



700

middle and high school students in rural, northeastern North Carolina are proving that demography does not define destiny.

85%

will be first generation college graduates.

65%

of KIPP Gaston students are eligible for free/reduced lunch.

85%

of students attending KIPP Gaston are African-American.

100%

of KIPP Gaston graduating seniors have been accepted to college.



**Future Site of  
KIPP Gaston Elementary School**  
Opening Fall 2012

**KIPP:GASTON**

KIPP Gaston College Preparatory  
KIPP Pride High  
KIPP Elementary - opening 2012

320 Pleasant Hill Road  
Gaston, North Carolina 27832

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[www.kippgaston.org](http://www.kippgaston.org)



**KIPP:GASTON**

The mission of **KIPP Gaston** is to empower all of its students with the skills, character and knowledge necessary to succeed in the college of their choice, strengthen their community and fight for social justice.

KIPP Gaston College Preparatory  
KIPP Pride High

# “We learn not for school, but for life.”



**KIPP Gaston  
Growth Timeline**

- 2001 KIPP Gaston College Preparatory opens
- 2005 KIPP Pride High opens
- 2012 KIPP Elementary slated to open

## Why KIPP Schools Work

KIPP schools share a core set of operating principles known as the Five Pillars.

### 1 High Expectations

Everyone operates with the belief that all students, regardless of race or socioeconomic background, not only can, but will achieve at superior levels when taught in a high-quality manner. Staff and students hold themselves and each other to rigorous, college preparatory standards.

### 2 Commitment and Choice

As a free, open-enrollment public school, KIPP Gaston students and their families make the choice to attend. Staff, students, and families must choose to commit to work harder in order to ensure academic success for all students.

### 3 Focus on Results

KIPP Gaston students will be prepared to do well on both state and national standardized tests. Yet these measures are only one form of tangible results. The success of KIPP Gaston will ultimately be measured by alumni demonstrating the skills and habits necessary to graduate from the college of their choice and strengthen their community.

### 4 More Time

Because of a school day that begins at 8am and ends at 5pm, KIPP Gaston students spend 67% more time in school than traditional students. With an extended school day and year, students benefit from more classroom time and extracurricular activities. Teachers also are available by cell phone in the evening, as well as during lunch, after school and on weekends to provide additional help.

### 5 Power to Lead

Great schools require great leaders. KIPP Gaston's principals have control over school personnel, curriculum decisions and instructional practices, with the goal of providing an optimal learning environment for all students.



## About KIPP Gaston

Schools in rural northeastern North Carolina have historically been among the lowest performing in the state. However, in the summer of 2001, on nearly 30 acres of peanuts and soybeans the paradigm was about to change. A new kind of growth would take place — a cultivation that would transform the educational opportunities of hundreds of underserved students in rural Gaston, North Carolina.

With the vision of two founding school leaders and the commitment of 80 fifth graders and their families, KIPP Gaston College Preparatory (KIPP GCP) began. Together, they believed they could create an environment where all students would be able to meet high academic standards, regardless of their race, zip code or socioeconomic status. KIPP GCP soon flourished, with students outperforming their peers from the surrounding area by a minimum annual average of 30 percent on North Carolina End-of-Grade Tests.

By 2002-03 KIPP GCP was ranked the sixth highest performing school in the state. In 2005, KIPP Gaston expanded to KIPP Pride High, ensuring KIPP GCP students would continue to have access to a rigorous, college-preparatory curriculum. Together the middle school and the high school form KIPP Gaston.

KIPP Gaston will continue this legacy in fall 2012 when it will add a new elementary school to its existing campus.

## KIPP Across the Nation

The Knowledge is Power Program (KIPP) began in 1994 in Houston, Texas. KIPP is a national network of free open-enrollment, college-preparatory public schools that serve under-resourced communities dedicated to helping students develop the knowledge, skills, and character needed to succeed in college, their communities and the competitive world beyond. Today there are more than 100 KIPP schools in 20 states and the District of Columbia serving more than 27,000 students.



## Awards

- 2011** One of America's Best High Schools by The Washington Post
- 2010** One of America's Best High Schools by Newsweek magazine
- 2009** North Carolina School of Distinction
- 2007** Center for Education Reform National Charter School of the Year
- 2006** Title One Distinguished School for North Carolina
- 2005-7** Intel Scholastic School of Distinction for Academic Achievement
- 2001-4** North Carolina School of Excellence
- 2001-3** Top 25 Most Improved School in North Carolina