



## Green Dot Public Schools California **2023 IMPACT REPORT**

The past year has been one of tremendous growth and impact for Green Dot Public Schools California. This report highlights the lives we've touched and the communities we've strengthened.



**“We prove that a great education is possible, regardless of a student’s circumstances or zip code.”**

*- Dr. Cristina de Jesus*



# A Letter from the President & CEO

Dear Family, Friends, and Stakeholders,

As we reflect on the 2022-2023 school year, we are proud to share the progress Green Dot Public Schools California has made toward our strategic plan, appropriately titled Reimagine, as we reimagine what's possible in public education. This strategic plan pushes us to provide high-quality education and supports that enable our students to thrive academically and pursue their college and career dreams.

## **A few Reimagine highlights from this past year:**

**Our Students Grow More Academically:** The Center for Research on Education Outcomes (CREDO) at Stanford University recognized Green Dot California as a gap-busting organization for closing historical achievement gaps and setting our students up for future success. Our students achieved outstanding growth in literacy and math, gaining an additional 20 days of learning in reading and 12 days in math compared to their peers nationwide.

**Our Schools Continue to Accelerate Learning:** We achieve better outcomes for Black and Latinx students and students living in low-income communities. In 2022-23, our middle schools & high schools achieved **higher than average growth** in ELA & Math.

- Our middle schools grew their students **faster than 74% of similar students in ELA** and **faster than 62% of similar students in Math**.
- Our high schools grew their students **faster than 84% of similar students in ELA** and **faster than 79% of similar students in Math**.

**Our Students Are College-Ready and College-Bound:** We implemented several initiatives to empower students to navigate college and career pathways. Our schools' college-ready graduation rates are more than 20 percentage points higher than the state's average and 92% of students in the Class of 2023 were accepted to college.

**Our Schools are Among the Best in the Country:** Nine of our high schools ranked in the top 25% nationwide by U.S. News and World Report, with two ranked in the top 2% in the country. This external validation reflects our commitment to fostering excellence.

We prove that a great education is possible, regardless of a student's circumstances or zip code. For over 20 years, our achievements would not be possible without our dedicated employees, families, partners, and supporters like you. Thank you for helping Green Dot Public Schools California deliver on our mission to transform public education so all students are prepared for college, leadership and life.

We look forward to your continued partnership and support.

With gratitude,  
Dr. Cristina de Jesus



# Our Formula for Student Success

At Green Dot, our mission is to help transform public education so all students graduate prepared for college, leadership, and life. We make this possible by hiring passionate teachers, administrators, and staff who believe in our students' potential.



## Our Core Values



### **An unwavering belief in all students' potential**

Believing every student can succeed through robust academic and emotional support



