

ACADEMY FOR URBAN SCHOLARS HIGH SCHOOL
F Y 2 0 1 7 A n n u a l R e p o r t

Aspiration & Mission Statement

The Academy for Urban Scholars High School (AUS) aspires to lead the nation in educating urban youth by changing the paradigm of how education is delivered in the urban community. We will create a model which produces responsible, educated, and productive holistic citizens to ensure they are equipped and prepared with the tools to enter college or the workforce.

School Directors Note:

We are pleased to have this opportunity of this report to provide an update on the work we are doing at the Academy for Urban Scholars H.S. (AUS). Our students, our staff and our community members have all truly embraced the call to change how education happens in our urban environment. Our students are performing at higher standards than we have ever seen, as reflected in our improving State of Ohio Academic Report Card. Our staff is creating increasingly innovative and successful strategies for engaging students their community, and our community is more actively participating in our day-to-day learning projects and post-graduation opportunities for our students. With the support of all our stakeholders, the energy of our students and the commitment of our staff, we will continue developing and promoting “Self Sufficiency through Education, Wellness and Career Readiness”.

Educationlly yours,
Roger Fox, School Director



Board of Directors

President

Margaret Hightower

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Vickie Oldham

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Board Member

Reuel Barksdale, BS, MS, ABD

Board Member

Crystal Sessley

AUS - Staff

Roger Fox, MBA	School Director
Kristen Muenster, M.Ed	Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Deveonne White, MBA	Compliance Director
Kourtney Rix	Executive Assistant
Charles Jefferson, BA	Dean of Students
Tonya Harris, M.Ed	Dean of Academics
Michelle Mahdi	Data Specialist
Nancy Quesenberry	Admissions Officer
Frances O’Flaherty, BS	Science Teacher
Anne Hatter, BS	Science Intervention
Stephen Taylor, BS	English Teacher
Andrew Clarke	Math Teacher
Torin Jacobs, BS	Social Studies Teacher
Ryan Marchese, BS	Social Studies Teacher
Russ Hogue, BS	Title 1 Specialist
Molly Ferryman, BA & BS	Title 1 Specialist
Erica Mane’, BS	Special Education Coordinator
LeAnn Eshelman, BS	Intervention Specialist
Thomas Gunn, BS	Career Advisor
Antonio Cooperwood, BA	Engagement Coach
Nina Byrd	Engagement Coach
Alicia Dunlap	Engagement Coach
Tiffany Hughes, MSW	Engagement Coach
Rick Lipson	Engagement Coach
Stefan Dunn	Engagement Coach

National Center for Urban Solutions, Management Company
Buckeye Community Hope Foundation, School Sponsor



All students are prepared for the 3 E's

Enrollment

Employment

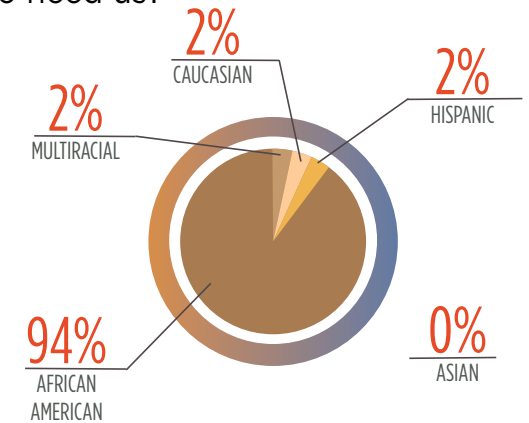
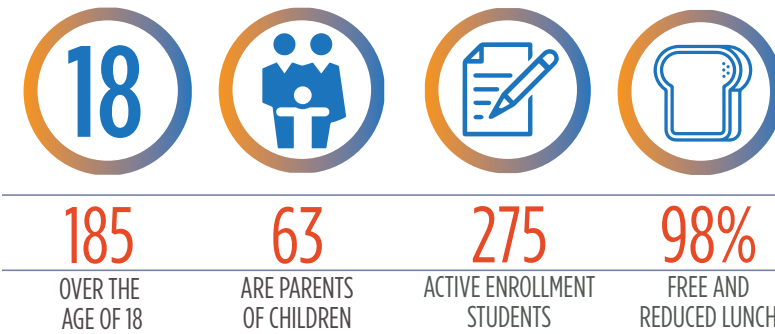
Enlistment

How We Measure Success:

AUS is committed to helping our students obtain careers, get to and through college and the workforce. Guiding students to achieve their dreams is only possible if we monitor our progress. Data helps us understand what our impact, what is working and what needs to be enhanced. Our data team meets frequently to examine our program. The schools leadership team meets often to examine the data. We use six essential questions to provide a measure for our progress, keep us focused as we grow, and-most important-help us keep the promise we make to our students, their families, and our community.

