

School-Community Partnerships Boost Learning Outcomes

OUR MISSION

ExpandED Schools is dedicated to ensuring that all young people in New York City have access to enriching programs that affirm their identities, teach them valuable skills, and spark new possibilities in and out of the school day. In order to achieve this mission, ExpandED provides K-12 programs with curricula and support; trains educators; and advances the sector through policy and research.

LETTER FROM OUR LEADERSHIP





In 1998, our visionary founders embarked on a mission to redefine the landscape of afterschool in New York City. At the time, the idea of afterschool programs was not new but was in need of a bold framework capable of harnessing the untapped potential that would benefit students and educators alike.

After a quarter of a century, ExpandED Schools has made a substantial impact on afterschool policy, elevated quality standards and secured funding, supported the development of afterschool educators, and dispersed support to over 900 community-based organizations across the five boroughs. We have not walked this extraordinary journey alone. Our success is a reflection of our exceptional partners who share our commitment to nurturing and caring for the City's young people, and for this we are grateful.

This year has been a remarkable chapter for ExpandED Schools. In May, we celebrated our 25th anniversary at our annual gala with all those who have made our work possible. In addition to serving afterschool programs throughout the City, we partnered with New York City Public Schools to spearhead a high-impact tutoring initiative across the largest school district in the country, while in STEM, we supported a series of educational fairs aimed at connecting schools with STEM curricula and partners that fit their students' needs. And this summer and school year marks the most middle and high school students ever served in career-connected learning opportunities.

As we look to the future and reflect on our rich history and the strategies that have fueled our mission, one thing that has remained a staple of our work is the school-community partnerships that have helped us reach new heights and boost learning for our community across New York City.

With the resolute support of our partners, we look forward to the next chapter, one that promises to be filled with even greater achievements and community partnerships. Join us, and together, let's shape a brighter future for the young people of New York City, which means a brighter future for all of us.

Warmly,

Brandon Robinson Board Chair, ExpandED Schools Sestia TIII.

Saskia Traill President and CEO, ExpandED Schools



HIGH IMPACT TUTORING

The Impact of School-Community Partnerships



The echoes of more than 1,800 closed school doors, a result of the pandemic, are louder than ever. The extended disconnection caused by the pandemic has resulted in a widening gap between white/Asian students and Black/Latino students. The missed instructional opportunities during this period have had a significant impact on exacerbating existing disparities.

In addition to supporting afterschool programs, we partnered with New York City Public Schools to create a comprehensive, citywide system of high-impact tutoring. We knew that our expertise as an intermediary combined with the support of outstanding partners could successfully launch a citywide system of research-based tutoring that would provide not only academic but also social-emotional support for young people. And we were confident that expanding learning through tutoring would help young people to regain momentum.

Our ambition for our high-impact tutoring initiative is as big as the need; we aim to improve literacy and math proficiency for 15,000 students by 2025. Working shoulder-to-shoulder with educators, tutors, and providers, we are making substantial progress in delivering long-lasting benefits to many students, particularly those who are the most marginalized.

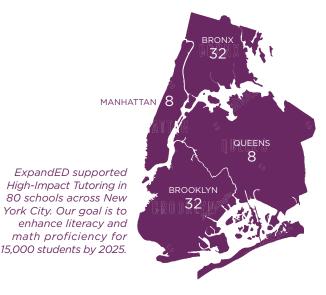
Along with direct student supports, we established a community of practice, comprising diverse members throughout the education sector, that convenes quarterly to foster knowledge-sharing and continuous improvement. Our primary objectives include building consensus around the definition and standards of high-impact tutoring in New York City and developing a policy platform for the long-term sustainability of effective models.

Photos on pages 2-3 by Rafael Rivas

HIGH IMP&CT TUTORING

by ExpandED Schools

In our initial year of school year 2022-23, 400 tutors citywide played an important role in supporting more than 3,000 participating students. With the support of over 12 tutoring providers, we anticipate serving 80 schools and approximately 5,000 students by the end of the 2023-24 school year.



As we move forward, we are committed to reinforcing stronger collaborations between schools and communities to enhance learning outcomes. Through these school-community partnerships, we are not just addressing current challenges but laying the foundation for a resilient and thriving educational ecosystem in New York City.





WORK-BASED LEARNING

Achieving Growth Through Partnership



The significance and impact of work-based learning opportunities cannot be overstated. These experiences act as a bridge between classroom learning and real-world applications, offering young people valuable opportunities to apply skills in authentic settings and fostering competencies that enhance their range of choices throughout life.

This year, ExpandED Schools partnered with FutureReadyNYC, an immersive, multi-year initiative by New York City Public Schools (NYCPS). The initiative focuses on supporting students in exploring diverse careers, participating in interest-aligned classes, and growing vital 21st-century skills. To support this NYCPS initiative, Expand-ED develops work-based learning opportunities events, student challenges led by a professional working in education, and education internships

for students in participating schools.

