School doesn’t begin to describe us.
Bridge Boston nurtures all of our students as unique complex human beings, including those who live with what can be an overwhelming constellation of needs. Food security, housing referrals, and counseling sometimes need to happen in order for our comprehensive team teaching, daily music lessons, and high expectations to work. We see school differently. We invite you to see Bridge Boston through our eyes—and know how important your support is.
This is a deep breath.

This is a super hero.
We talk a lot about community at Bridge Boston.

We build our community one relationship at a time.

Our new building reflects the importance of these relationships. From the welcoming path dotted with trees to the sunlit atrium brightening our family resource room, every corner is meant to feel like home.

It took an astonishing community of donors to raise the funds for the library, gym, third floor dedicated to music, the fully wired classrooms and science lab, and a wondrous kitchen to nourish hearts and minds.

It took a community of neighbors to support our zoning, to challenge us to improve our traffic plan, and to welcome us into the neighborhood.

It took a community of families to write letters of support, vouch for the school, and stick with us.

And it took a community of staff to bring this mission to life. They held meetings in hallways, practiced music in stairwells, and moved buildings multiple times. Our teachers’ devotion to the children and families created a community that transcended any physical space. Now that space is wonderful.

The 2016-2017 school year was our mountain to climb. We did it—but not without you. Your generous support sustained the trajectory to this pivotal, amazing moment.

We are so grateful!

Yully Cha, Executive Director

One day, two years ago, I went outside with Keven to plant some yellow and orange marigolds. It had been a hard day, and I remember thinking that everything was so ugly. It was late afternoon and overcast. Sirens wailed. Trash blew around. The most exhausted people in the world were walking by.

I showed Keven how to dig a hole, and separate the seedlings, and pinch the roots. He was utterly absorbed. This boy, so challenged by the circumstances of his life, held each flower with great tenderness and talked to it as he lowered it into the mud. He was so focused, so unafraid, so easy. When we finished, he kept saying, “We made something beautiful right? It’s really pretty right?” The answer was “Yes, yes, we had.”

I like to think that Bridge Boston provides lots of these moments, but the truth is that we live in a world that tells our students in a thousand different ways that they don’t matter, that they don’t get what the shiny, happy people on TV get. But this year, they do. Our students will come to a place that tells them they matter deeply. In this new home, in this school we’ve filled with love, every teacher is invested in two things: building an inclusive community and providing rigorous academics that stretch every student—because, in the end, that’s the lifeline.

If our students learn to love books and learning and reasoning and conversation—then we’ve handed them the world.

Thank you to everyone who’s given heart, soul, muscle, time, and money to this place. Together, we are making something beautiful!

Jennifer Daly, Principal

If our students learn to love books and learning and reasoning and conversation—then we’ve handed them the world.

Thank you to everyone who’s given heart, soul, muscle, time, and money to this place. Together, we are making something beautiful!

Jennifer Daly, Principal
What goes into a successful third grader. Breakfast, dental care, vision screening, a uniform, a backpack, lunch, someone he trusts to listen to hard stories, plenty of time to run around outside.

We can’t make a level playing field in academics unless we address why students underperform. Illness, hunger, and anguish prevent learning. That’s why Bridge Boston provides health services, counseling, and play therapy right at the school.

Six Resiliency Groups of children struggling with trauma meet weekly with teachers trained to help them.

We work with chronically absent children by making reminder calls to families, providing gas cards, and giving rides, so students can get to school.

A child with dental pain gets an onsite exam through Forsyth Dental; we also support the parent with scheduling, transportation, and even co-pays for follow-up care if needed.

In fact, we are very good at partnering with—and connecting families to—agencies that help with housing, safety, food, medical care, transportation, and other obstacles erected by poverty.
This is a launching pad.
When we say “whole child,” we mean the whole child. Three hours of math, reading, and writing a day—and improved scores to show for it—plus watercolors, weaving, clay, collage, Dvorak, diatonic scales, plotting the sun’s course in the universe, 27 independent reading books, and The Great Essay Project.

The extended day is packed and joyful.

Our extraordinarily devoted and imaginative teachers teach a rock solid, adaptable, and inspiring curriculum.

We collaborated with Celebrity Series and Conservatory Lab Charter School to plan, rehearse, and perform a public concert of traditional global music combined with string orchestra. Students participated in a mock trial at the Moakley United States Courthouse. They cultivated a deep understanding of fractions. They interviewed immigrants and created a medley of their stories.