ESSENTIAL MEASUREMENTS

1: Are we serving the students who need us?



2: Are AUS students staying with us?



86% OF AUS STUDENTS RETURNED IN 2016

3: Are AUS students progressing and achieving academically?



39.3% OGT RESULTS
UP 32% MAP READING FALL TO SPRING
UP 33% MAP MATH FALL TO SPRING

4: Are we strong in AUS staff retention?



90% OF OUR TEACHING STAFF RETURNED FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR
100% OF OUR SCHOOL LEADERS RETURNED FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR

5: What are AUS students doing postsecondary?



43 GRADUATES
32 GRADUATES ACCEPTED INTO COLLEGE
15 GRADUATES ENTERING THE WORKFORCE

COLLEGES STUDENTS ARE ATTENDING:

- Wilberforce University
- Central State University
- Columbus State University
- Everest
- Ohio Media School
- Southern State Community College

6: State Report Card



Preliminary Rating: Meets

As of 9/12, the final state report card has not been released.

7: Are we building a sustainable financial model?

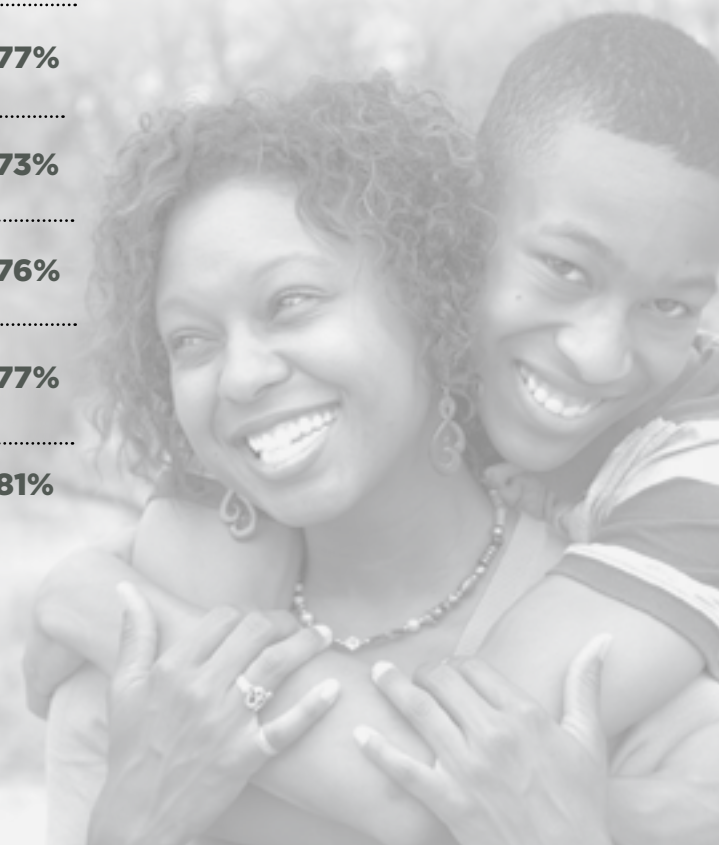


AUS received Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. This Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition and in government accounting and financial reporting. Released audit reports for the school can be viewed by going to the Auditor's website at: www.auditor.state.oh.us

Parent Survey Results

Satisfied with the school overall	84%
Staff is supportive	77%
Student feels safe at school	77%
Staff enforces rules	73%
School expectations are clear	76%
Students look forward to coming to school	77%
Friendly and welcoming atmosphere	81%

Each year we survey our parents to measure our success.



Educational Program

Non-Classroom Learning Opportunities: AUS strives to provide high quality learning activities beyond the classroom walls. These opportunities are crucial for helping students appreciate first hand experiences, practice skills of inquiry, reflection and problem solving skills.

Differentiation: AUS teachers are required to know their student's learning styles and needs. Teachers provide each student with individual experiences and tasks that will improve and maximize student learning.

Individual Career Plans: AUS uses Individual Career Plans for all students. Career planning is a step-by-step method that is individualized to help meet each student's career goals and ensures 100% of our graduates are prepared to enter the workforce, college and/or the military.