This initiative provides students with a valuable opportunity to earn early college credit through partnerships with the City University of New York. Students receive regular advising to assist in their transition to college or the workforce, along with instruction in financial literacy. Moreover, participants have the chance to earn \$2,250 during the summer by applying their newly acquired teaching skills to lead activities for elementary and middle school students.

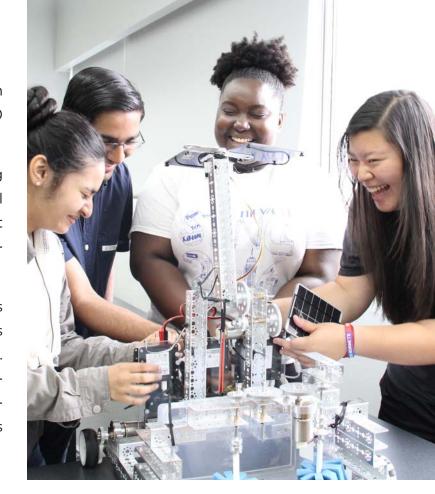
In our initial year, the FutureReadyNYC program engaged 249 students from 11 schools citywide. This achievement was made possible through the collaborative efforts of nine community partners for education careers, including career exposure committed to supporting these young individuals as they explored careers in education. Building on these positive outcomes, we anticipate a

Above photo courtesy of City Parks Foundation

substantial increase in student participation for the next year, with a goal to reach 1,000 students—a remarkable growth of over 300%.

In addition, we look forward to expanding our impact as we integrate seven additional schools into the upcoming cycle, a testament to the successful partnership between ExpandED Schools and NYCPS.

Our enduring belief in work-based learning is underscored by the positive transformations witnessed in the young individuals we serve. Beyond fulfilling academic requirements, ExpandED Schools continues to work toward creating a culture of career readiness that extends beyond conventional educational boundaries.



Top photo courtesy of NYU Tandon School of Engineering





AFTERSCHOOL CATALYST: FOSTERING DIVERSITY IN STEM

STEM Soars in Harlem: ExpandED Collaborative

The collaborative spirit of school-community partnerships reached new heights this summer, particularly at East Harlem's PS/MS 007 Samuel Stern School in District 4. Proud parents, school leaders, STEM providers, and over 200 students gathered to celebrate curiosity and STEM. More importantly, this event created an opportunity for STEM providers and school leaders to meet and widen access to STEM for young people.

In 2021, the Pew Research Foundation highlighted a stark reality: "Hispanic workers constitute 17% of total employment across all occupations, yet only 8% hold STEM positions." Similarly, Black adults face disparities, comprising 11% of all employed adults compared to 9% in STEM roles. While there has been progress, there remains a considerable gap in achieving equity in these professions that promise substantial upward mobility.

In 2023, the NYC STEM Education Network embarked on a plan to reignite STEM opportunities in schools that serve predominantly Black and Latino students. To put our plan into action, we organized five matchmaking events with the aim of connecting schools and the rich array of STEM providers throughout the city. The outcomes have been encouraging, as each participant left these events with an average of two promising connections. These matches are anticipated to play an important role in bringing enriching STEM opportunities to more students. To date, ExpandED has disbursed more than \$45,000 to kickstart over 20 dynamic partnerships.

"The work that ExpandED Schools has done has been a bit of a game changer," said Laura Hart, CEO & Founder of Robofun, a member of the NYC STEM Education Network. "The exposure and the

Photos on pages 6-7 by Rafael Rivas



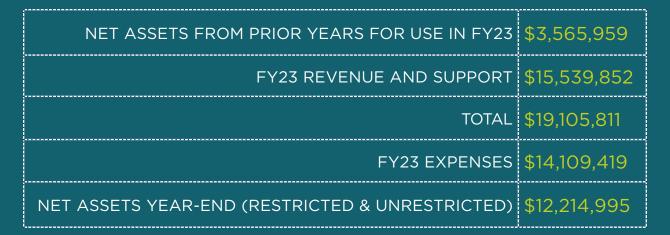
grants through ExpandED have been immeasurably helpful in sustaining our program."

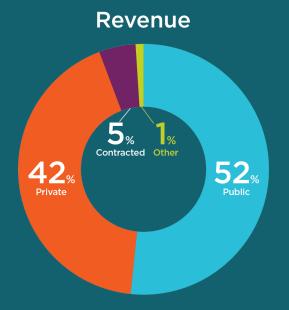
Looking ahead, we are excited about replicating these transformative opportunities that broaden access to enriching learning experiences and support the career exploration of young people.

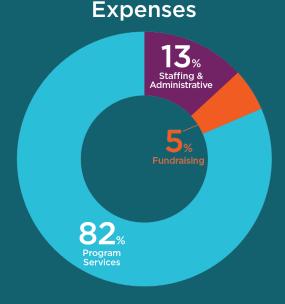




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