018

Jasmine Burgos graduated from Boston Collegiate in 2018 and went on to attend Bunker Hill Community College, where she participated in the Commonwealth Honors Program; Northeastern University; and Babson College, where she earned a Master of Science in Management in Entrepreneurial Leadership.

“As my time at Bunker Hill came to an end, I turned to Boston Collegiate for support applying to four-year colleges. A grant from the Edward M. Kennedy Scholarship Fund came as a huge relief, covering my transfer fees to Northeastern. As a first-generation college student, I would have never thought to acquire associate, bachelor's, and master's degrees, and I thank Boston Collegiate and those who donated to the Edward M. Kennedy Scholarship Fund for making this possible.”

# Our Supporters

July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

Boston Collegiate's supporters, from individual donors to businesses and foundations, are an integral part of our community. Every contribution makes a difference in the resources and enrichment Boston Collegiate can offer our students and alumni. We are grateful to the many partners who help our community grow and flourish.

**Thank you to everyone who supported our students this past year!**



## IMPACT SPOTLIGHT BILL & CRISTINA HEIDEN

The Heidens give to Boston Collegiate in many ways: They have hosted a fundraiser, sponsored our Annual Celebration, and donated to the school's most recent capital campaign. Bill volunteers by serving on Boston Collegiate's Board of Trustees and teaching financial literacy to our seniors.



"We believe that a great education in a school with committed staff is the key to a bright future, and that's what Boston Collegiate delivers year in and year out. The staff work tirelessly to provide the rigorous, inclusive education that opens untold possibilities for these young people. We are proud to support the school's mission and its proven results."

### \$100,000+

Charles Hayden Foundation  
Linde Family Foundation  
Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
Massachusetts Department of Public Health

### \$50,000-\$99,999

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Liberty Mutual Foundation  
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One8 Foundation  
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### \$10,000-\$49,999

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## Up to \$500

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New England Patriots  
Charitable Foundation  
One8 Foundation  
Rev'd Indoor Cycling  
Rock Spot Climbing  
Salem Witch Museum  
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*Gifts this year were given  
in memory or honor of the  
following individuals:*

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Eric Bartlett  
Nicole Chang  
Timothy S. Delehaunty  
Nickie Norris  
Neil Olken  
Caroline Page  
Cary and Carroll Perry  
Prescott Taylor  
Kristin and Scott Utzinger

# THANK YOU!

# FY2024 Financials

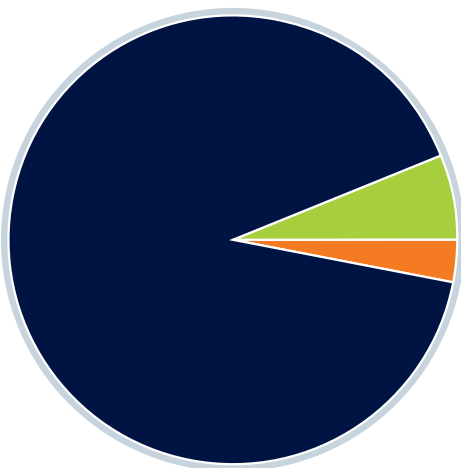
Unaudited Revenue and Expenses, July 1, 2023–June 30, 2024

Philanthropy helps ensure that we meet our budget needs every year while building the long-term financial stability that enables us to respond to urgent needs and undertake ambitious projects. Over the past year, support from donor contributions, corporate sponsorships, and grants enabled us to continue our robust academic and extracurricular programming while also executing significant facility improvements and repairs and starting to rebuild our strategic capital reserve.

The following initiatives were funded in whole or in part through philanthropy:

- Expansion of our Explorations program
- Extensive alumni support and engagement
- Robust professional development for educators in STEM, history, evidence-based reading instruction, and more
- Afterschool programs including theater, debate, and athletics
- Continued support for students’ mental-health needs and social-emotional learning

## REVENUE Total \$23,306,459



### FEDERAL & STATE SUPPORT / \$21,177,957

Government payments included \$16.1M in per-pupil tuition payments from the state, as well as federal funds for pandemic recovery and \$1.4M in state and federal awards to support school programming.

### PHILANTHROPIC DONATIONS / \$1,468,798

Individuals, foundations, and corporate partners made generous gifts to support the school’s rigorous academic programming and enriching extracurricular activities.

### OTHER / \$659,704

Additional revenue derived from student activity fees, our on-site nursery for the children of staff members, rebates offsetting capital expenditures, and interest income.

**Boston Collegiate ended FY2024 with a net surplus of just over \$1M. This surplus will help replenish the capital project reserves that are used to fund campus renovations and improvements.**

## EXPENSE Total \$22,169,974



### FACULTY & STAFF COMPENSATION / \$15,564,924

Boston Collegiate maintained instructional, student support, counseling, and operations staff. The school added a second full-time Restorative Justice Coordinator role to better support school culture and restorative practices.

### PROGRAMS & SERVICES / \$3,507,307

Among our many programs and services, Boston Collegiate supported students and families with financial needs, continued expanding afterschool athletics, offered extensive professional development opportunities to staff, and continued to embed project-based learning across curricula. Seniors again enjoyed a class trip to Puerto Rico.

### DEPRECIATION & AMORTIZATION / \$1,448,584

### FACILITIES / \$1,006,434

Boston Collegiate maintained and improved facilities to ensure a safe school environment and improve energy efficiency.

### EQUIPMENT & TECHNOLOGY / \$359,683

We leveraged multiple digital learning platforms to complement classroom instruction.

### INTEREST / \$283,042

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Charter School**

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\*Completed Board service during the 2023-2024 school year

# The Boston Collegiate COMMUNITY

Boston Collegiate students, alumni, and educators accomplished so much during the past school year. We could not have done so without the incredible community of families, individuals, and corporate partners who contributed their time, talent, and financial resources to make our work possible.



**If you would like to join our community of supporters,** please scan the QR code or visit [www.bostoncollegiate.org/donations/](http://www.bostoncollegiate.org/donations/) to learn more about giving. You can also reach out to us at the contact information provided below.

## THANK YOU!

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