

# ACADEMY FOR URBAN SOLUTIONS YOUNGSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT  
2017-2018



## Aspiration & Mission Statement

The Academy for Urban Scholars Youngstown, High School (AUSY) 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 upon graduation.



## School Directors Note

As we closed the 2017-2018 school year, I once again had the honor of being the Director at a school that I love. Over the past 5 years, we have built a tradition of excellence at Academy for Urban Scholars Youngstown, High School. We take pride in being a school where every student can find an avenue for success and in being a community where everyone in the Hawk family strives to find the best in themselves and others. We have much to be proud of at Academy for Urban Scholars Youngstown, High School and I look forward to another year of serving the Youngstown community.

The success of our students is built on the partnership we have with our families and the Youngstown community. Our entire staff works very hard to create a positive environment where every person's unique strengths and talents are celebrated. We

have a culture of high expectations for students and staff alike and it is our sincere goal that each and every one of our students graduates with a plan for the future and with the skills necessary to be successful in anything they do. The combination of focusing on our students' academic success as well as their social and emotional well-being creates an environment where our students do amazing things every year.

I am proud to be a part of the tradition of success that has been built for 5 years at AUSY High School and am proud to be the Director. I am grateful to have the opportunity to work with the AUSY community again next year and I look forward to a great year.

Best regards,  
Sabrina D. Jones

## Board of Directors

### President

Margaret Hightower, MSW

### Secretary

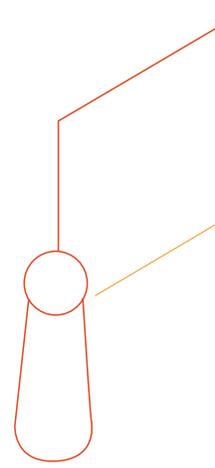
Vickie Oldham

### Board Members

Lewis W. Macklin II

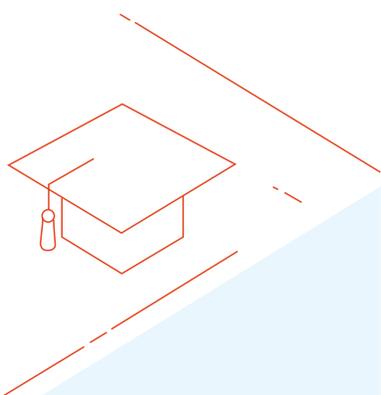
Russell Oates

Tracey Sigers



## Staff

Sabrina D. Jones	School Director
DeVonne White, MBA	Director of Compliance
Kristen Muenster, M.Ed	Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Kourtney M. Rix	Director, Administrative Services
Shanelle Toney, M.Ed	School Counselor
Wasilwa Mwonyoni	Dean of Students
Felicia Turner	Admissions/Records Officer
Ronanda Q. Palmer, MBA	Student Services Specialist
Curtis Ahrens	Social Studies Teacher
LaKendra Evans	Mathematics Teacher
Thomas McCartney, M.Ed	Language Arts Teacher
Bryant Youngblood	Science Teacher
Janelle Ream	Intervention Specialist
Deborah Collins	Intervention Specialist
Robin Waldorf, M.Ed	Title 1 Teacher
Anthonie Jackson	Engagement Coach
Danielle Noble	Engagement Coach
Allen Underwood	Program Coordinator, Mentoring Program
Tei'Asha Simms	Program Assistant, Mentoring Program



### QUESTION 1:

Are we serving the students who need us?



100%

FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH



55

ARE PARENTS OF CHILDREN



32

STUDENTS RECEIVING SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES



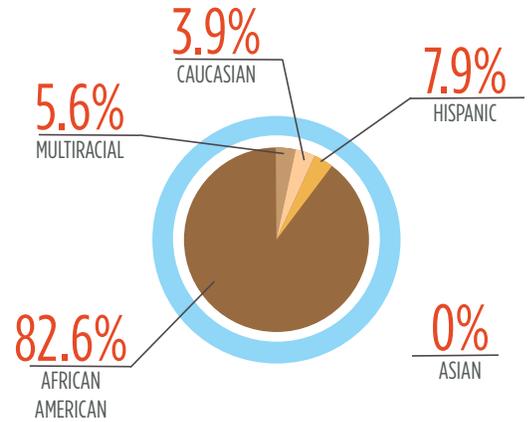
1

STUDENTS RECEIVING ELL SERVICES



45

STUDENTS ARE WORKING STUDENTS



### QUESTION 2:

Are our students staying with us?



85%

OF AUS STUDENTS RETURNED IN 2017-18

### QUESTION 3:

Are our students progressing and achieving academically?



95%

OGT PARTICIPATION

Overall Growth MAP Reading Fall to Spring:

Overall Growth MAP Math Fall to Spring:

### QUESTION 4:

Are we strong in employee retention?



