KIPP New Jersey’s fourth elementary school educates grades K-4th in Newark’s South Ward.

ABOUT KIPP LIFE ACADEMY
KIPP Life Academy is our network’s fourth elementary school, and our first turn-around campus, assuming responsibility for students at the Bragaw Avenue school. KIPP Life opened in 2014 and will continue adding new kindergarteners each year, reaching its full size in year five.

ABOUT KIPP NEWARK
KIPP Newark schools are part of the nationally recognized “Knowledge Is Power Program” non-profit network of college preparatory, public charter schools educating elementary, middle, and high school students. In 2002, KIPP Newark first opened its doors in Newark’s South Ward as a single class of 80 fifth graders and has since grown to teach over 4,777 students in grades K-12 in Newark. 87% of KIPP Newark students currently qualify for free or reduced meals.

KIPP Newark alumni earn college degrees at more than 3 times the national average for students from low-income families. By offering highly effective educators with strong bonds to families, more time in school learning, services that support a variety of student needs, and a culture focused on achievement, our students are on the path to and through college.

“I really want our scholars to see their full potential. They know that I’m there for them. They know that I love what I do.”
-KIPP LIFE ACADEMY TEACHER

94.6% ELIGIBLE FOR FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE LUNCH
9.3% QUALIFY FOR SPED SERVICES
91% AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDENTS
3% LATINO STUDENTS
6% OTHER
559 STUDENTS SERVED
K-4 GRADES
WHAT MAKES KIPP LIFE ACADEMY UNIQUE?

PART OF THE TEAM AND FAMILY
KIPP Life Academy was founded by a former KIPP SPARK Academy teacher as a district-school-turnaround. Assuming Bragaw Avenue’s students, KIPP Life Academy continues the tradition of excellence started by the three KIPP elementary schools that came before it in Newark – while remaining a unique part of the Newark educational landscape.

EXCELLENT TEACHERS
We model the love for continuous growth and learning. Teachers receive weekly professional development, observations, and coaching. We believe that by developing teachers we can positively impact the landscape of what is possible in the classroom.

SOCIAL JUSTICE
Students learn the power of social justice through an integrated arts and service learning program. Through dance, music, and language acquisition, scholars learn the history and impact of change makers that came before us. They will then use this knowledge in order to create a service learning project that gives back to their community in Newark.

HOW ARE STUDENTS PROGRESSING?

PROGRESS REPORTING
Students are tested throughout the year to make sure they are learning, so we don’t just rely on state tests to know if they are on track. Teachers have custom-built dashboards to make this data actionable on a daily and weekly basis. We collect hundreds of data points on each of our students throughout the year, and send them to parents weekly to keep them informed of their students’ progress. Twice a year, we use the nationally-normed MAP test to measure our progress against the nation.

RESULTS THAT MATTER
Our students take the MAP test in the winter and spring to measure their progress on a nationally-normed scale. Our elementary students typically finish elementary school around the 70th percentile in math nationally and the 60th percentile in reading, after starting closer to the 25th percentile. They start fifth grade well ahead of other fifth graders in Newark.

MEET ANDREW CHISHOLM,
SCHOOL LEADER

Andrew Chisholm joined KIPP NJ in 2013 as a founding Kindergarten teacher at KIPP Seek Academy. Andrew was also the grade level chair of kindergarten at Seek, a grade that continues to earn the highest levels of achievement in the network on math summative assessments as well as Strategic Teaching and Evaluation of Progress or STEP. In the 2016-17 school year, Andrew served as Assistant School Leader and Interim School Leader at KIPP SPARK Academy, the oldest elementary school in KIPP NJ. During Andrew’s tenure at KIPP SPARK, the school consistently achieved some of the highest standards mastery results, regionally and nationally, using the Eureka and Wheatley Curriculums as well as significant growth in reading using STEP assessment.