Dear Legacy College Prep Friends and Supporters,

A solid foundation where students don't slip through the cracks or go onto the next grade level with major skill gaps.

At Legacy College Prep we ensure that all students build a solid foundation.

When students transition from middle school to high school they will read on grade level, they will have strong number sense, and they will be ready for a rigorous high school experience. Teachers at Legacy College Prep will undertake frequent and purposeful data analysis. This will empower teachers, students, and parents to understand
the specific areas of focus for each child. Lesson plans and homework will be tailored to complement student strengths and address challenge areas.

Equally important, we believe that a solid foundation prevents student from slipping through the cracks. We ensure our students are supported through a joyful culture that is both warm and strict, a culture built around positive language as opposed to negative language. Our students will learn discipline, but they will do it through the lens of what "we" do as a school and a community. Challenges will become opportunities, character will be measured by compassion to their classmates, and our success will be shared through our commitment to the mission of achieving a college degree and a future full of choices.

This edition of our monthly newsletter introduces one of our key design elements - frequent data analysis. It provides an overview of how we will use positive framing to build a strong school culture, and includes a spotlight on one of our Founding Board Members, Javier Diaz. We conclude with an update on the progress we are making and suggestions for how you can support our efforts to open Legacy College Prep.

With Pride and Ambition for Every Student,
Summer Schneider

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Our Model

These beliefs directly inform our vision and the seven elements of our school design. This month we focus on...
Frequent and Purposeful Data Analysis

Frequent and strategic use of data can drive more personalized and more efficient learning, allowing both teachers and students to track progress and to make sure that each student is on a path that is appropriate for him or her. At Legacy College Prep, assessment data will directly inform the instruction in our classrooms and the tutoring supports during our extended day. Students will be assessed in each classroom daily and weekly to see if they have internalized the information. Teachers will use this data effectively to determine which students need additional assistance either during class or during the end of day FOCUS tutoring time.

We will also measure student mastery in their classes and student growth over the course of the year in reading, math, social studies, and science to ensure that students are performing on grade level prior to leaving the 8th grade and entering high school. Our data analysis will help to ensure that no student at Legacy College Prep goes one to the next grade level with gaps in their learning.

Our Culture: Positive Framing

In order to create a culture of joy that is both warm and strict, we will train our teachers to use Positive Framing when issuing any directions, consequences, and/or deductions in class points.

An example of Positive Framing is...

If a student is not following directions, instead of addressing the individual student with "Andy is not giving me his eyes," our teachers will address behaviors positively by saying, "I need all eyes on me."

This reminder of the direction will be a cue for students to follow the directions without singling out the student. When teachers use positive framing, students will be able to more successfully accept the consequences, directions, and deductions and improve their behavior. This will result in fewer instances of misbehavior because students will feel valued even when receiving something negative.

Our Team: Meet Founding Board Member Javier Diaz

Javier Diaz is a former Marine Officer and attorney licensed to practice in New York and New Jersey. His practice revolves primarily around Government
Mr. Diaz is currently employed by Gibbons P.C., an AmLaw 200 law firm with over 200 attorneys headquartered in Newark, N.J. He previously worked for the Governor of the State of New Jersey as an Assistant Counsel. Before that, Mr. Diaz served as a Captain in the United States Marines where he received the Navy and Marine Corps commendation medal for his deployment to Afghanistan shortly after 9/11. His passion for Legacy College Prep stems from his own experience attending an inner-city charter school in Union City, NJ. He believes were it not for the education he received there, he would not have had the opportunity to achieve academic and professional success. He received his BA from the University of Michigan, JD from Seton Hall University, and an MBA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**Progress Report**

**Current Status**
We are excited to have recently participated in our public hearing in Community School District 7 on February 29th. We have received feedback on our proposal from the authorizer, SUNY, and look forward to submitting revisions at the end of March. Our founding team had our last board meeting on February 20, 2016, and will hold our next board meeting on March 30th.

**Community Outreach**
As support for Legacy College Prep grows we continue our efforts to get to know local community members and families. In the spring we will be hosting information sessions and canvassing events. We are looking for volunteers to knock door-to-door to spread the word about Legacy College Prep. If you are interested in volunteering, click here.
Call to Action

**Support**

- Check out our website for upcoming information sessions and events.
- Take our community survey to give us feedback on our design.
- Join our mailing list for updates on our progress.

**Spread the Word**

- Share our plans with parents, educators and community leaders who can assist in making our vision a reality for the students of the Bronx.

Please contact **Legacy College Prep** Lead Founder Summer Schneider with any requests, questions, or comments:

**Summer Schneider**

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