



## Florida Education Funders Meeting

June 12, 2024; 9:00 – 3:00ET

Bonnet Springs Park

GiveWell Community Foundation Nature Center

400 Bonnet Springs Blvd.; Lakeland, Florida 33815

**Guiding Statement:** *Florida Education Funders will support a culture of high expectations for all students, in and out of school, from early childhood through postsecondary education, leading to career success.*

### Florida Education Funders Roles:

1. *Provide a learning agenda on Florida-specific issues aligned with education funders' goals.*
2. *Work on a shared advocacy agenda.*
3. *Network, potentially leading to deeper programmatic learning & funding collaborations.*

### Meeting Objectives:

- ✓ Provide site visit opportunity to learn about Academy Prep, Lakeland.
- ✓ Learn about the unique collaborative approach to educational support in Polk County.
- ✓ Understand the impact data is having on a Central Florida education collaborative.
- ✓ Gain insights into what to expect in the 2025 legislative session.

### Agenda

**9:00** Site Visit – Academy Prep, Lakeland – Details on Page 2

**11:00** Welcome and Introductions

*Callie Neslund, President/CEO, GiveWell Community Foundation*

*Jesse Coraggio, FL Education Funders Chair, Senior Vice President, Community Impact, Community Foundation Tampa Bay*

*Ashley Dietz, President & CEO, Florida Philanthropic Network*

**11:30** Polk County: An All Hands on Deck Approach to Education

*Callie Neslund, President/CEO, GiveWell Community Foundation*

*Dr. Melody Rider, President, Lakeland Leads*

**12:15** Networking Lunch

**1:00** CFEED's Journey from Ideas to Insights to Impacts

*Ashton Terry, Sr.; CFEED Senior Manager, The School District Osceola County, FL*

*Michael Holt; CFEED Technical Partner, Midtown Consulting*

**2:00** 2025 Legislation Session – What to Expect

*Matt Herndon, Local Government & Community Affairs Consultant, RSA Consulting Group*

**2:30** A Look at Data

*Jesse Coraggio*

**2:40** Discussion / Networking

*Jesse Coraggio facilitates*

**3:00** Adjourn **Next Florida Education Funders Meeting: August 14; 10:00 – 12:00ET Virtual**

## Site Visit

### Tour Academy Prep, Lakeland

**1021 Lakeland Hills Blvd, Lakeland, FL 33805**

Academy Prep Centers for Education are private, non-profit middle schools serving low-income students in grades 5-8. At Academy Prep we are committed to caring for the whole child. We are improving educational equity by offering our students, some of the most marginalized children in our community, access and opportunities to academic and social-emotional support. We know that academic achievement will not only change the trajectory of a student's life, but also the life of their family and community. Academy Prep works with our students, who are all low-income, and our graduates, who are predominantly first-generation college-going students, to overcome any challenge or obstacle they encounter during their educational journey so that they not only enroll in college but graduate. Academy Prep's vision is to achieve academic excellence from middle school through college; foster personal integrity; and make a lifelong commitment to service in their communities.

Every student attends on full scholarship - \$20,000 annually per student--raised from individuals, foundations, corporations, and organizations. Each student receives up to four years of tuition-free, college-preparatory education. Students attend up to 11 hours a day, 6 days a week, 11 months each year. Class size is typically 20 or less with most courses taught separately by gender. Through these core components of the Academy Prep model, we are working towards eliminating generational poverty through education.

Selected Academy Prep results:

- 99% of Academy Prep graduates have graduated from high school on time
- 83% of Academy Prep graduates have enrolled in college
- 86% of Academy Prep class of 2023 were at or above grade level in Reading on the nationally
- 77% of Academy Prep class of 2023 were at or above grade level in Math on the nationally

**8:30 – 9:00 – Arrival, Check-in & Refreshments**

**9:00 – Program Begins**

**Depart** Academy Prep **no later than 10:30** for **Florida Education Funders Meeting** at

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400 Bonnet Springs Blvd.; Lakeland, Florida 33815

**PARKING MAP ATTACHED**

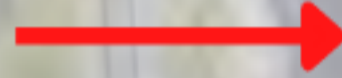
**Fox Plumbing  
(Overflow Parking)**

**Bon Air St.**

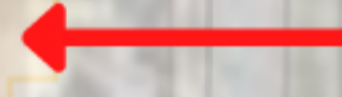
**Parking**



**Check In Here**

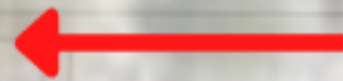


**Check In Here**



**Lakeland Hills Blvd.**

**Cars Enter Here**



**GYM**

**N. Iowa Ave.**

**Memorial Blvd. (US 92)**