95%

OF OUR TEACHING STAFF RETURNED FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

100%

OF OUR SCHOOL LEADERS RETURNED FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

### QUESTION 5:

What are our students doing postsecondary?



53

GRADUATES



13

STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN ACT/SAT



18

STUDENTS ACCEPTED INTO COLLEGE

37

STUDENTS ENTERING THE WORKFORCE AFTER GRADUATION

18

STUDENTS STARTING COLLEGE

1

STUDENTS JOINING THE MILITARY

### QUESTION 6:

Preliminary Rating: Meets



As of 9/1 the final state report card has not been released

### QUESTION 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](http://www.auditor.state.oh.us)

### COLLEGES STUDENTS ARE ATTENDING:

- BRADFORD SCHOOL
- FLYING HIGH
- YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY
- RAPHAEL'S SCHOOL OF BEAUTY CULTURE
- EASTERN GATEWAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- PITTSBURGH TECHNICAL COLLEGE
- KENT STATE

# 2017-2018 Parent Survey Results

Staff has resources to work effectively	<b>83%</b>
Pleased with academic progress of student	<b>78.5%</b>
Challenging curriculum	<b>72.5%</b>
My student looks forward to coming to school	<b>75%</b>
School expectations are clearly communicated	<b>82%</b>
Staff enforces rules	<b>82%</b>
My student feels safe at school	<b>80%</b>
Staff is supportive and responds to parent's concerns	<b>81%</b>
I am comfortable speaking up at school events	<b>77%</b>
My child will be returning next year	<b>75%</b>
Overall Satisfaction	<b>81%</b>
Friendly and welcoming atmosphere for parents	<b>70%</b>

## 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!

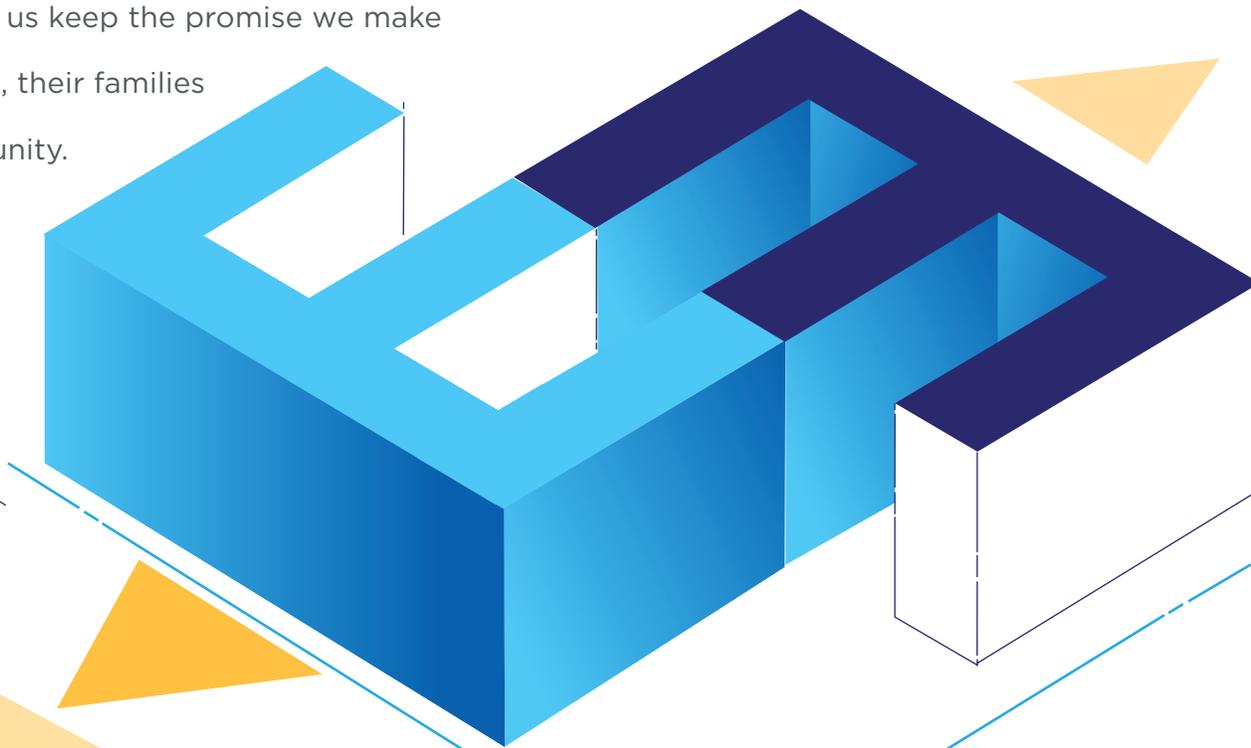
The AUS focus is to ensure each graduate is prepared for the 3 E's

# Enrollment Employment Enlistment



## How We Measure Success:

AUSY is committed to assisting our students obtain jobs, get to and through college and workforce. Guiding students to achieve their dreams is only possible if we monitor our progress. Data helps us understand 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 seven essential questions to provide a measure for our progress, keep us focused as we grown, and-most important-help us keep the promise we make to our students, their families and our community.



