

## DEMOCRACY PREP CHARTER SCHOOLS



*Democracy Prep Public Schools | 1767 Park Avenue, 4th Floor New York, New York 10035*

Democracy Prep Public Schools are a network of open-enrollment, high-performing, public charter schools operating in New York City, Camden, New Jersey, the District of Columbia, Baton Rouge, and Las Vegas. Founded in 2005 and opening their first school in 2006, Democracy Prep set out to prove what is possible for public education in America.

Their flagship school, Democracy Prep Charter Middle School, first opened its doors in August 2006. By 2009, DPCS became the highest performing school in Central Harlem and was ranked the number one public middle school in New York City.

Ten years later, Democracy Prep has grown from a handful of sixth-grade classrooms to educating over 5,000 students in 17 schools and two K-12 programs. They enroll their students through a random lottery and ensure that all students at all grade levels are prepared for success in college and a life of active citizenship.

## **DEMOCRACY PREP AND JUPITER ED**

Jupiter Ed currently services 52 schools comprising of 12,145 Jupiter iO users in the Democracy Prep Schools. Jupiter iO provides the faculty, staff and learning community of Democracy Prep with a solution that:

- Provides interim and quantifiable assessments.
- Supports comparative academic measurements that drive effective instruction and decision-making.
- Enhances online learning through the learning management system.

## **THE DEMOCRACY PREP APPROACH**

The incredible growth of the scholars is possible through the tireless and dedicated work of the educators who make up their DREAM Team.

By proving that students, regardless of what zip code they are born into, can perform at high academic levels, they seek to transform not only the lives of the students at Democracy Prep but also the expectation of what public schools can achieve.

Their mission is to educate responsible “citizen-scholars” for success in the college of their choice and a life of active citizenship. The Democracy Prep model is built on the best practices of high-performing charter networks nationwide. Their framework exists to remind educators that they have no excuse for failing to educate their scholars. These networks have proven for more than 20 years that demographics do not determine destiny and that low-income students can be successful in the college of their choice.

All Democracy Prep scholars attend academic classes for at least eight hours each day for 190 days each year and are offered additional summer and Saturday academies for extra support. Should a scholar attend Democracy Prep from kindergarten through graduation, he or she would receive more than six years in additional educational time than students in the average traditional public school.

All Democracy Prep scholars study two hours of math, three hours of literacy, one hour of science, and one hour of social studies every day as well as art, theater, music, health, and physical education. In their high schools, Korean language, speech and debate, a cappella music, and AP courses are offered to all students.

They are committed to attracting, developing, and retaining exceptional adults to work in and for their schools. Democracy Prep staff members undergo extensive performance reviews, receive weekly professional development during the school year and three weeks of intensive professional development in the summer, and are guided by explicit career ladders and opportunities for growth.

Not only does Democracy Prep focus on bridging the academic achievement gap, they are also committed to narrowing the “civic achievement gap”. Each Election Day, Democracy Prep elementary and middle school students participate in the school system’s “Get Out The Vote” campaign by standing on high-trafficked street corners and handing out flyers that have encouraged thousands of Harlem, Camden, Washington, D.C., and Baton Rouge residents to hit the polls.

Democracy Prep places a strong emphasis on academic achievement, while also having a unique and explicit focus on preparing their scholars to become active citizens and leaders in democracy from an early age. Their school motto perfectly exemplifies the ideals and beliefs that Democracy Prep wants to instill in their students—“Work Hard. Go to College. Change the World!”.



### **DATA DRIVEN DECISION MAKING**

Democracy Prep Charter Schools do not educate using their gut; they educate using quantifiable, proven methods backed by thoughtful measurement.

With the reporting features within Jupiter iO, Democracy Prep utilizes a sophisticated feedback loop of frequent data collection and analysis including interim assessments, and comparative academic measures to drive effective instruction and decision-making.

“The new export features in Jupiter iO are great! They will have massive positive impact on our work and the power of the information we have access to.”—Mark Cheng, IT

The Jupiter iO Learning Analytics Solution provides Democracy Prep Schools the tools to turn data into decisions. With these tools, school administrators can determine: Which curriculum is better? Which teaching methods are more effective? Which students need more help? The ready-made reports make it easy to analyze and to:

- Compare schools and classes.
- Compare students by gender, race/ethnicity, and other custom groups.
- Utilize pre-tests, and control groups.

## **CONSIDER JUPITER ED**

Jupiter strives to make teaching and learning easier for everyone: teachers, administrators, students, and parents. Jupiter iO is a fully integrated LMS, Gradebook, Analytics, and SIS solution. Jupiter iO is cloud-hosted for maximum security and easy implementation. The seamless integration provides the ability to test students online and analyze the results instantly, without any data entry or importing. Track student progress in real time, and keep students and parents up-to-date on grades and homework. Select online lessons for each student’s individual needs.

“I am a strong advocate for Jupiter use in each school because of the consistency, reliability, and flexibility of it as a platform. I love the ability to export granular data like the assignments table or the grades table. Total game changer.”—Ryan Howell, Technology Coordinator

Jupiter Ed has proven to be the innovation leader in education technology. Jupiter Ed currently serves schools in all 50 states, totaling 3.9 million students.