### **A passion for excellence**

Pursuing excellence at all levels through continuous improvement



### **Personal responsibility**

Upholding our commitment to serve communities and families with integrity



### **Respect for others in the community**

Building collaborative partnerships within our communities



### **All stakeholders are critical in the education process**

Empowering parents to have a voice in their child's education

# Who We Serve

**Middle & High Schools**  
10,356 students

Latinx → **86%**

Black → **12%**

Emerging Bilinguals → **20%**

Students with Disabilities → **15%**

Socioeconomically Disadvantaged → **96%**

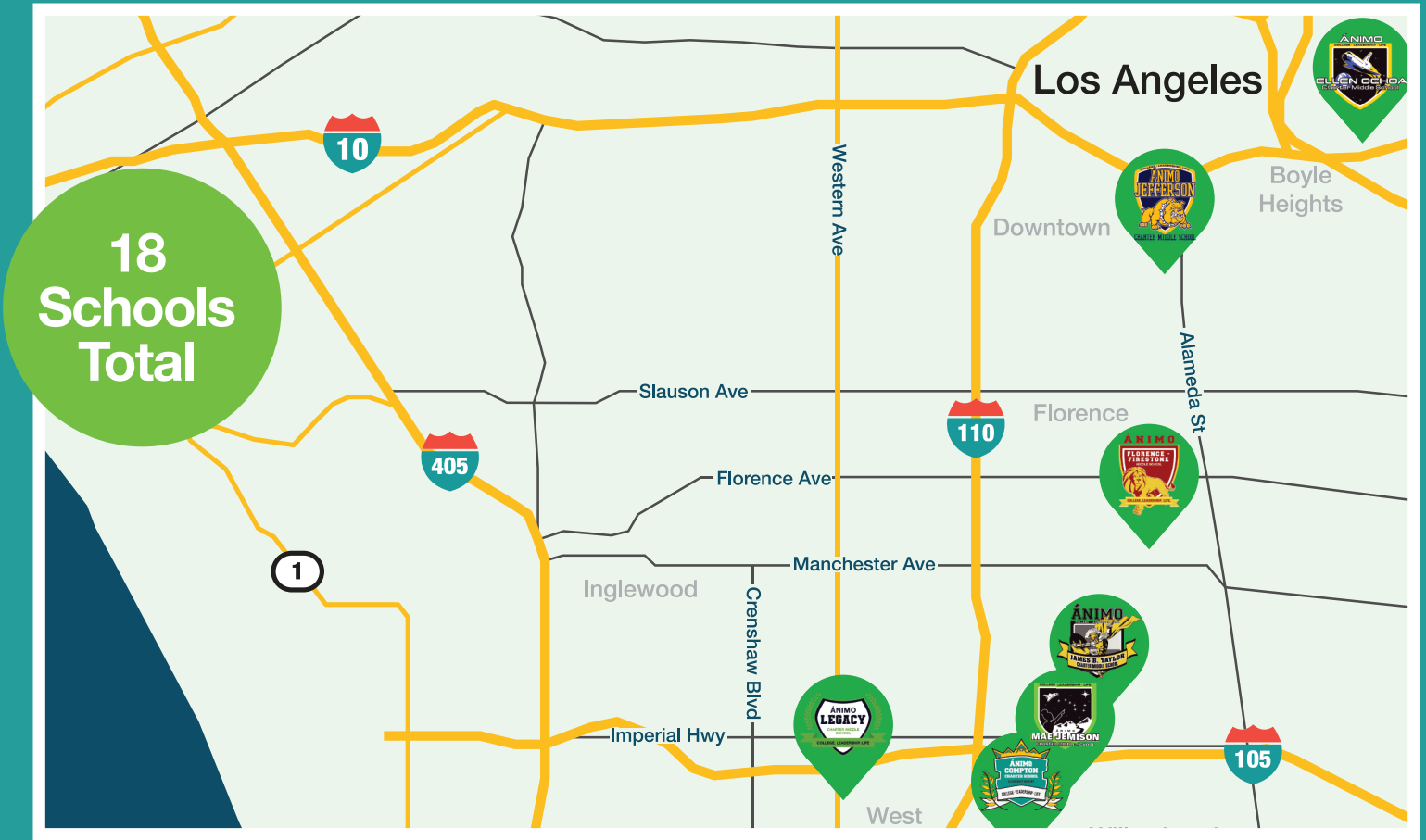
Qualifying for Free or Reduced Lunch → **95%**

