

EASTSIDE PATHWAYS PARTNERS

Our partners include the following organizations and we continue to grow. If you would like to learn more or if your organization is interested in becoming an Eastside Pathways partner, please email info@eastsidepathways.org



This Baseline Summary Report was developed by Eastside Pathways and is endorsed by our partners. For the full Baseline Report, please visit www.eastsidepathways.org/baselinerreport.

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EVERY CHILD A SUCCESS

Baseline Report Summary

December 2013



All children have hopes and dreams for the future.



But even in Bellevue, some children are left behind.



Failing even one child is unacceptable.



Our community must do things differently. So we are.



We are starting early.



We are working together to support every child step-by-step.



We are helping families and removing obstacles.



We have a common mission, so we won't give up.



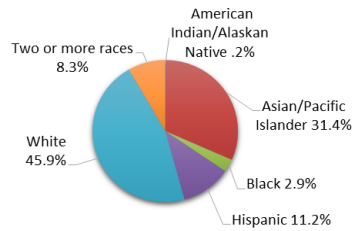
Because all children deserve a promising future.

Table of Contents

Letter from our ED and Board Chair2
 Overview of Goals3
 Our First Work: Grade Level Reading.....4
 Going Forward5
 Healthy Start6
 Physical and Mental Health7
 Academic Success8
 Grade-Level Indicators9-10
 HS & Beyond, Environmental Indicators11
 Eastside Pathways Partners.....12

Race / Ethnicity of Bellevue School District

Students 2012



Source: OSPI, Washington State Report Card.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND BOARD CHAIR

Dear Community:

We are pleased to present this Baseline Report as our first report to the community.

Bellevue is a city in transition with growing racial, ethnic, and economic diversity. Minorities comprised 98% of population growth from 2000-2010. As of 2010, the majority of students in the Bellevue School District (BSD) are not white. About 30% of students speak a first language other than English, more than 80 languages are spoken, and 20% of students come from low-income households.

We are proud that so many different people call Bellevue home. We want everyone to feel welcome. We also want everyone to have the same opportunities.

Community leaders project that, in five years, two-thirds of jobs in Washington State will require post-secondary education. But we have students who aren't even finishing high school! What will happen to them? We won't accept the idea of any child failing. We *can* fix this and we *will* fix this. Dozens of organizations have joined together through Eastside Pathways to provide our children and their families with the support they need from birth until career.

This Baseline Report Summary highlights where we are at the *start* of our efforts. Using data, we will monitor how our strategies impact student outcomes. We will celebrate, replicate, and expand our successes. We will evaluate our failures, remove barriers, and keep trying until we get it right. Because failure is not an option for our children.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Cherrington
Executive Director

