



One graduate at a time breaks the cycle.

What if we could tackle some of the most pressing challenges in an economically disadvantaged community by giving any 6th grader from a low-income community the experiences and support necessary to achieve a vision of what's possible for him or herself?

It is for these 6th graders that Breakthrough exists. We believe that all children can succeed on the path to realizing their dreams of a college degree. From middle school through college graduation, we are there every step of the way. By providing innovative educational programs to children and their families, we believe we can have a multi-generational impact—replacing the cycle of poverty with self-sufficiency.

Why We Exist: The Hard Reality in Central Texas

Our region is experiencing an ever-widening economic divide, the results of which mean a deep-rooted and pervasive cycle of poverty. A cycle that has little chance of being broken without aggressive and effective intervention.

Nearly two-thirds of new jobs in Central Texas require a post-secondary degree. Yet, only 6% of middle school students from low-income communities in Central Texas will earn a post-secondary degree of any kind.

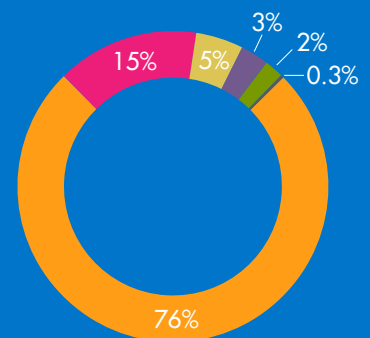
The value of a college degree is the increased earning potential of the person who earns it. It's the lasting ripple effect through an entire family and neighborhood, as friends and community members are themselves inspired to follow their own vision. It's the impact on an entire region and economy, as educational attainment closes the opportunity gap and decreases social and economic inequity.

And the path to a college degree? That's where Breakthrough comes in.

Who We Serve

In 2017, Breakthrough will serve 1,450 students, in sixth grade through college, from Austin ISD, Manor ISD and Del Valle ISD. Our student body is a diverse community united by one common qualifier: every student in the program will be the first in their family to graduate from college.

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS



- Latino/Hispanic (76%)
- Black/African American (15%)
- Multiracial (5%)
- White/Caucasian (3%)
- Asian/Asian American (2%)
- Other (0.3%)

87% qualify for free or reduced lunch

58% speak a language other than English at home

55% female

45% male



The Breakthrough Experience Generates 4x the Number of Graduates

At the core of our model are three main pillars. Each pillar provides students skills and experiences that address the three critical factors that limit academic success and persistence: unequal out-of-school academic opportunities, the lack of a knowledgeable personal advocate and the development of leadership skills.

Extended Learning

Breakthrough extends the amount of learning each student receives outside of school by offering academically challenging summer programs, after-school tutoring, Saturday enrichment programs and SAT/ACT preparation. We also offer college-financing counseling and individualized college guidance.

Comprehensive Advising

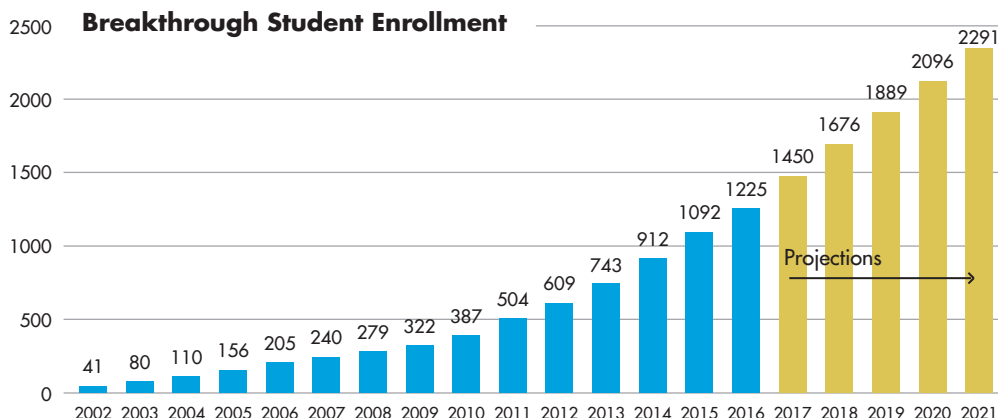
Breakthrough advisers serve each student, 24/7, as their go-to, knowledgeable, personal advocate and champion. Advisers are a special key to our model's success. Our student advisers, work one-on-one with students for an entire phase of their schooling (middle school, high school, and college).

Leadership Experience

Breakthrough engages students in rich, meaningful experiences that develop leadership and instill confidence and a sense of real-life achievement. These experiences develop important non-cognitive skills such as motivation and perseverance that are crucial for college success and success in life. These experiences include internships with leading companies like Samsung and Bazaarvoice, the challenging opportunity to teach younger Breakthrough students, a two-week personal project and innovative ways that build character and broaden horizons.

Transformational Growth is in the Works

Our proven model continues to produce more and more graduates as we expand our partner network across the region with school districts, colleges, universities and employers. Breakthrough is growing rapidly to meet the rising need in Central Texas, nearly doubling in the next five years.



OUR STUDENTS SUCCEED

90%

stay in Breakthrough from 6th grade through college

91%

of students in grades 6-12 passed all classes in the 2015-2016 academic year

30%

more school days attended each year, compared to similar peers

96%

complete the ACT or SAT by their senior year, compared to 50% of similar peers

96%

of seniors complete the FAFSA or TAFSA, compared to 44% of similar peers

99%

graduate high school on time, compared to 90% of similar peers

90%

enroll directly in college, compared to 46% of similar peers

4X

the rate of high school graduates go on to earn a college degree, compared to similar peers