



July 29, 2016

Dear Friends,

Happy Summer! Check out this fantastic [video](#) made by [Peer Group Connection \(PGC\)](#) peer leaders at Morris Academy for Collaborative Studies (MACS), one of our esteemed New York City partnership high schools located in the Bronx. CSS and MACS began collaborating in the fall of 2014 under the Community Schools initiative through the NYC Department of Education and this year (2015-16) we together launched PGC at MACS. The video was directed and edited by PGC peer leader Christopher Bello, who graduated from MACS in June 2016. Christopher, who came to the U.S. from the Dominican Republic when he was 12 years old speaking little English, will in a few short weeks be the first person in his family to go to college. "Motivation is the key to success," says Christopher. "So no matter what happens, when you are doing something you will be able to complete the task if you stay motivated." We're so proud of Christopher and all of the graduates from MACS' Class of 2016!

I'm also thrilled to announce our second consecutive grant from [The Fordham Street Foundation](#) to expand our efforts to train and



mobilize New York City students of color to be lifelong leaders with the skills that are proven to result in academic success. Last year, a generous grant from the Foundation enabled us to bring PGC to the Eagle Academy for Young Men in the Bronx and Rockaway Collegiate High School in Queens. This new investment will help us bring PGC to Bronx River High School and Bronx Academy for Software Engineering. We are so grateful for this partnership.

Finally, please check out [open positions](#) at CSS.

All the best,

Daniel F. Oscar
CEO

P.S. As always, if you'd like additional information about anything you've read, simply hit reply and let me know. I look forward to hearing from you!