

KIPP Ascend Charter School Newsletter



Corporate Spotlight

KIPP Ascend has ongoing relationships with corporate partners and local nonprofits. **Goldman Sachs** volunteers assisted 7th graders in the *KIPP to College* program with interviewing and proper dining etiquette skills. In June, **Deloitte** volunteers participated in an IMPACT Day on the last day of school, providing carnival activities for the students and assistance to the school's Marketing efforts.



Visit us at: www.kippascend.org

Thank you for your support of KIPP Ascend Charter School this year. It has been filled with many adventures, and we would like to share a few highlights of the hardest working kids in Chicago!

KIPP's Second 8th Grade Graduating Class of 2012



After a long year of testing, visiting high schools, submitting applications, and interviewing for scholarships, class of 2012 (**the year this class will graduate high school and enter college**) graduated from KIPP Ascend Charter School. On June 7, 2008, 58 students, from the second graduating class of KIPP Ascend, said farewell to their KIPP Team + Family. The Class of 2012 collectively earned over 1.3 million in high school scholarships. In the fall, these young intellectuals will attend some of the best college-prep public and private schools throughout the nation, including: Christ the King, Phillips Exeter, Northfield Mount Hermon, Francis Parker, Lake Forest Academy, and North Lawndale College Prep.



Career Day April 2008

On April 22, 2008, 28 corporate and community volunteers came to share their college and professional experiences with

300 KIPPsters. The volunteers enjoyed sharing their life experiences about college, family, and the work life, while the students showcased their networking skills. All in all, the students had an opportunity to hear honest confessions about the challenges to overcome when *climbing the mountain* to college and career success.

End-of-year Field Lessons

KIPP Ascend students earned their way to end-of-year field lessons throughout the country. Here are some highlights from the class of 2013's trip to Washington, DC:

"We met and talked with WWII veterans at the WWII memorial... We spent the ENTIRE day at the holocaust museum... We were so inspired to learn more that we bought books and DVDs about the holocaust... We were not afraid to stand up and ask Senator Dick Durbin tough questions about education (Ale Simpson and Mariah Pitts)... We took a really cool boat ride and tour of the Potomac with KIPP cousins at KIPP Aspire."

LET'S GIVE A SHOUT OUT TO:

- Our newly formed KIPP Step Team that placed 2nd in the national Stompfest competition winning \$500 and a trophy. And, to Amaka Unaka, KIPP's social worker, who was voted Coach of the Year from The National Step Show Alliance
- Jayson Franklin, 7th Grade Social Studies teacher, for being nominated and selected as the Teacher of the Year from the Office of New Schools, and the videographer for the KIPP Step Team's performance video.



Help KIPPsters Climb the Mountain to College



With the extended school day, field lessons across the country, parent liaisons, Saturday School, and cultural enrichment programs, it costs \$9,800 per student to change the trajectory of their lives. KIPP Ascend receives \$7,800 from state and federal sources. In advance of June 30, the end of our fiscal year, we invite you to partner with us to close this funding gap, while we move full speed ahead to close the achievement gap for each and every one of our students and their families.

Thank you for a successful year and for helping us keep expectations sky high as we look to the future!

Sincerely,

Jim O'Connor Founding School Leader