

Mastery's Endorsement of 2014

Mastery lauds Dr. Ackerman's bold vision for the students of Philadelphia and endorses the Imagine 2014 plan fully. Mastery's mission—*All students learn the academic and personal skills they need to succeed in higher education, to compete in the global economy, and to pursue their dreams.*—encompasses all students, and Dr. Ackerman's plan puts this goal within reach for thousands of our city's students.

Mastery agrees with the Superintendent that the issue is urgent and the time is now. That, indeed, our educational house is on fire. Mastery believes that educational inequity is the most pressing social problem facing our country—the civil rights issue of our day. Mastery exists to solve the problem. We have proven through our successful turnarounds of previously failing schools that all children can achieve. We believe it is imperative that every child receives a quality, college-preparatory education, and we have shown that it can be done. The city's graduation rates alone underscore that it must be done now.

Mastery is a network of exceptionally high performing urban schools that demonstrate that all students—not just those attending selective schools—can succeed and achieve academically.

Our purpose is to raise the bar for urban education, and we believe that Imagine 2014 is a start toward this vital objective. Our children deserve nothing less than our motto: "Excellence. No Excuses."