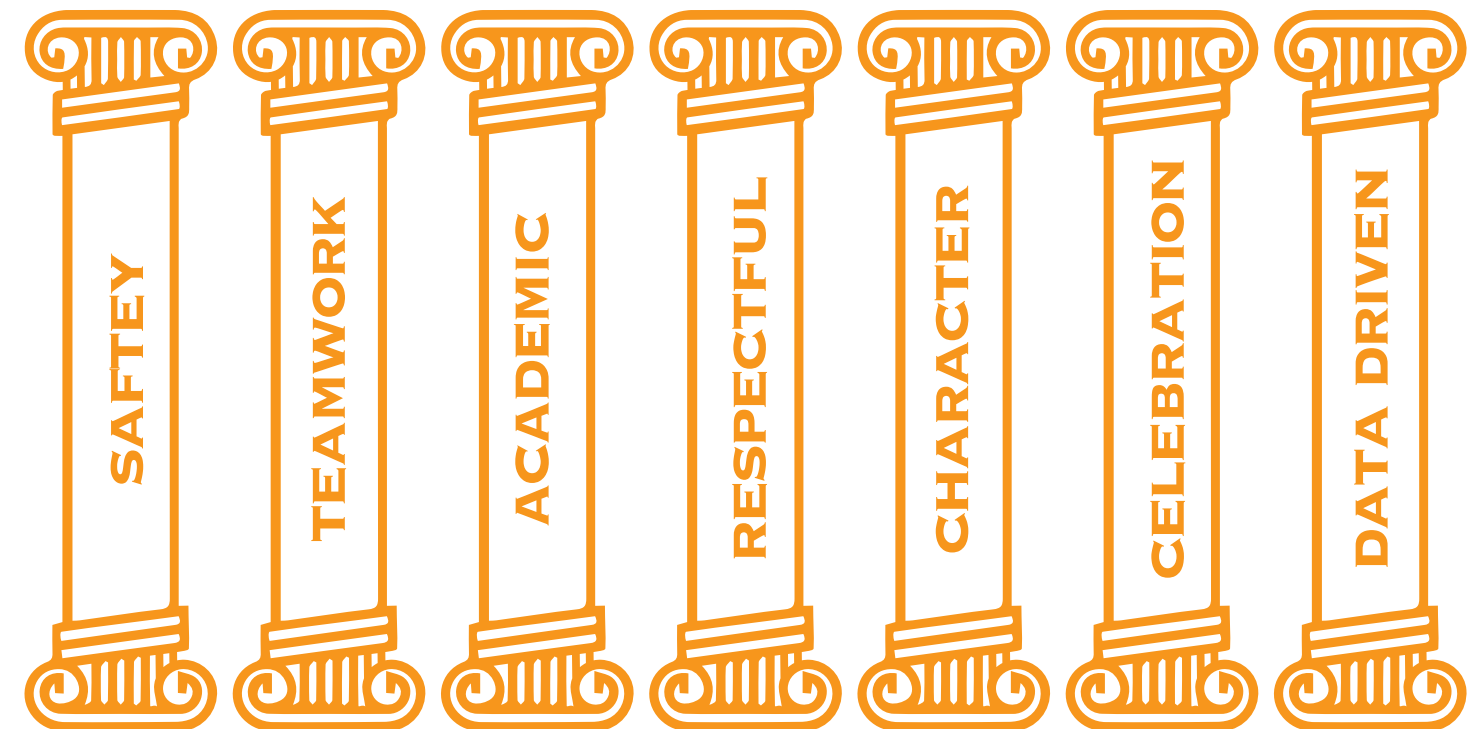
What Drives Instruction?

- OGT Strands
- NWEA MAP Reading and Math Scores
- Basic Reading Inventory
- End of Course Exams
- Personalized Assessments

The AUS Difference

- Engagement Coaches
- Differentiated Instruction
- Career Advisor/Job Placement
- College Credit Plus
- Career Based Intervention (CBI)
- Field Trips
- College/Career Fairs

7 Pillars



The AUS Creed

I am an AUS scholar!

I create my own destiny!

I am a critical & creative thinker!

I am responsible, respectful & resilient!

I am a WINNER!

STUDENT Involvement

Basketball

The young men learned fundamentals, teamwork and accountability during the season. The team placed 2nd in the league.

Career Based Intervention

94 students participated and earned credit in the Career Based Intervention (CBI) course. Students learned how to set up, access and use Ohio Means Jobs accounts, participate in mock interviews, college visits, FASFA completion, post-secondary knowledge, resume writing, job safety, job placement and internship opportunities.

College Credit Plus

Twelve students participated in the College Credit Plus Program at Columbus State Community College. Students participated in rigorous college level courses, learned how to maneuver through a college campus, use blackboard to submit assignments, and earn college credits while still in high school. All 12 students who participated college credit.

