

PROJECT GRAD AKRON

INTERMEDIATE AND SECONDARY PROGRAMS

Overview of outcomes for the 2025 - 2026 School Year:

Student participants in College and Career Central Classes: 1,164 students grades 6th through 12th at Buchtel and East CLCs. 85% of students agreed, "I can imagine myself as a successful college student".

Bridge to GRADuation: A total of 70 students (grades 9, 11, 12) completed the **Everyday Leaders Leadership Institute**. The students have been in the Bridge to GRADuation Program since 8th grade. In addition to strengthening their leadership skills, they provided Peer Mentoring Workshops for younger students. Feedback from students included: 94% Felt like they were an important member of Everyday Leaders; 100% Felt like they belonged in Project GRAD Akron programs and activities and the programs were important to them; and, 100% agreed, Project GRAD Akron helps me understand how to be a successful leader in my school.



Class of 2026: 127 seniors at Buchtel and East CLCs were served through our 3C classes. Of these, 101 students plan to enroll in college. 63 students completed the Bridge to College Workshop prior to graduation and have joined our **GRADs Persist Program**. 20 scholars received the **Project GRAD Akron Scholarship!**



GRADs Persist: 78 college scholars participated in GRADs Persist during the 2025-2026 school year, receiving on-going support services, navigating campus-based services, mental health services, and financial aid services. Three of our Scholars graduated from college this spring! In August we gathered at House Three Thirty to wish our scholars well and provided College Care Gift Bags as they prepared to head off to college. We look forward to supporting 127 scholars in the 2026 - 2027 school year with on-going support services.



2026 Bridge to GRADuation Summer Academy: 19 students participated in a one week summer intensive in August focused on career and college planning, community service, and leadership development. The program will continue into the fall with community service in action.



GRAD Mentors: Celebrating 11 Years! Since 2015:

Graduation Really Achieves Dreams

Our middle and high school programs have been generously supported by **The GAR Foundation, FirstEnergy Foundation, The Welty Family Foundation, Huntington Foundation, and Akron Public Schools**