Experiencing Homelessness → **5%**

Foster Youth → **1%**



# Where We Serve

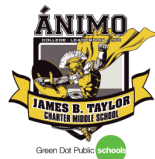


## Middle Schools



**Ánimo Legacy Charter Middle School**

12226 S. Western Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90047  
(323) 600-6000



**Ánimo James B. Taylor Charter Middle School**

810 E. 111th Pl.  
Los Angeles, CA 90059  
(323) 568-8613



**Ánimo Jefferson Charter Middle School**

1655 E. 27th St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90011  
(323) 232-1857



**Ánimo Compton Charter School\***

13305 San Pedro St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90061  
(323) 565-4415



**Ánimo Florence-Firestone Charter Middle School**

8255 Beach St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90001  
(323) 565-3280



**Ánimo Ellen Ochoa Charter Middle School**

4360 Dozier St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90022  
(323)-565-3245

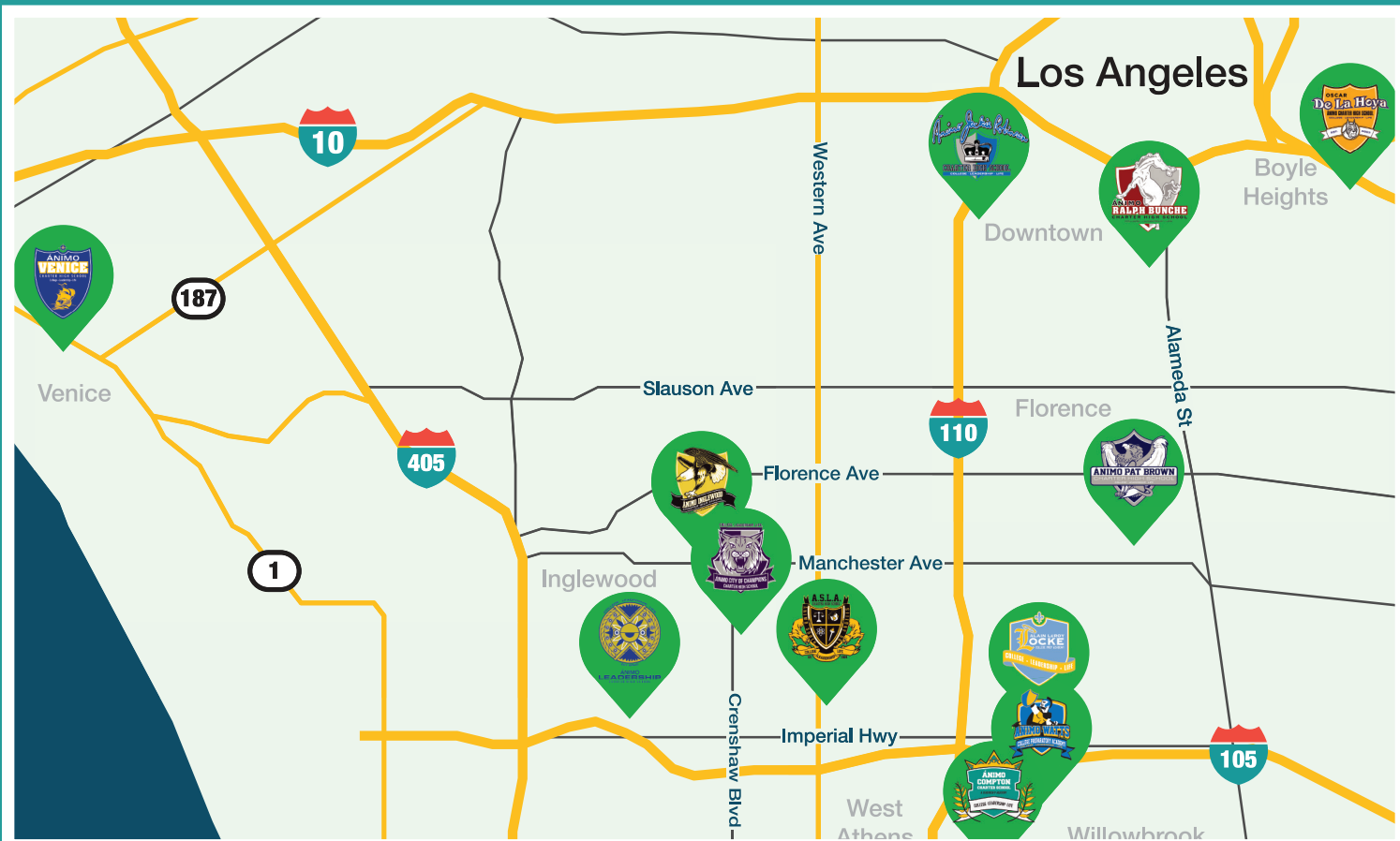


**Ánimo Mae Jemison Charter Middle School**

12700 Avalon Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90061  
(323) 565-4450

\*Middle & high school at this location.

Community School =



## High Schools




**Ánimo Venice Charter High School**  
820 Broadway St.  
Venice, CA 90291  
(310) 392-8751




**Ánimo South L.A. Charter High School**  
11130 S. Western Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90047  
(323) 779-0544




**Ánimo Watts College Preparatory Academy**  
12628 Avalon Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90061  
(323) 756-3930



**Ánimo Leadership Charter High School**  
11044 S. Freeman Ave.  
Inglewood, CA 90304  
(323) 565-4420




**Ánimo Jackie Robinson Charter High School**  
3500 S Hill St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90007  
(323) 846-5800



**Oscar De La Hoya Animo Charter High School**  
1114 S Lorena St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90023  
(323) 780-1259




**Ánimo Inglewood Charter High School**  
3425 W. Manchester Blvd.  
Inglewood, CA 90305  
(323) 565-2100



**Alain LeRoy Locke College Preparatory Academy**  
325 E. 111th St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90061  
(323) 420-2100



**Ánimo Ralph Bunche Charter High School**  
1655 E. 27th St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90011  
(323) 232-9436



**Ánimo City of Champions Charter High School**  
9330 S. 8th Ave.  
Inglewood, CA 90305  
(323) 565-4485



**Ánimo Compton Charter School \***  
13305 San Pedro St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90061  
(323) 565-4415



**Ánimo Pat Brown Charter High School**  
8205 Beach St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90001  
(323) 585-3312

## Our Blueprint for Student Success

We are thrilled to share Reimagine, our new strategic plan setting the course for the future. This roadmap will guide our work as we continue providing high-quality education to every student entering our 18 schools.

