2014 Teaching Staff!
Breakthrough Manchester's students are fortunate to be taught, advised and supported by 20 talented high school and college-age teachers this summer, who in turn are observed, mentored and supported by four professional Instructional Coaches. In the Students Teaching Students model, all parties benefit from intensive coaching, personal growth and academic challenge in a fun, upbeat environment. Positive risk-taking and “leaning into discomfort” are mantras that encourage everyone to stretch and learn in the safety of Breakthrough's small, close-knit community.

Come See Breakthrough Manchester in Action!
Want to see what Breakthrough Manchester is all about? Come visit on one of our Visitor's Days, offered at different times to accommodate busy schedules. Options are Wednesday, July 16 from 8:00-9:30 or Wednesday, July 30 from 11:30 to 1:00. Or, if neither time works, we can set up a special visit as long as we know in advance. Please RSVP to Becky Berk, Executive Director, at becky.berk@derryfield.org. (If you are a student or teacher alum of Breakthrough, please visit on Friday, July 11 at our Alumni Reunion and Barbeque - see below!)

Calling All BTM Student and Teacher Alumni!
Come back to Breakthrough Manchester and re-connect with current and former Breakthrough students, teachers and staff! Celebrate with Breakthrough graduating seniors who will attend college in the fall of 2014! Plenty of good food and great company to share. Be there - this Friday, July 11, 6:00-8:00 pm. Please RSVP to Tina White, College Bound Coordinator, at twhite@derryfield.org. Reunion will be held at the Derryfield Middle School, 2108 River Road, Manchester, NH.

A Research and Advocacy Project for our Oldest Summer Students
For the first time this summer, a culminating research and advocacy project for our oldest "STAR Academy" students centers on understanding and building student commitment to Breakthrough as the program implements an age shift up from 6-7 grade to 7-9 grade, along with a requirement of three summers rather than two. The summer-long project has three inter-related components:

1. Reflection on Breakthrough Manchester: STAR students will conduct interviews and focus groups with current 7th grade Breakthrough Manchester students designed to answer the following guiding questions: What do students like about Breakthrough Manchester? What are the students' favorite parts about Breakthrough? What components of Breakthrough help students most during the school year? How do students feel supported by the Breakthrough
community? What keeps students wanting to come back?

2. Learning from Other Breakthrough Sites: STAR students will interview a Director from another site and will Skype with older Breakthrough students in a different city to answer the following questions: What is your favorite part about your Breakthrough site? What does your site do that makes you unique? How many summers do students come to Breakthrough? What keeps them coming back?

3. Putting an Advocacy Presentation Together: Research from sections 1 and 2 will be used to assemble and present findings and recommendations to a group of Breakthrough stakeholders, including: What are three or four things that Breakthrough Manchester should keep doing and why? Based on student feedback and suggestions from other sites, what are three or four things that Breakthrough Manchester should consider adding or changing, and why?

Advocating for oneself, one's opinions and one's causes are important life skills - ones that build on the competencies that are introduced to our STAR students through a curriculum called Pathways. Demonstrated ability to formulate and present coherent recommendations based on data, research and anecdote is a principal objective of this project. Stay tuned!

*Breakthrough Manchester at The Derryfield School is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.*

*Gifts to Breakthrough are tax-deductible to the amount allowable by law.*