## Educational Program

### Non-Classroom Learning Opportunities:

AUSY strives to provide high quality learning activities beyond the classroom walls. These opportunities are critical for helping students appreciate first hand experiences, practice skills of inquiry, reflection and problem solving skills.

Differentiation: AUSY teachers are required to know their student's learning style and needs. Teachers provide each student

with individual experiences and tasks that will improve and maximize student learning.

Individual Career Plans: AUSY uses Individual Career Plans (ICP) 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 upon graduation.

## What Drives Instruction?

NWEA MAP Reading and Math Scores, End of Course Exams, Personalized Assessments, Individual Career Plans, Basic Reading Inventory, OGT Strands

## The AUS Difference

Engagement Coaches, College Credit Plus, Career Based Intervention (CBI), Field Trips, College/Career Fairs, Sports, Activities, Highly Qualified Teachers (HQT), Employment and Work Experiences, Flexible Schedule, Personal Mentor and Alternative Pathways to Graduation

## Aspiration Statement

*Academy for Urban Scholars* 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 the workforce.



# Pillars of AUS School Culture



# STUDENT Involvement

## **African American Male Wellness Walk**

Students and staff started the 2017-2018 SY with the intent to lead healthier lifestyles. On August 12, 2017, staff and students gathered at the Covelli Centre at 5am as volunteers and collaborated with other community volunteers to assist in the setting up and the breaking down of the various health stations and information booths for the Annual African American Male Wellness Walk Initiative. Not only were the AUS-Y volunteers instrumental in the success of such an important event, but also benefited from the free health screenings and valuable information distributed on numerous health issues. AUS-Y volunteers also engaged in the preparation and tasting of healthy meal options such as salads made with ingredients from local farmers in the area. The event culminated in volunteers participating in some of the physical activities being held throughout the event such as the 5K walk, aerobics, line dancing & basketball.

## **Video Game Club**

The Games have continued!! Not only has Mr. McCartney successfully led 10-20 students every Tuesday and Friday into gaming competition, but he skillfully integrated the Gaming Club into his Language Arts curriculum. His students researched and compiled the information into a report regarding the benefits of having a city-wide gaming club. Mr. McCartney then ran a test pilot of their information on a smaller scale by hosting a surprise pop-up arcade complete with a snack bar and music. The students and adults alike immensely enjoyed the arcade. Shortly thereafter, his students conducted a mock presentation of their findings to select AUS-Y staff culminating in their final presentation before the AUS-Y School Board Members in hopes of making that city-wide gaming club a reality.

## **OGT Boot Camp**

AUS-Y continue the tradition of incorporating the OGT Boot Camp to assist our students in successfully plummeting through any obstacles that would prohibit them from passing their

OGTs. Eighty-five percent of the students that persistently and consistently participated in the Boot Camp classes passed their OGT tests.

## **The AUS-Y Basketball Team**

Our Hawks, coached by Mr. Mwonyonyi, the Dean of Students, soared to success as they competed against adult leagues and earned another place in the playoffs. Not only did they display commitment to teamwork, they continued the tradition of challenging each other to academic excellence and participated in Study Tables at least twice per week. You're all MVPs! Go Hawks!

## **College Tours/College Fairs**

Through a combination of the Men & Women of Standards Mentoring Program and Ms. Toney in the Counseling Dept., AUS-Y students excitedly toured the campuses of Mount Union, Pittsburgh Technical College, Youngstown State University, and Kent State University in hopes of determining the next move for their future. For those who were still undecided, AUS-Y students had another opportunity to solicit information during the College Fair hosted by Ms. Toney in the Counseling Dept. Not only did Eastern Gateway Community College, Raphael's School of Beauty Culture, Inc., Kent State University, Eastern Gateway Community College, and Flying High, Inc., and representatives from our Armed Forces attend the event, they distributed valuable information regarding scholarships and the admissions/recruitment process.

## **Pretty Girl Rock n' Read Girl's Circle**

This empowering Girl's Circle, spearheaded by Mrs. Noble, Ms. Simms, and Ms. Bentley, met every Tuesday and Thursday after school. They facilitated open discussions and covered topics such as relationships, peer pressure, etiquette, building self-esteem, abuse, sex & drugs, music, poetry, and higher education just to name a few. Our young ladies were able to express themselves and learn in a confidential safe environment

### A Night in Paris, Spring Dance

Mrs. Turner and her committee really did an outstanding job! A Night in Paris was indeed an evening to remember as students dressed in stunning attire, indulged in a wonderfully catered meal, and displayed fresh dance moves as the DJ relentlessly energized the atmosphere with electrifying music. The photo booth continuously flashed photos to create lasting memories. The evening culminated with the crowning of the Prom King and Prom Queen.