### Mission

The mission of Green Dot Public Schools California is to help transform public education so ALL students graduate prepared for college, leadership, and life.

### Vision

- An unwavering belief in all students' potential
- A passion for excellence
- Personal responsibility
- Respect for others in the community
- All stakeholders are critical in the education process







### Support the Needs of Every Student

Support the needs of each and every student by strengthening a multi-tiered system of support that is informed by data and continuous improvement.



### Maximize Student Enrollment

Green Dot CA will effectively resource a data-driven student recruitment program that delivers fully-enrolled schools with diverse populations, which are reflective of the communities they serve.



### Amplify & Assets and Needs of Black Students

Focus on the assets of Black students, listen to their needs and provide targeted support to Black students and families.



### Implement Innovative Practices

As a learning organization, we must continue to evolve, codify, and learn from best practices and innovate in order to prepare our students for college, leadership, and life using high-quality, research-based practices from the education sector and beyond.



### Empower Students to Navigate College & Career Pathways

We help students to and through college via a coordinated four-part program that supports them to apply, enroll, attend, and persist.



### Ensure Academic Rigor for All

All students must have access to rigorous grade-level instruction that prepares them for college, leadership, and life. We measure our success through student achievement and academic growth.



### Accelerate Learning

Innovate on our core academic program to accelerate learning & meet individual student needs. Ensure every student is high school and college-ready by the time they graduate.



### Make Green Dot the Best Place to do Inspirational Work

We recognize that this is complex and challenging work and that success requires an empowered, supported, and diverse team. This work is hard and we strive to forge a committed workforce that is driven by an unwavering passion to help ensure students realize their full potential.



### Strengthen Relationships & Cultivate Joy

Our school communities foster a web of healthy relationships for each and every Green Dot CA student.



### Disrupt Systemic Racism & Bias

Plan and operationalize anti-bias/anti-racist practices throughout the organization, in response to data.

# Highlights

**1,270**  
graduates in  
2022-23

**22,000**  
since 2000



**74%** A-G  
graduation  
rate

20% higher than the state average

  
**92%**

of the Green Dot California  
Class of 2023 were  
accepted to college





# Our Key Levers to Unlock Potential



## ENSURE ACADEMIC RIGOR FOR ALL

**90%**  
graduation  
rate

**16 schools**  
outperform  
their peer  
schools in  
literacy &  
math

Our cohort graduation rate continues to trend upwards, with 90% of Green Dot high school students graduating in 4 years. This graduation rate surpasses the LAUSD average of 80% and aligns with the statewide rate of 90%. We are committed to ensuring our students complete their high school education and pursue their college and career aspirations.

California's A-G requirements are a sequence of high school courses that students must complete with a grade of C or better to be eligible for admission into the University of California and California State University systems. Fulfilling the A-G curriculum demonstrates students have met the rigorous academic standards needed to succeed in college-level coursework after graduation.

Our students demonstrated strong proficiency on California SBAC assessments, with 9 schools increasing scores in both ELA and math compared to 2022. Notably, 4 schools exceeded their pre-pandemic proficiency rates from 2019, showcasing exceptional growth despite the challenges of the past few years. We are proud of our students' academic progress.



## ACCELERATE LEARNING

Our students' outstanding growth in English Language Arts and Math this year demonstrates our ability to accelerate learning and close achievement gaps. Compared to their peers statewide, our students are progressing at higher rates overall and across all significant subgroups. Prioritizing growth empowers students to reach their academic potential regardless of circumstances.

### GREEN DOT CALIFORNIA MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Grew their students faster than 74% of similar students in ELA and faster than 62% of similar students in Math.

### GREEN DOT CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOLS

Grew their students faster than 87% of similar students in ELA and faster than 80% of similar students in Math.