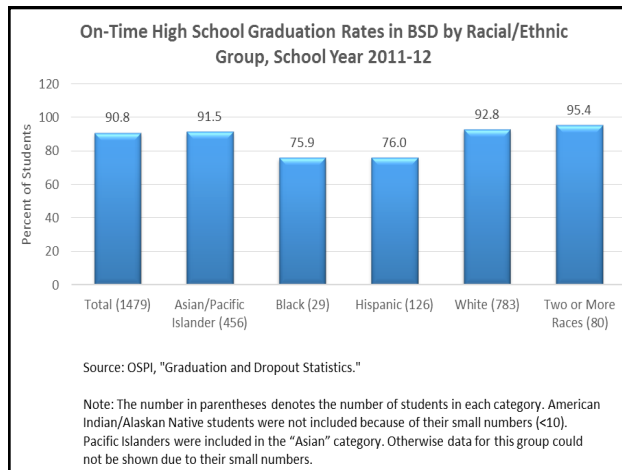
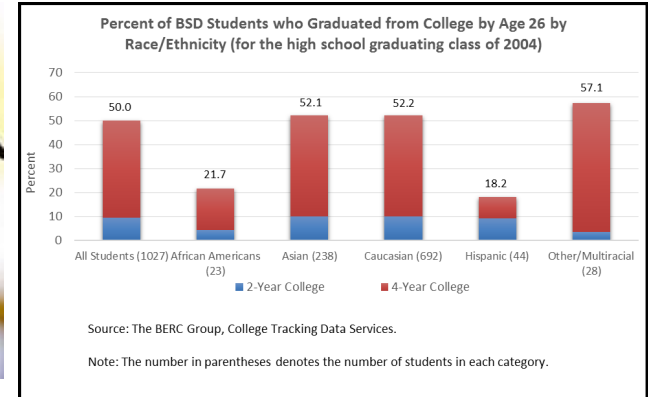
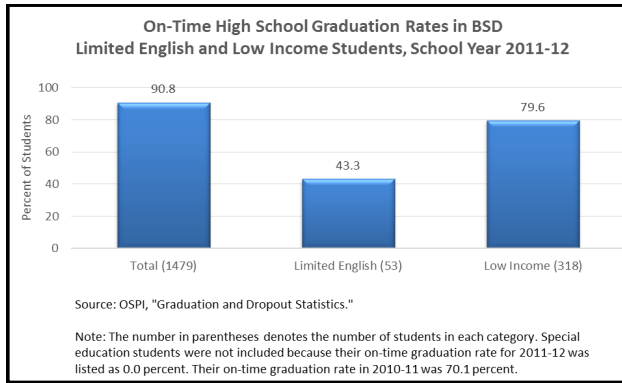
Janet Levinger
Board Chair



Want to learn more? Read the complete Eastside Pathways Baseline Report: www.eastsidepathways.org/baselinerreport

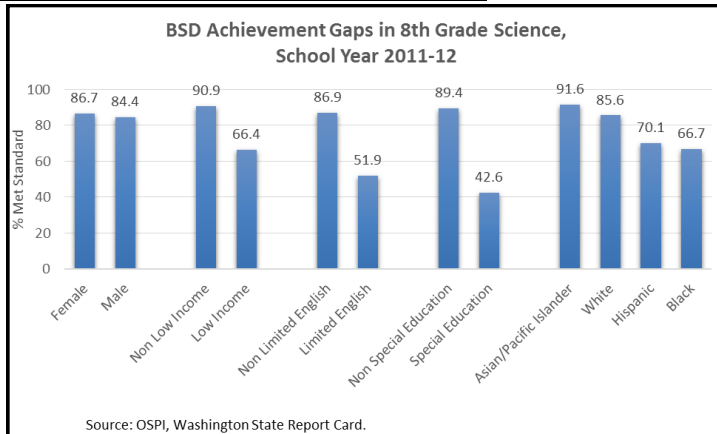
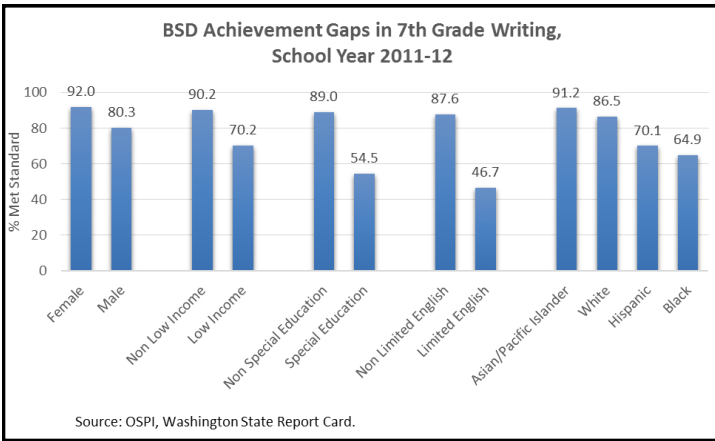
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION AND BEYOND

Data for on-time graduation rates, that is graduating within four years of starting ninth grade, reveal a significant gap for English-language learners and a smaller but still troubling gap for low-income and some minority students. College graduation rates for all students are low given projections that 67% of jobs in Washington State will require college or a post-secondary credential. The disparity amongst ethnic groups is of considerable concern.