### Unity in the Community Parade

Students and Faculty volunteered their time to participate in the Unity in the Community Parade. The parade covered a span of about 2 miles and was attended by several local agencies.

### Gift of Giving Toy Drive

The Men & Women of Standard Mentoring Program, The National African American Male Wellness Walk Initiative along with other AUS-Y students collaborated and hosted a toy drive for children ages infant to 6yrs. All of the toys were wrapped and labeled. The event culminated with a Christmas Party where Santa and his Elf arrived and presented the gifts to the children as well as took photos with each child. It was a holly jolly good time!

### Arts & Crafts

Throughout the school year, Mrs. Waldorf sponsored craft classes where she instructed students how to make various crafts. Students, both males and females, were engaged and proud as they created their masterpieces.

### Black Panther

AUS-Y took 60 students to see the highly acclaimed movie “Black Panther” which broke all kinds of records and won several awards to include the 2018 BET Best Movie Award and the 2018 Best Movie for the MTV Movie & TV Awards. Students were totally engaged in the action packed movie from beginning to end while they also enjoyed their tasty treats from the concession stand. #Wakandaforever!!

### Walk Wednesdays

Every Wednesday, AUS-Y students and staff wore their green walk shirts and hit the pavement walking and promoting the African American Male Wellness Walk Initiative. They engaged the community by completing community service hours and passed out literature regarding the walk. Students also promoted the walk on their social media pages and raised awareness regarding the importance of “knowing your numbers.” #knowyournumbers

### TMALS

TMALS (Teen Mothers for Academic and Life Success) was created by Ms. Toney and Mrs. Noble. This group was designed to address various obstacles that prohibit teen moms from obtaining their education. The group met every other Thursday where they were greeted by various speakers and agencies who provided valuable information and resources to enable student mothers to overcome their challenges of raising children and attending school. As a result of the additional support provided by the TMALS group, student’s school attendance increased and as well grades. In addition, six of the TMALS graduated with our 2018 graduating class.



Top MLK Breakfast with the Men and Women of Standards  
Bottom left Browns game with the Director and Dean of Students  
Bottom right pic leadership luncheon with Pastor Todd Johnson

### Men & Women of Standards Mentoring Program

This school year saw the implementation of The Men & Women of Standards Mentoring Program. This program provides additional support and guidance to our students. Mr. Underwood, Program Coordinator and Ms. Simms, Program Assistant, solicited professionals throughout the community and strategically linked them with the mentees. Mentees attended leadership luncheons every month and select students attended executive luncheons twice per month. Youngstown Mayor Tito Brown invited The Men & Women of Standard Mentees to a luncheon as his special guests. The mentoring program also formed a relationship with Youngstown State University where YSU students tutored the students throughout the school year resulting in better academic progress. Mentees also participated in college tours and attended the Martin Luther King, Jr. diversity breakfast honoring the legacy of Dr. King. Mentees engaged in numerous community service projects and formed lasting relationships throughout the Mahoning and Trumbull County areas. In addition to gaining a sense of pride and being positive role models within their communities, mentees also developed enhanced leadership skills. The entire program culminated in an awards banquet where students were acknowledged for their participation and achievements throughout the school year.

### FAFSA Night/Open House

During Open House/FAFSA Night, parents and members of the community engaged with staff. Tours were given of the school and programs offered at AUS-Y were explained. Students and parents also completed their FAFSA (financial aid) in preparation for attending college post graduation. Refreshments were served.

### Red Zone

The Red Zone is a mental health agency that provided school-based social work services. They assisted students and their families address issues that directly affected their academic performance. Those issues ranged from substance abuse to emotional outbursts in the classroom. Their services fostered a safe environment for students to express themselves and to learn more positive ways of coping with their life's circumstances.

### Signing Day

Signing Day was a time of acknowledging students' achievements throughout the school year, both undergraduates and graduates. Not only were awards distributed to deserving students but representatives from various colleges, beauty schools, trade schools and Armed Forces also attended and acknowledged & presented the Seniors with token gifts and scholarships from their respective



Left: Non-violence parade  
Top: United Way Day of Caring with the Men and Women of Standards  
Bottom: Women of Standard at the MLK breakfast  
Top right: right lunchroom board games and fun

# BUCKEYE COMMUNITY HOPE FOUNDATION



Top: Leadership Luncheon with Keland Logan  
Bottom: AUSY Walk Wednesday

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 High School during the 2017-2018 school year, and found the school substantially compliant with the rules and regulations governing community schools.

*Ohio Revised Code (ORD) 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.”*



Graduation 2018