## STRENGTHEN RELATIONSHIPS & CULTIVATING JOY

Since the pandemic, there has been a national increase in the rate of students who are chronically absent, defined as missing 10% or more school days. This can severely impact academic growth and student outcomes. Green Dot implemented comprehensive support to engage students and families, resulting in a 9 percentage point decrease in chronic absenteeism among Black students compared to the previous year and a 5 percentage point decrease overall. This progress outpaces state averages. By cultivating joyful, welcoming school communities and addressing barriers to attendance, we are ensuring students show up consistently to reach their full potential. As a result, 92% of families would recommend Green Dot to a friend and 87% of team members returned the following year.



**92%**  
**Parent Satisfaction**



**5%**  
**Reduction in chronic Absenteeism**



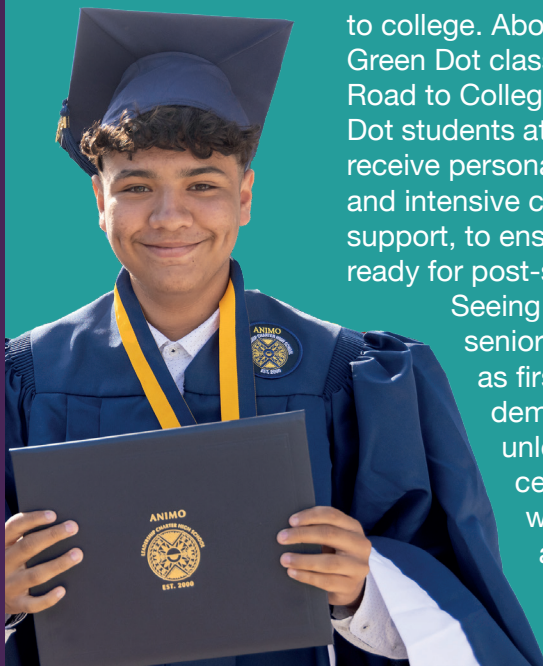
**87%**  
**Employee Retention**



## EMPOWER STUDENTS TO NAVIGATE COLLEGE & CAREER PATHWAYS

We are proud to report that 92% of the Green Dot class of 2023 was accepted to college. Above the door of every Green Dot classroom is a sign: “The Road to College Starts Here.” All Green Dot students attend annual college visits, receive personalized advising, tutoring, and intensive college application support, to ensure all students graduate ready for post-secondary success.

Seeing the vast majority of our seniors get into college, many as first-generation students, demonstrates our success in unlocking their potential. We celebrate these graduates who are one step closer to achieving their dreams.



**COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE - 92% ACCEPTANCE RATE**  
**The Green Dot California Class of 2023 Earned Competitive Scholarships:**



**4 - Quest Bridge**



**13 - Dell Students**



**3 - Gates**



**2 - Posse**



**8 - LAX KIWANIS**

# Philanthropy Driven Programs



## AMPLIFY THE ASSETS & NEEDS OF BLACK STUDENTS

Elevating outcomes for our Black students was an organizational priority this past year. We held our annual Legacy Conference focused on equity, sent students to visit Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and launched an Advisory program to provide mentoring and identity affirmation. By improving attendance, college access, cultural awareness, and targeted academic support, we are committed to unlocking the brilliance and possibility within each of our Black students.



*HBCU College Tour*



## FOSTERING STUDENT SUCCESS

Our College Success Advisor program provides intensive college advising and application support for students achieving a 3.5+ GPA to increase the number of students applying, winning acceptance, enrolling in, and graduating from competitive four-year colleges. The support begins spring semester of junior year and continues through the first year of college. Support during the transition to college is essential for Green Dot's first-generation students, and Advisors help students problem-solve and connect students to campus resources. This program successfully piloted at four schools to great success, and we are looking to expand it to more schools over the next 2 years.

**THE ROAD TO COLLEGE  
STARTS HERE**



## IMPLEMENT INNOVATIVE PRACTICES

Our ModelFlex program developed over the past 7 years as a necessary response to K12 curriculum and practice that are often divorced from mind- and skill- sets that link learning to opportunity. ModelFlex campuses integrate a programmatic focus into the core curriculum. This year, we continued to build a leadership pathway at Ánimo Compton and an entrepreneurship pathway at Ánimo City of Champions. We also expanded our STEM program at Ánimo Ellen Ochoa to Oscar de la Hoya Ánimo to create a seven-year STEM pathway. ModelFlex connects great American companies like Northrop Grumman, Snap Inc., and Vans, governmental and nonprofit organizations such as NASA, JPL, National Geographic, and Project Lead The Way to teachers and students seeking to broaden horizons, extend and deepen curriculum and link today's schools to tomorrow's enterprise.