College Visits

Academy for Urban Scholars held two college and career fairs throughout the school year. Employers on site were Kroger, Columbus Zoo, and Giant Eagle. Colleges/Universities on site were Ohio Dominican, Ohio Media, Everest, Columbus State Community College, and Southern State Community College

Columbus Area Integrated Health Services

Columbus Area Integrated Health Services provided free mental health assessments for 76 AUS students and made several emergency referrals. Columbus Area and AUS believe in not only educating the student, but providing social and emotional support. Having Columbus Area available has been a great opportunity for students and their families to receive the assistance they need. Columbus Area Integrated Health will work closely with AUS in the 2017-2018 school year to provide services in youth preventative services, pharmaceutical services, short and long term housing, abuse and addictive treatment services, and primary and behavioral healthcare.



Executive Lunches

Alex Shumate, ESQ, incited 25 young men to visit his law office, Squire Patton Boggs Law, to learn more about the law while having lunch. Students participated in meaningful law dialogue as well as a tour of the building, meeting staff and building positive relationships. Other executive lunches involved Ken Freeman from NBC 4, Curt Moody from Moody & Nolan Architect, INC, Honorable Judge Algenon Marbley, Lee Hubert, Civil Rights Attorney, Napoleon Bell, Sheriff Department, and Councilman Michael Stinziano and Shannon Hardin. The young men were engaged in positive conversation about life, hard work and the importance of education.

Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast

Male students attend the Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast. The breakfast is a powerful tribute to Dr. King's philosophy and stature. Every year, thousands of guests break bread and sit symbolically at "the Table of Brotherhood" to reflect upon values of courage, truth, justice, compassion, dignity, humility and service he taught us through his example.

Men of Standard

100 young men were selected to be members of Men of Standard, an elite club that upholds strong values and leadership. Students in the program participated in community events, fundraising activities, leadership



seminars, and internship opportunities throughout the city. The overall Men of Standard group met once a month for breakfast and would host inspirational members of the community to speak to the young men. Since implementing the club, the attendance of the young men increased as well as their grades.

Read & Grow

Once a week 5 AUS young men tutored young boys from a local church, age's eight to 12. During the one-hour sessions, the AUS students first focused on providing homework assistance, then on reading.

Rock Climbing Club

Over 30 students participated in AUS' rock climbing club this year. AUS' rock climbing club was established by Mr. Marchese to offer students an opportunity to earn their physical education credit. Students learned about the fundamentals of rock climbing and how to safely belay a climber. For many students, this was their first experience rock climbing. AUS' rock climbing club will continue next year, taking students both to climbing gyms in Columbus and the newly opened outdoor climbing area in Springfield, OH.

School Dance

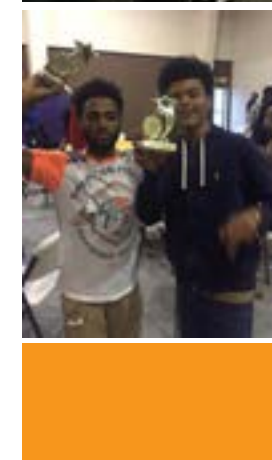
Over one hundred students attended the AUS prom. Students danced the night away to the theme of "Timeless Glamour." Students created lasting memories with their classmates and staff members.

Volleyball

AUS coordinated its first volleyball team thanks to Ms. Dunlap, Mr. Gunn and Ms. Hughes. The team consisted of 8 young ladies. The team learned valuable skills such as teambuilding, communication, commitment and leadership.

Garden Club

Students participated in cleaning, maintaining and enjoying our indoor garden towers, as well as our outside garden. Students learned about healthy eating, participated in healthy cooking classes, keeping inventory and the importance of sustainability. Students gained a greater appreciation for food and the knowledge of what we put into our bodies. Students learned how to cook homemade salsa, hot sauce and pasta sauce.



Buckeye Community Hope Foundation (BCHF) bases its evaluation of the school performance on each of the State required indicators and performance measures listed in the charter contract. BCHF monitors the performance of the community school through attendance at board meetings, bi-monthly visits to the school, monthly reviews of financial reports and quarterly reviews of academic progress reports along with a number of other reports relative to the school performance. Buckeye Community

Hope Foundation served as the sponsor for The Academy for Urban Scholars during the 2016-2017 school year, and found the school substantially compliant with the rules and regulations governing community schools.



Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3314.03 (D) (2) specifies that the sponsor of the school must "monitor and evaluate the academic and fiscal performance and the

organization and operation of the community school on at least an annual basis."



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