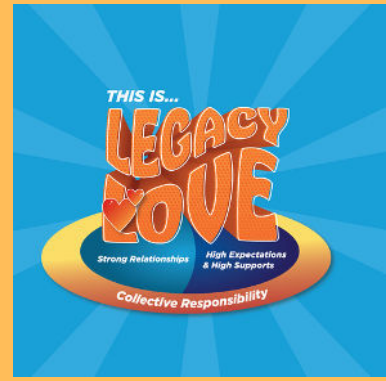


Back To School 2026!





Dear Legacy Family,

There is nothing quite like the start of a new school year! At our 22nd Back-to-School Bash, our scholars returned with excitement and energy that remind us just how much possibility walks through our doors each day. Two days later, they arrived for the first day of school surrounded by families, community members, and Legacy Jedi cheering them on. It was Legacy Love in action.

We are also seeing our efforts grow fruit. Two Legacy alumni now serve on our Board of Directors, a Legacy alum has returned to join our teaching staff, and some of our youngest scholars are the children of Legacy alumni.

As we celebrate these milestones, we remain focused on the work ahead: celebrating our incredible growth in reading and math and continuing to strive for even stronger outcomes, preparing every scholar for high school, college, careers, and a future where they thrive and lead.

All of this work happens in community. Thank you to everyone who invested in Legacy last school year, from those who supported the Legacy Builder Sneaker Ball to the volunteers, partners, donors, families, and alumni who gave their time, talent, and expertise throughout the year.

Now we invite you to continue your partnership. Join us for Open House Chicago on October 17 and 18, at the Leadership Breakfast on October 20, Career Day, and many other opportunities to share your time, talent, and expertise directly with our scholars. You can also deepen your impact by becoming a monthly donor. Even \$25 a month can help put books on classroom shelves, purchase supplies for a scholar project, or provide experiences that expand what our scholars believe is possible.

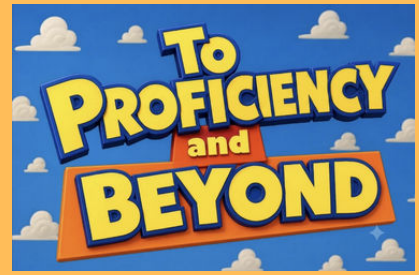
We are building tomorrow's leaders today, and we want you alongside us as our scholars Love, Learn, and Lead.

In community,

Dr. Liz Goss

To Proficiency and Beyond!





Dear Legacy Supporters,

Welcome to an exciting new school year at Legacy Charter School! We are already in our third week of learning and growing with more than 400 scholars filling our classrooms with energy, curiosity, and possibility.

Our theme, “To Proficiency and Beyond!”, captures our focus and vision for the year ahead. For our scholars, proficiency means meeting grade-level benchmarks and building the strong academic foundation they need for future success. For families, it means partnering with us to ensure scholars are at school every day, on time, ready to learn, and supported in their learning at home. And for our Jedi, it means approaching our work with excellence, providing rigorous instruction, meeting the needs of all learners, and continually measuring and responding to scholar progress.

But “To Proficiency and Beyond!” is more than a slogan. It is a call to action for our entire Legacy community.

Together, we are working to strengthen reading and math outcomes, provide the academic and social-emotional supports scholars need to overcome barriers, and create opportunities for every child to discover and develop their brilliance.

Traditionally, our reading scores have outpaced our math scores. Last school year, we deepened our focus on accelerating academic growth, increasing math-focused professional development for teachers and strengthening our data practices. We also empowered scholars and families to better understand their data and take greater ownership of their learning. Scholars even led their own parent-teacher conferences!

Those intentional investments paid off: our scholars achieved double-digit growth in both reading and math on our annual state assessment! These gains demonstrate what is possible when our entire Legacy community understands our schoolwide goals and recognizes the role each of us plays in helping our scholars succeed.

And this is why we need you on this journey!...

As we work to increase academic achievement, we will also celebrate the progress, perseverance, and brilliance that live within each child. We believe our scholars truly are the Pride of the West Side, and we are excited about what they will accomplish this year.

Thank you for standing with us and believing in what is possible for every Legacy scholar. Together, we will reach proficiency and beyond!

With gratitude,

Ms. Sheila E. Foster
Principal, Legacy Charter School



Legacy's 46 members of the Class of 2026 reached an important milestone in May and have now officially begun their freshman year of high school!

After years of learning, growing, discovering their strengths, and developing their voices at Legacy, our newest alumni entered this next chapter with exciting opportunities ahead.

The Class of 2026 earned acceptance to a wide range of programs, including 17 acceptances to selective enrollment and International Baccalaureate (IB) programs, more than double the combined number from the previous year.

Today, these Legacy graduates attend private, charter, magnet, military academy, and other high school programs across Chicago, including:

- Jones College Prep
- Lane Tech
- Westinghouse College Prep
- Ogden International
- Chicago Hope Academy
- De La Salle
- Brother Rice
- Christ the King
- And many others

And their journey is only beginning.