**724**  
students  
participated  
in dual  
enrollment\*

This year, we were awarded a \$1,200,000 California Community College Program grant to establish a dual enrollment certification pathway at every Green Dot high school. Student participants will be able to graduate high school with an AA or certificate, depending on the pathway focus area. Green Dot currently offers access to dual enrollment at every campus; this will formalize current offerings.

*\*Enrolled in community college courses while still attending middle or high school)*



## SUPPORT THE NEEDS OF EVERY STUDENT

Ten of our schools have received California Community Schools Implementation grants to better serve our most vulnerable students, thanks in part to support from the Gates Foundation. This funding allows us to expand partnerships and on-campus services tailored to students with disabilities, mental health challenges, and those experiencing homelessness. Our community school coordinators connect these students and families to counseling, medical clinics, and other crucial resources. By addressing barriers to learning inside and outside the classroom, we provide inclusive, holistic support so all students can thrive. These grants help strengthen our schools as hubs of opportunity, care and belonging.



# Student Spotlight: Our Stories of Growth & Triumph

## Nathalie



Stanford

My name is Nathalie Ayala, and I recently graduated from Ánimo Leadership Charter High School. This fall, I will be the first in my family to attend college when I start at Stanford University. I credit my success to the preparation I received at Ánimo Leadership, combined with my family's love and encouragement. My mom came to this country from El Salvador when she was 21 years old. She worked incredibly hard to give me and my sisters the opportunities she never had. When I got into Stanford, my mom said, "I worked so hard for these girls, to make their dreams come true." I feel so grateful for the sacrifice my parents made to provide me with an excellent education. With the foundation I built at Ánimo Leadership, I feel confident embarking on this next chapter of higher learning. I plan to make my family proud.



Cal

## Esther

I moved from Lagos, Nigeria to Los Angeles when I was thirteen. While the plane journey was easy, adapting to a new culture was challenging. I knew I had to excel academically and support my family however I could. When the pandemic hit, with only one income, things got even harder. I taught myself stock trading - studying charts, market trends and analysis. Now I tutor other teens on beginning trading. At UC Berkeley, I plan to major in finance and business and pursue a career in social entrepreneurship, helping others while supporting my family. Moving across the world as a teenager hasn't been easy, but through resourcefulness and determination, I'm gaining the skills to achieve my dreams.



## José

As valedictorian of my class at Ánimo Jackie Robinson, I was accepted to Yale University - the first in my family to attend college. The Opportunity Fund helped me take part in a summer program that positioned me for success. I feel incredibly fortunate to have secured a spot at Yale. Coming from my background, I may not have had the same preparation as some of my peers. But thanks to Green Dot and The Opportunity Fund, I was provided with the necessary resources, allowing me to start my academic journey on equal footing.

Yale



WELLESLEY  
W

## Ashley

I was born and raised in South Los Angeles and now attend Wellesley College on the other side of the country. The move required major adjustments to new weather, people and culture—a 180-degree shift in my life. The Opportunity Grant helped me purchase winter clothes and dorm supplies, easing the transition. More so, it served as a reminder that people believe in me and my ability to explore beyond my comfort zone.







## Green Dot in the News

THE SACRAMENTO BEE

→ **ARTICLE:** *Undocumented California families could have an easier time applying for college aid. Here's how*

---



→ **ARTICLE:** *California's public education resources are unevenly allocated, and charter public schools are working hard to address this problem.*

---



→ **ARTICLE:** *Charter Schools Provide Blueprint On Improving Education Culture*

---

Los Angeles Daily News

→ **ARTICLE:** *Reducing California's absenteeism crisis should be a legislative priority*

