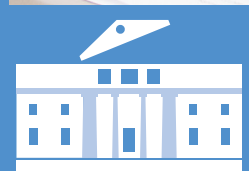


2014 2015 REPORT



the brookline high school 21st century fund

WHO WE ARE

The Brookline High School 21st Century Fund is a catalyst and incubator for innovation that fosters academic success for all students. Through courses, programs, forums, and research, we support inventive, faculty-led initiatives that energize teachers, inspire students, and support the excellence of BHS.

MISSION

Our mission is to empower the BHS faculty and community by fostering a culture of innovation and supporting the development of new ideas and initiatives that will enable our students to thrive in the 21st century.

INNOVATION.

OUR VISION IS FOR
BROOKLINE HIGH
SCHOOL TO PROVIDE
AN UNPARALLELED
EDUCATION BY
INSTILLING A PASSION
FOR ACADEMIC
EXPLORATION AND
A COMMITMENT TO
INNOVATION.

INSPIRATION.

EXCELLENCE.



Greetings to the 21st Century Fund Community!

I am pleased to present our Report on Philanthropy for Fiscal Year 2015.

The first half of the school year was filled with ways to reach out to our community: our annual Gala, meeting with groups of BHS parents and introducing them to the Fund's work, planning the spring What's The Big Idea? forum—all of these kept our outreach robust and our community engaged.

Even as we welcomed new members to both Boards and volunteer corps, we set our sights on the important task of balancing existing program funding with both exciting new proposals and the imperatives of budget restraints. We continued funding for three ongoing programs, and provided new support as well:

- By holding an Innovation Summit at the Fiscal Year's beginning, we primed the pump for seed funding that focused on a Senior Year Alternative and a Mindfulness Initiative, resulting in two program proposals that were approved for implementation this past September.
- We oversaw the transition of our profoundly successful Global Leadership Academy as it was integrated into the High School's budget, providing an additional mini-grant to fund curriculum review during its first year off our books.

The Fund continued to deepen partnerships with colleague organizations that also support BHS students and faculty, setting the stage for meaningful opportunities to work together and support the excellence of Brookline High School.

With this Report, we want to recognize and thank our community for supporting the 21st Century Fund. Because of you, we are able to further our mission of supporting a culture of innovation at BHS that benefits all students. Because of you, our teachers have the opportunity to explore academic challenges that fuel their commitment to teach and support our children. Because of you, our students are inspired during these critical years and are prepared to engage their future after Brookline High. Thank you.

Elizabeth Zachos

Chair, Board of Directors

MINDFULNESS

2014: This one-year grant provided time for a teacher team to research and establish the local relationships that led to their proposal addressing how BHS can support a healthy school culture through mindfulness and stress-response relaxation methods.

EXCELLENCE.





INNOVATION.

SENIOR YEAR ALTERNATIVE (EPIC)

2014: This one-year grant provided time for a teacher team to lay the groundwork for an alternative senior year curriculum allowing seniors the chance to design, drive, and direct their own capstone project.

INNOVATION SUMMIT

2014: This two-day summit in July gave teachers the time and space to reflect on the possibilities of innovation in the classroom and explore their best and new ideas.

INSPIRATION.



EXCELLENCE.

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY CURRICULUM REVIEW

2014: A one-year grant allowed this successful 21st Century Fund course to conduct curriculum review during its first year after incorporation into the BHS budget. The year-long elective teaches students theories and skills of effective leadership in a global context and guides students in their efforts to research, plan, and acquire resources for applied service learning experiences.



INNOVATION.

DRAWING FOR THE UNDERSTANDING OF FIELD SCIENCE

Launched 2013: *dissolving the artificial boundary between arts and science:* In this interdisciplinary course, students build scientific knowledge about their immediate environment through observational drawing and field research. Using the principles of visual design and scientific investigation, students communicate their knowledge through visually powerful images and forms.

PERSPECTIVES OF A MATHEMATICAL MIND

Launched 2012: *broadening students' ideas about what math is, and how it is used in the world today:* Perspectives of a Mathematical Mind is a full-year senior elective math course for students interested in a new look at math, exposing them to opportunities to use math after high school, both at the university level and in future career endeavors. We expect students to demonstrate a fuller appreciation and awareness of mathematics, and its relevance in today's society, through discussion, reflection, and experience.

INSPIRATION.



EXCELLENCE.

CONTENT READING INITIATIVE

Launched 2012: *energizing and training teachers across all disciplines to engage in the urgent issue of improving students' literacy skills in all content areas:* The goal of the BHS Content Reading Initiative (CRI) is to provide intensive professional development to teachers so that they, in turn, become more effective at teaching the gateway skills of content literacy. The integration of literacy instruction into all disciplines' instruction ensures that every student who graduates from BHS can read and write independently in all subjects.

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