Although they have graduated, they haven't left the Legacy family. Legacy Love keeps us connected. Through high school, college, and beyond, we create opportunities for our alumni to stay connected, return home, and know that the Legacy community continues to support and celebrate them.

We look forward to seeing where the Class of 2026 goes next, and to welcoming them back for Homecoming as mentors, volunteers, board members, and perhaps one day, Jedi.

Just like our featured Alumna Spotlight, Erionna Marshall, Legacy Class of 2014, today's graduates will always have a place to come home to at Legacy.



From Legacy Scholar to Jedi

There is something special about welcoming a new Jedi to Legacy. But this year, one of our newest teachers isn't really new to Legacy at all.

Ms. Erionna Marshall, Legacy Class of 2014, has returned home for the 2026–27 school year as a 5th- and 6th-grade Intervention Teacher, bringing her story full circle from Legacy scholar to Legacy educator.

Erionna's Legacy story began in our early years, when the school was housed alongside Mason Elementary School, long before our scholars walked through the halls of the building we call home today. She grew up alongside Legacy, experiencing a chapter of our history that today's scholars know only through the stories we tell.

After graduating from Legacy, Erionna continued her education and earned a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies from Alabama State University in December 2023. While there, she distinguished herself as a student leader and mentor. She is also a published author, another accomplishment in a life shaped by learning, leadership, and a desire to inspire others.

Now, more than a decade after leaving Legacy as an eighth grader, Ms. Marshall has returned to help a new generation of scholars write their own stories.

Her homecoming is a powerful example of the full-circle impact we hope to create for every Legacy scholar: to learn, to grow, to lead, and one day, to use those experiences to lift others.

Welcome Home, Ms. Marshall!



Legacy Jedi Never Stop Learning

We tell our scholars that learning is a lifelong journey, and our Jedi model that commitment every day. Across our classrooms and school leadership, Legacy educators continue to pursue advanced degrees, certifications, and professional development that strengthen their practice and enrich our scholars' educational experience.

Celebrating Dr. Liz Goss

Executive Director Dr. Liz Goss recently reached an extraordinary academic milestone, earning her Doctorate in Urban Education Leadership from the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) and completing the rigorous four-and-a-half-year program designed to prepare and develop leaders of urban school systems. The program combines advanced study, applied research, and leadership practice, allowing participants to address real challenges facing schools and communities through their doctoral work. Her achievement reflects Dr. Goss's commitment to continuous learning and to strengthening leadership and educational opportunities for Legacy scholars and the broader community.

Principal Foster Strengthens Her Leadership

Our outstanding Principal, Sheila Foster, reached two significant professional milestones over the past year. She was selected as one of just 22 school leaders across eight states to participate in the Surge Institute's Black Principals Network and successfully completed its Leadership Collaborative fellowship.

She also completed the New Leaders National Aspiring Principals Fellowship, receiving a full scholarship to earn her Principal Certification from Clark Atlanta University, a credential recognized across 45 states. Her leadership and work during the fellowship also earned her Fellow of the Month recognition.

Six Jedi Earn Master's Degrees

In the past year, we celebrated with Ms. Cook, Ms. Stephany, Ms. Watson, Ms. Wesley, Ms. McDowell, and Ms. Hightower as they earned their master's degrees through the Golden Apple program.

We are delighted to share their accomplishments with our broader Legacy community and excited that our scholars begin this school year benefiting from the new knowledge, skills, and perspectives these Jedi bring to their work each day.

And the Learning Continues...

The learning doesn't stop here. Numerous Legacy Jedi are currently pursuing advanced degrees, certifications, and professional credentials of their own, all with a shared purpose: becoming even stronger educators and leaders for the scholars and families they serve.

Legacy scholars are surrounded by adults who continue to set goals, challenge themselves, and pursue excellence. They see firsthand that education isn't simply a destination; it's a lifelong journey of growth and opportunity.

Congratulations to Dr. Goss, Principal Foster, Ms. Cook, Ms. Stephany, Ms. Watson, and Ms. Wesley, and to every Legacy Jedi continuing their own learning journey.

When Legacy Jedi grow, Legacy scholars grow.

Developing Leadership Skills Early



The Legacy Ambassador Program provides scholars in grades 6–8 with intentional opportunities to develop leadership, communication, and character while engaging with community and industry leaders, mentors, board members, partners, and supporters.

A Three-Year Leadership Journey

Beginning in sixth grade, the Legacy Ambassador Program creates a potential three-year leadership pathway that allows scholars to build their skills, confidence, and responsibilities over time. Our goal is bigger than preparing scholars for the next event. We are preparing them for high school, college, careers, and leadership beyond Legacy. Through early exposure and repeated opportunities to practice leadership, scholars develop the confidence, character, academic habits, and personal accountability they will need as expectations and independence increase throughout their educational journey and into the workplace.

Join us to experience what happens when young people are given opportunities to lead.

Join us this fall and play an active role in developing Legacy's future leaders. Your presence, conversation, encouragement, and feedback give our scholars valuable opportunities to practice their leadership skills, build confidence, and engage with adults beyond the classroom.