PROCIENCY FOR GRADE-LEVEL INDICATORS GRADES 7 & 8

Once again, data show that low income, special needs, English-language learners, and some minority students are not having the same success as other students in Bellevue School District.



"If closing the gap in third grade reading achievement can be done anywhere, it can be done in Bellevue. Show the country — show us all — that Bellevue can and should lead the way."

Ralph Smith, Managing Director, Campaign for Grade-Level Reading
Senior VP, Annie E. Casey Foundation

OVERVIEW OF GOALS FOR EASTSIDE PATHWAYS

The Eastside Pathways Partnership identified six goals and 70 indicators to determine our progress. A data team, comprised of backbone and partner staff, chose a subset for three of the six goals to include in this report. These indicators met the following criteria: they came from a trusted source and are reliably available at the community level. As we identify more sources of data, additional indicators will be included.

GOAL AREAS	CORE INDICATORS	BASELINE	TRENDS	TGT			
Areas Eastside Pathways seeks to change / improve.	Outcome measures directly tied to our goals and used to assess the effectiveness of our collective efforts.	2011-12 school year. For comparison in future years.					
Healthy Start	Births with late or no prenatal care	5.6%	↑	↓			
	Percent of kindergartners with complete immunizations	86.2%	↑	↑			
	Child care programs at a Quality Level of Excellence	0	Just starting	↑			
Parent and Family Support	TBD			↑			
Mental and Physical Health and Safety		<i>Grade</i>	8	10	12		
	60 minutes of daily physical activity	33%	19%	18%	Mixed	↑	
	Alcohol use by teens/ young adults	7%	18%	42%	Mixed	↓	
Social and Emotional Skills	TBD					↑	
Academic and Work Success	Kindergarten readiness (TBD)	TBD	TBD	↑			
	3 rd grade reading	83.1%	↔	100%			
	5 th grade math	81.9%	↔	100%			
	7 th grade writing	87.5%	↑	100%			
	8 th grade science	85.5%	↑	100%			
	Graduate from high school on time	90.8%	↔	↑			
	Postsecondary credential by 26	50%	n/a	↑			
	Career readiness (TBD)	TBD	TBD	↑			
<i>These targets align with the Bellevue School District's instructional initiatives</i>							
Community Involvement	TBD			↑			
ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS		BASELINE					
Rate of homelessness among BSD students		10.0 per 1,000 students					
Percent of students eligible for free- or reduced-price meals		21.6%					
Rate of child abuse and neglect in accepted referrals to child protective services		17.8 per 1,000 students					



OUR FIRST WORK: THE CAMPAIGN FOR GRADE LEVEL READING

Eastside Pathways' first collaborative effort is the Campaign for Grade Level Reading (CGLR). The goal of this campaign is to have 100% of third grade students reading at or above grade level by school year 2015-16.

Third grade is an important time when students move from "learning to read" to "reading to learn." CGLR consists of three strategies:

School Readiness: Children who arrive at kindergarten without the skills they need for school face a "readiness" gap and many children do not bridge this gap to be successful readers by third grade. Eastside Pathways Partners are expanding opportunities and services to educate parents and caregivers about healthy child development and to increase the number of programs that offer early learning opportunities and quality child care.

Attendance: Chronic absence and tardiness starting in kindergarten is associated with lower academic performance. Eastside Pathways Partners are working to make sure parents know how important it is to get their elementary-aged students to school and on time.

In September 2013, Eastside Pathways began by focusing on tardiness. We hung posters and banners at schools and sent home postcards to families. The message: "Right Place, Right Time, Ready to Learn." Seven languages were offered and the postcards advised families where to go for more help or additional information. Some schools have shown promising results, for example, Newport Heights Elementary reports that tardiness went from 5.8% in 2011-12 to 2.8% in Oct. 2013.

