



**P** 856.966.9600  
**W** www.kippnj.org/schools/kipp-lanning-square-middle/  
**A** 525 Clinton Street Camden, NJ 08103

**OPENED** 2015  
**LEADER** Bridgit Cusato-Rosa  
**HOURS** 8:00AM-3:45PM (M, Tu, Th, F)  
8:00AM-12:45PM (W)



## KIPP's first middle school in Camden opened its doors to 372 scholars in 2015.

### ABOUT KIPP LANNING SQUARE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Located in Camden's Lanning Square section, KIPP Lanning Square Middle School (KLSM) was founded in 2015 and today educates 452 students in grades 5-8. As part of the Lanning Square community, KLSM scholars grow academically by tapping into a GRIT-filled spirit and have the opportunity to join numerous after-school programs that will help to grow their myriad of talents. Each day, scholars realize their true potential both in and out of the classroom as one team, one family to change the face of Camden.

### ABOUT KIPP COOPER NORCROSS ACADEMY

New Jersey's first renaissance school, the KIPP Cooper Norcross Academy in Camden, N.J., was established under the state's Urban Hope Act, which created a pilot program to provide students in three struggling school districts - Camden,

Newark and Trenton - access to new, quality public schools in their communities. The Academy was created in partnership with KIPP, one of the most renowned, national networks of free, open-enrollment, college preparatory public charter schools; The Cooper Foundation, the charitable arm of Cooper University Health Care, and the Norcross Foundation. Our 110,000-square-foot campus opened in 2015 and provides guaranteed enrollment for students in kindergarten through 9th grade living in the Lanning Square and Cooper Plaza neighborhoods. The Camden network includes KIPP Lanning Square Primary, KIPP Lanning Square Middle, KIPP Whittier Middle, and KIPP High School (currently growing to serve students in grades 9-12). These schools collectively educate 1,773 students, with the goal of eventually enrolling more than 3,800 students across five schools.

"I feel like I'm no longer alone in fighting for her future, but that I have a whole family alongside me." - KIPP LANNING SQUARE MIDDLE PARENT

**96%**  
ELIGIBLE FOR FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE LUNCH

**17%**  
QUALIFY FOR SPED SERVICES

**51%**  
AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDENTS

**36%**  
LATINX STUDENTS

**12%**  
MULTIRACIAL STUDENTS

**452**  
# OF STUDENTS

**5-8**  
GRADES



# WHAT MAKES KIPP LANNING SQUARE MIDDLE UNIQUE?

## WE ARE CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY

KLSM scholars are pushed to realize their true potential in and out of the classroom as one team, one family to change the face of Camden. The mornings begin with community circle where the scholars dive into the school values, college presentations and issues faced in society. As part of the 'city invincible,' KLSM scholars truly embody the relentless spirit of Camden and believe that with hard work and determination, success is the only option.

## TEAM AND FAMILY

As one team and one family, teachers, parents and scholars work together to ensure the needs of each scholar is met. All scholars belong to family groups that meet regularly to focus on character development. These groups allow scholars and teachers to build strong relationships that help to push academic rigor and

build overall character of our scholars. Additionally, there are numerous evening events where the team and family come together to celebrate each other. Some of the events include: Brother to Brother, Sister to Sister, teacher vs. scholar games and numerous performances.

## TO AND THROUGH COLLEGE

KLSM scholars dive into rigorous academic material infused with love and joy to ensure 100% of scholars are on the path to and through college. Classrooms at KLSM are named after colleges, grade levels are named after the year scholars will graduate from college and scholars have numerous opportunities to visit and learn about colleges throughout the year. Scholars are also encouraged to join after-school programs that strengthen their talents in such areas as: track, basketball, dance, band, art club, soccer, field hockey, drama, computers and so much more.



# HOW ARE STUDENTS PROGRESSING?

## PROGRESS REPORTING

Scholars 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 scholars throughout the year, and send them to parents weekly to keep them informed of their scholars' progress. Twice a year, we use the nationally-normed

MAP test to measure our progress against the nation.

## RESULTS

Our scholars take the MAP test in the fall and spring to measure their progress on a nationally-normed scale. Though we focus on character, our scholars also receive an education that prepares them for college and beyond.

## VALUES



GRIT



ZEST



SELF-CONTROL



OPTIMISM



GRATITUDE



CURIOSITY



SOCIAL  
INTELLIGENCE

## MEET BRIDGIT CUSATO-ROSA, SCHOOL LEADER

*Bridgit Cusato-Rosa was born and raised in southern New Jersey and attended Drew University where she studied Sociology and Latin American Politics. She then completed her J.D. at Rutgers Law in Newark. She taught 6th and 8th grade at Dr. William H. Horton School in Newark for six years. She then worked for North Star Academy for 5 years as a 6th ELA teacher, grade level chair, and instructional coach. Nine years ago, she was given the opportunity to return home and work as a principal in the city of Camden and she has loved every minute of it! As the founding principal of KLSM, she enjoys being a part of the educational revolution in Camden.*