

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Creating Space for Possibility

Achieve and the Corey C. Griffin Foundation

Every Saturday morning, students from East Boston to Roxbury board buses before dawn to attend the Achieve program at Nobles. Some travel for more than an hour, yet attendance consistently exceeds 96%. This remarkable commitment from students and their families reflects something extraordinary: a space where young people feel deeply seen, supported, and challenged.

Now, with the generosity of the Corey C. Griffin Foundation, Achieve's Saturday sessions have a secure foundation for the next decade. The foundation's \$50,000 annual commitment helps ensure that this vital programming can continue to empower and prepare motivated students from about 30 Boston public schools for their future.

Together, Achieve's Saturday sessions and its summer program form a consistent, year-round support system for students starting in middle school through their first year of college. The academic program and enrichment opportunities nurture confidence and expand students' sense of what's possible, inviting them to imagine futures in college and beyond that they may not have previously envisioned. Nobles students also play a meaningful role in this growth, serving as tutors who model curiosity and leadership.

The impact is inspiring and measurable. In spring 2025, seventh-graders scored in the 90th percentile for growth compared to their peers nationally on the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) test. Students who complete Achieve's SSAT prep course see their scores rise by at least 10 percentile points. But Executive Director Reginald Toussaint points to an even more telling metric: "When you create a space where young people feel loved and

seen, they show up. This fall, we've had only three unexcused absences across three sessions."

The partnership between the Corey C. Griffin Foundation and Achieve reflects the organizations' shared values and deep connections to Nobles. Casey '07 and Mike '08, along with their parents, Cathy and Rob Griffin, have long supported Achieve's mission—they know, through their long-standing involvement, that access to opportunity can transform a young person's life.

"Corey Griffin's story is one of service, optimism, and belief in the potential of young people," says Toussaint. "This partnership affirms what's possible and challenges us to imagine what more we can achieve together in the years to come."

Scholars in the Achieve program engage in transformative academic programming and enriching experiences from middle school through the first year of college.

