**Help Our Schools Close the Achievement Gap in Math**

An anonymous donor has generously agreed to **match up to $25,000 in donations to the Newton Schools Foundation during the month of March** to support the Calculus Project!!! An ambitious effort to narrow the achievement gap in mathematics, this program in Newton’s middle and high schools aims to increase the number of African American, Hispanic and low-income students who enroll in and successfully complete calculus in high school.

[Donate today!](https://www.paypal.com/us/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_flow&SESSION=uIYVudCLllP8a4U9l9dRquvqNyLWe7WozhtjIVKFKovdbYdMU-i2IotxYLy&dispatch=5885d80a13c0db1f8e263663d3faee8defcd6970d4fd9d661117ac2649af92bb)

Research indicates that success in higher-level high school mathematics is strongly associated with college enrollment and is the strongest predictor of college completion.

Students participating in the Calculus Project attend intensive, small group summer classes designed to boost their math skills, provide enrichment activities, and foster relationships. Throughout the school year, students meet regularly with mentors and receive three hours of weekly after-school tutoring. The Calculus Project uses the Pride Curriculum, which is designed to shift self-perceptions about academic accomplishment as students gain skills and competence.

Students enter the Calculus Project as rising 7th graders and continue through high school to graduation. Currently 95 students have participated since the program’s 2012 launch, and that number continues to grow.

**The program has already met with great success.** In 2014-2015, only three African American students in the Calculus Project were in 8th grade accelerated math class; in 2015-2016 that number increased to 12 students. Of the 20 current 9th graders in the Calculus Project, six are enrolled in honors math and 13 are enrolled at the advanced college prep level, significant increases over previous years.

**The Calculus Project costs more than $100,000 per year,** and the cost will continue to increase as the first class, currently in 9th grade, proceeds through grade 12. While the cost is partially covered by the Newton Public Schools operating budget, the school department relies on NSF to help support the expenses of tutoring, the summer program, enrichment activities and modest program supplies.

[***Make your gift count twice when you donate to Newton Schools Foundation during the March match challenge. Double your impact to close the achievement gap in our schools.***](https://www.paypal.com/us/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_flow&SESSION=zoRvtusPK6wm3vS2Qvv2T3tyO76E8lSMGUHObcMmdFWTMj7WwjclXoE5nTy&dispatch=5885d80a13c0db1f8e263663d3faee8defcd6970d4fd9d661117ac2649af92bb)

**Thank you for your partnership in preserving Newton’s commitment to educational excellence!**