Teachers and students excelled at project-based learning. K2 drew plant life in Franklin Park, researched it, and made postcards. 5th graders mapped the Freedom Trail with scan tags that linked to audio of students enacting historical speeches. It’s core learning via creativity.
This is equal opportunity.
Here to stay. Natural light, big windows, warm colors, outdoor space, elements of therapeutic design, and a real kitchen. A kitchen kids can cook in.

It’s real. 435 Warren Street is now our permanent, purpose-built home—a school, a meeting place, a resource, a labor of love and commitment.

Everyone contributed. We had twenty meetings with residents, churches, neighborhood associations, and activists—and adjusted the timing of the school day to mitigate traffic. Staff input led to breakout spaces in each classroom for academic and emotional support. Teachers came up with the idea for our family resource room, a one-stop shop with computers, printers, even laundry facilities. Donors provided smart technology and furnished the library, and more. Our school is built by a community, for community.

Come visit and see!
We are building a home
And you know what home is like.
It’s where you can share all you’re feeling,
Where you clean up your mess,
Where you watch TV together with blankets and popcorn,
Where you do chores
and thank your parents for making you do them,
Where you watch your siblings grow,
Where you cook with your Mom,
And drink warm cocoa,
And run upstairs when it’s raining to read Harry Potter.

We are building a community—
A community filled with love that teaches us to read,
A community of math and science,
A community filled with respect for others,
The sounds of laughter and music,
Jokes in the air,
Nice, long conversations,
Working hard and believing in one another, and
A positivity you will never forget.

This is a community for people like you and me
who deserve a chance.

We are building Bridge Boston.

A shovel is stuck in the ground,
making the soil churn with joy.

We are building a school house.
The hours are long, the work is hard,
like trudging through deep snow,
like a backpack you want to put down.
A cold winter you wait through to break into summer.

We are building a future.
We have giant dreams—
Dreams of a million possibilities reaching out to us,
Dreams of being shaped into who we want to be,
Dreams of fighting fears.
Dreams of being a life guard, an architect
a lawyer, a doctor, a singer, an artist, a violinist
a hair dresser, a fashion designer
a teacher.

We are building a bridge,
A bridge that will hold fast,
A bridge that will span differences.
It links my mother’s dreams to my future.
This is an anchor.
What more can we do? Reach out and make sure our students include the ones who need us most.

Bridge Boston is a public charter school, open to all students through a lottery system. We want our lottery to include as many children as possible who are homeless, who are learning English, who have special needs, or who have experienced trauma in their community.

So we reach out to Dorchester and Roxbury religious organizations, MAPS for Portuguese speakers, the Haitian Service center, The Nurtury, Project Hope, Family Nurturing Center, and various ABCD sites, WIC offices, Community Centers, and YMCAs.

Our community partners help us, too. Southbay Community Services, Home for Little Wanderers, Smart from the Start, Horizons for Homeless Children, Children’s Services of Roxbury, and the Bowdoin, Codman Square, Dorchester House, Southern Jamaica Plain, and Martha Elliot Health Centers, as well as the Department of Children and Families send us many lottery applicants.

As a result, we teach a high percentage of underserved students.
Bridge Boston Charter School  
Income Statement for year ended June 30, 2017

**REVENUES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Per pupil Tuition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation (in-kind)</td>
<td>279,522</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pensions (in-kind)</td>
<td>549,686</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private Funding</td>
<td>647,160</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>82,503</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,595,726</strong></td>
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**EXPENSES**

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<td>Program</td>
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<td>Organizational</td>
<td>278,505</td>
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<td>Facilities</td>
<td>542,426</td>
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<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>163,604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,857,774</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NET INCOME**  
$737,952

Faculty advisors continued to call student homes every two weeks. 98% of families attended parent-teacher conferences. 98%. That’s a community.
Thank you to those who supported Bridge Boston in FY16

$25,000 & GREATER

Mark & Carolyn Ain
Cheryl & Rand Alexander
Charles Hayden Foundation
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Ann Gallo
Krause Road Charitable Foundation
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Married

Joshua Aronson

Ph.D

Marian & Raymond Dias

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Theodore Bikel

Joseph Hatfield

Jocelyn Campbell

Michelle Caldeira

James Bosland

Jodi Caputo

Sarah & Tom Caputo

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This annual report was made possible by the generosity of DiSanto Design, Daisy Scott, and Universal Wilde.

This is a right.

To experience Bridge Boston in action, come see us!

To schedule a visit, please contact Yully Cha at 857-229-1601 or ycha@bridgebostoncs.org.