So far this year we have 276 college acceptances, and $2.9 million in first year scholarships, with more to come! Below are just some of the colleges who have accepted our seniors this year:

- Allegheny College
- Johnson & Wales University
- Juniata College
- Morgan State University
- Stockton University
- Stony Brook University
- Temple University

**Curriculum highlight**

**9th Grade ELA and beyond**

In 9th grade ELA, we focus on answering an essential question to push our scholars into the rigorous world of high school and beyond into collegiate academia: How do we subvert the dominant narrative of the world we live in today? Essentially, students enter class and begin to critique the society we live in by looking at key texts that reveal injustices both blatantly visible and hidden from our perception of the world around us. From the deep rooted impact of slavery we see in Octavia Butler’s science fiction novel *Kindred*, to the courage it takes to be an upstander in the face of adversity and racism in *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. Even in the ever maddening world of William Shakespeare’s *Hamlet*, we ask scholars to work to make connections between literature and the lives they are living now and to ask themselves why we read these stories and what we can ever hope to learn from them.

9th grade ELA lays the foundational skills our students need to move upward to bigger and broader horizons for our Humanities Department. As we work towards writing full length papers--five paragraphs of ten sentences each at a minimum!, our scholars are building the intellectual strength and stamina to make it to our Advanced Placement courses in their eleventh and twelfth grade years. Our AP Literature course focuses on reading essential texts from “The Cannon” and what it means to understand texts that seemingly all scholars know, while our AP Language course focuses on the written voice and what it means to portray yourself, your knowledge, and your own voice on a page. These college level courses set our upperclassmen up for collegiate success and provide them an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge on AP Tests in order to earn college credit.
**Basketball:**
This year, the Boys Basketball program is off to a strong start. Boys Varsity played point-for-point against Marion P. Thomas and People's Prep this season. They are still hungry for a win, and hope to gain two during re-matches. The JV Boys are showing improvement each game, and enjoyed a solid win over Passaic Charter High School. The Girls Varsity is also having a successful season, including an exciting win against People's Prep!

**Cheerleading:**
This year's cheerleading team has been working hard on their cheers and half time performances to help push our basketball teams towards victory! Attendance at the games has been high, and thanks to the cheerleading team, the large crowds are engaged, excited, and emphatically cheering for the Eagles.

**Enrichments:**
One of our most attended enrichments, African Student Alliance, recently hosted a jollof rice tasting competition. To show pride in their heritage, students made jollof representative of Liberia, Ghana, and Nigeria. Student judges declared the Nigerian jollof victorious this year, but who knows which rice dish will reign supreme next time?

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**Did You Know**

- It’s enrollment season! Current GOLCS 8th graders are automatically accepted into the high school, but if you have other family members or friends who are looking for a great school, be sure to let them know to apply today!
- “8th Grade Day” will be held on January 18th. GOLCS 8th graders will have the opportunity to attend a girls varsity basketball game, have pizza, and receive a free t-shirt!
- Last year, the senior class went to Los Angeles for their end of year trip! They enjoyed a tour of Warner Brothers studio, a day at the Santa Monica pier, and took in a Dodgers game.
- If you decided to apply out of GOLCS but changed your mind, you can still fix it! Simply change your number one school choice to Great Oaks Legacy.
- If you have an interest that is not represented in our enrichment catalog, high school students have the opportunity propose a new club! This year we added Jersey Dance Club, Yearbook, and Crossfit!