Summer and Extended Learning: Over the summer, students forget some of what they learned during the school year. Getting behind over the summer in elementary school is shown to impact high school graduation rates and college attendance. Bellevue School District offers summer school, but cannot meet all the demand. Eastside Pathways Partners are working to offer more quality summer and out-of-school programs.

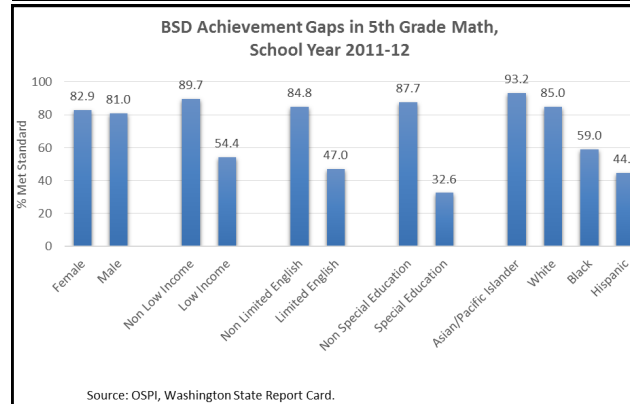
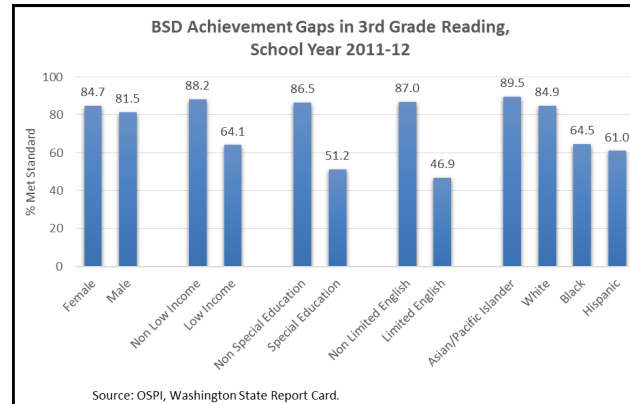
In Summer 2013, Eastside Pathways Partners teamed up to provide the Reading Rangers summer camp, which included fun activities as well as a quality reading program, to at-risk students. Teachers and parents report that students read better and are more motivated.



Example post card used for Eastside Pathways' tardiness program in 16 schools.

PROCIENCY FOR GRADE-LEVEL INDICATORS GRADES 3 & 5

The graphs on this and the next pages strikingly emphasize why Eastside Pathways exists. While most students meet grade-level standards, many who are low-income, English-language learners, special needs, and of some minority groups face challenges. In addition, proficiency has been flat for the past seven years for third grade reading and fifth grade math, though it has gone up for seventh grade writing and eighth grade science. Moreover, the gaps have remained stubbornly persistent. Eastside Pathways and its partners are dedicated to closing these gaps by implementing strategies to help all children have the opportunity for a successful life.



MARIA: CAMP EASES SUMMER "SLIDE"

Angie Ramirez was the perfect camp counselor for Spanish-speaking Maria.* Spanish was also Angie's first language. Angie began the summer reading stories to Maria in English but would talk about them in Spanish. Maria understood the stories – she was just uncertain about saying things in the less familiar language. Later, Angie would ask Maria questions in English and Maria would respond in English – feeling more able, after only five weeks of Reading Rangers Camp, to express herself and to enter first grade with confidence.

Maria was one of 45 kids in summer camp coordinated by BSD, the YMCA, and Eastside Pathways. Kids participated in traditional camp activities including outdoor play and arts and crafts as well as programs focused on reading and writing. Maria's first grade teacher reports better confidence, participation, and scores.