---



→ **ARTICLE:** *What Are Schoolteachers Thinking? Report Gives Insights*

---



→ **ARTICLE:** *In Depth: Student Loans, Green Dot Schools*

---

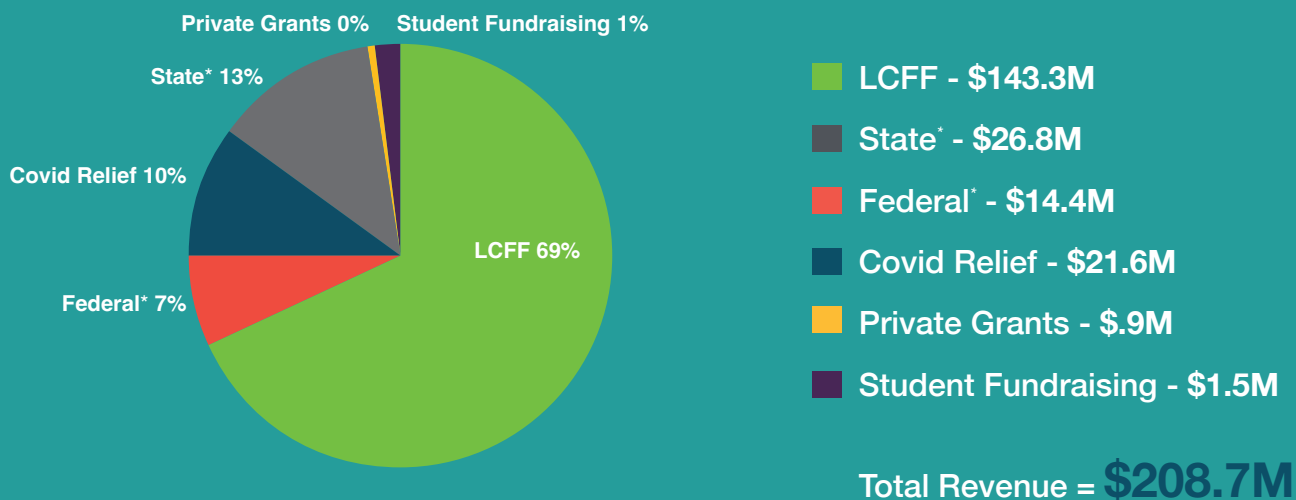


→ **ARTICLE:** *Estos son los cambios en la solicitud de FAFSA para 2024 (These are the changes to the FAFSA application for 2024)*

## Stewarding Resources Responsibly

We effectively managed our funding by diligently prioritizing educational initiatives and regularly assessing the allocation of resources to ensure optimal student outcomes. In our efforts to uphold fiscal responsibility, we not only maintain transparent financial reporting but also actively engage with stakeholders, striving to ensure that our schools remain sustainable using public funds.

### REVENUE



*\*Includes competitive government grants*

### EXPENDITURES



## Guiding Our Mission: Board of Directors

### KEVIN S. REED

Board Chair  
VP & General Counsel  
University of Oregon

### JON GOODMAN

Board Vice Chair & Secretary  
Former President, Town Hall Los Angeles

### RICARDO BARRAGAN

Managing Director & Market Manager  
J.P. Morgan Private Bank

### LOUIS GOMEZ

Department Chair of Education  
UCLA

### CLAUDIO CHAVEZ

Principal, CWG Capital

### IVETTE PEÑA

Court Counsel/Chief Deputy  
Legal Services for the Superior Court  
of California, County of Los Angeles

### DR. ROBERT CHERRY

Chief Medical & Quality Officer  
UCLA Health

### RITA RAVINDRA

SVP, Operations & Corporate Development  
FitLab

### JASON FEUERSTEIN

Managing Director TMT Investment  
Banking, Bank of America Merrill Lynch

### PETER SCRANTON

Venture Entrepreneur

### LATONIA TARVER-LOPEZ

President, Ánimo Classified  
Employees Association (ACEA)



# About Green Dot California

Green Dot Public Schools California operates 18 charter middle and high schools in Los Angeles, providing over 10,000 students from historically under-resourced communities with a transformative educational experience grounded in the belief that every student has a right to an excellent education that unlocks their potential. Implementing a rigorous college preparatory curriculum along with personalized academic counseling and support, Green Dot empowers students to overcome barriers, achieve at the highest levels, and graduate prepared for higher education, leadership roles, and fulfilling careers. As Title 1 schools serving predominantly low-income populations, Green Dot provides its students with the tools and opportunities required to realize their full potential, closing opportunity gaps. Driven by the pillars of High Expectations, Local Control with Extensive Professional Development, Personalized Learning, and Parent Participation, Green Dot is an established leader in transforming public education to profoundly and positively impact students, families and their communities.

Follow us on Facebook and LinkedIn @GreenDotCA, and Instagram, TikTok and X @GreenDot\_CA.



## Green Dot Public Schools California

1149 S. Hill St., Ste 600  
Los Angeles, California 90015  
(323) 565-1600  
[giving@greendot.org](mailto:giving@greendot.org)