Upcoming Ambassador-led Events:

Open House Chicago | October 17–18

Legacy Ambassadors will welcome visitors and help lead public tours of our school, using their voices to share the Legacy story and demonstrate Love, Learning, and Leadership in action. All are welcome to attend this free public event.

Legacy Leadership Breakfast | October 20 | RSVP Required

Join Legacy scholars for a morning of connection and conversation. Scholars will engage with professionals and community leaders, practice networking and communication skills, and gain exposure to different colleges, careers, and leadership pathways.

A Night of Generosity. A Legacy of Impact.



To everyone who sponsored, attended, donated, volunteered, participated in the paddle raise, or helped make the evening a success, thank you!

Your generosity helps provide the resources and opportunities that surround Legacy scholars with support throughout the school day and beyond. Funds raised help make tutoring and academic interventions, in-school wraparound supports, after-school programming, and enrichment experiences possible, helping scholars strengthen their skills, discover their interests, and thrive.

The Sneaker Ball may last one evening, but your investment makes an impact throughout the year.

As we begin a new school year, we invite you to continue investing in our future leaders and the experiences that help them learn, grow, and lead.

Thank you for believing in our scholars, investing in their potential, and continuing to build the Legacy with us.

Upcoming Events

PARENT UNIVERSITY CHICAGO WEST

BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT

SEPTEMBER 5, 2026
11 A.M - 3:30 P.M

Legacy Charter School
3318 W. Ogden Ave.
Chicago, IL 60623

At our family-oriented events, parents lead and fun memories are made! Join us for workshops, activities, resources, food, and free child care.

Contact: Brittany Nowell
brittany.nowell@actforchildren.org
(224) 257-1858

illinois action for children
Uplifting Children & All Who Care for Them™

REGISTER TODAY!

DISTRICT 5 COMMUNITY FORUM

Meet Your School Board Candidates

Join us for an opportunity to hear directly from the candidates running to represent Chicago Public Schools Districts 5A and 5B on the Chicago Board of Education.

Jitu Brown (5a) (confirmed)
LaPamela Williams (5a) (confirmed)
Michilla Blaise (5b) (confirmed)
Anthony Hargrove (5b) (confirmed)

Tue, September 29 · 6-7:30pm
Doors open at 5:30pm
Chicago Bulls College Prep
2040 W. Adams St.
Chicago, IL 60612

Save your seat. RSVP Here

ACERO KIPP NOBLE YCCS the catalyst schools LEGACY

This is a Nonpartisan Event
Noble Schools is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and this candidate forum is strictly nonpartisan. Noble Schools does not endorse or oppose candidates or political parties. All candidates in Districts 5A and 5B were invited to participate. The forum is designed to provide an opportunity for voters to hear from candidates and make informed decisions.

We invite you to join us at these upcoming events and stay connected to the Legacy community.

JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL

LEGACY LEADERSHIP BREAKFAST

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20
9AM - 10AM

Your presence is part of the experience. Come meet our future leaders and help them see what's possible.

LEGACY CHARTER SCHOOL
3318 W. OGDEN

RSVP

ARCHITECT
Lothan Van Hook
DeStefano Architecture,
2017

Every detail of the Legacy Charter School has been carefully considered: it is efficient, durable, and inexpensive without looking overly institutional. The school is designed to support students from kindergarten through 8th grade, with bright and engaging design that flows from the site's unusual geometry, and accommodations tailored to each grade level. In addition to classrooms, each building floor includes spaces that can be used for small-group or individual instruction.

The school was awarded LEED Platinum certification because of its rooftop solar panels and other features, which double as tools to educate students about sustainability.

We Grow Learners and Leaders

Legacy scholars graduate ready to excel academically in the high schools of their choice and ready to lead in their community.

Leave a Legacy

Public funds only cover the basic needs of a school. As a 501(c)3 non-profit Legacy relies on donor generosity to provide our scholars with the expanded academic and social-emotional support they need in order to be prepared for their future. **Donate Today!**

Legacy Scholars are changing the world

CURRENT STUDENTS	GRADUATES	COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES ATTENDED
468	750	30+

LEGACY
3318 W. Ogden Ave

(773) 542-1640
development@legacycharterschool.org
legacycharterchicago.org

Invest in Their Future. Build the Legacy



Every story in this edition reflects what is possible when young people are surrounded by a community that believes in their potential.

Your investment helps Legacy provide the academic support, enrichment experiences, leadership development, and opportunities our scholars need to succeed in high school, college, careers, and beyond. As we begin a new school year, we invite you to make Legacy part of your giving throughout the year.

Every investment helps surround Legacy scholars with the resources, experiences, and people they need to thrive.

Give Today

Make Your Impact Monthly

Recurring gifts provide reliable support that allows us to invest in scholars all year long.

\$25/month = \$300 annually

\$50/month = \$600 annually

\$100/month = \$1,200 annually

Make a one-time gift or start your monthly investment.

Giving through a Donor-Advised Fund (DAF) or interested in exploring other ways to invest in Legacy scholars?

Contact Legacy's Director of Development, yvette.warren@legacycharterschool.org, to discuss a giving option that aligns with your philanthropic goals.