*Not her real name



EVERY CHILD PREPARED FOR ACADEMIC AND WORK SUCCESS

Eastside Pathways aligned its indicators for academic success with the goals of the Bellevue School District's instructional initiatives. We also added an indicator for the number of students who graduate from college by age 26. Our goals are:

- Ready for kindergarten
- 100% proficiency in reading for third graders by 2015-16
- 100% proficiency in math for fifth graders by school year 2017-18
- 100% proficiency in writing for seventh graders by 2017-18
- 100% proficiency in science for eighth graders by 2017-18
- 100% on-time graduation (graduating within four years of ninth grade) by 2017-18
- Post-secondary credential by age 26

Why these indicators and goals? These indicators align with the Bellevue School District. Research has shown that proficiency at these grade levels is important to students' success as they continue into high school and post-secondary education. Students who get behind often have trouble catching up.

How are we doing? Bellevue, as a whole, does better than Washington State in all of these indicators and the trends are fairly flat. When the data are disaggregated, a disturbing gap is seen for low-income, limited English speaking, special needs, and some minority students.

Going forward: Eastside Pathways and its partners focus on these students to ensure they and their families have the support needed to be as successful as the rest of the student body. Our future work will use data to identify and implement programs to reduce the gap while also increasing the performance of all of our students.

USING DATA TO IDENTIFY PROGRAMS

Eastside Pathways partners looked carefully at the data for third grade reading and saw that tardiness was more highly correlated with reading proficiency than attendance. So the focus of the effort became tardiness and engagement. Partners working on this strategy are: City of Bellevue, English Language Learners Alliance, YMCA, VIBES, and Bellevue School District. Special thanks to the Sammamish High School Graphics Dept.

MIKE: ON TIME, READY TO LEARN

Second-grader Mike was always late to school. His single mom struggled to get him out of the house on time. And because Mike has attention issues, it often took him 15 minutes to get settled once he did arrive. Missing 20 or more minutes of class every day was hurting Mike academically.*

"After we launched the attendance campaign, everything changed," observed Lissan Rodriques, Dean of Students at Newport Heights Elementary School. "Now Mike and all the kids are arriving in time to be in their classrooms ready to learn when the bell rings. Parents and students work hard to be here and we should applaud them for doing a good job."

* Not his real name

GOING FORWARD: WE'RE JUST GETTING STARTED

Eastside Pathways is just getting started. We will be looking at strategies for older students. We also believe in a culture of continuous improvement. So we will be monitoring progress, making adjustments, adding targets and indicators, and working to improve our communications and community engagement.

Check back next year. You will be impressed.

Fourth Grade Through Career

Eastside Pathways Partners are collaborating to identify strategies for students in fourth grade and beyond. Our academic strategies will align with those of the Bellevue School District's instructional initiatives. Other strategies will include a focus on college and career readiness.

Continuous Improvement

In an effort to always improve our work, we will focus on the following areas:

- Monitoring progress towards current targets.
- Learning and replicating success when and wherever possible.
- Determining core indicators for Parent and Family Support, Social and Emotional Skills, and Community Involvement.
- Identifying specific targets for core indicators that do not already have them.
- Reporting to the community annually.
- Developing principles and processes for decision making within the Eastside Pathways Partnership.



Working Together to Help Kids Succeed

Eastside Pathways is a community-wide partnership committed to supporting all children and their families so every child has a chance at a successful future.

We are data-driven. We use data to develop, evaluate, and refine solutions to provide the best outcomes for our kids.

Cradle to Career. A healthy start begins with good prenatal care. Success comes with students employed in careers that give them an opportunity to prosper. We are with them every step of the way.

The Eastside Pathways "Backbone" is a small team that convenes the partnership, manages and analyzes data, provides communications support, and engages the community.

Eastside Pathways Partners interact with students and families with whom they already have relationships. Our partners provide the services that drive our efforts.

A New Way of Working Using Best Practices

We use a framework, called Collective Impact, developed by StriveTogether in Cincinnati (www.strivetogether.org) and adopted by many communities across the country. As part of the StriveTogether network, we share best practices so we can all have more impact.

EVERY CHILD HAS A HEALTHY START

We identified three indicators for our goal that Every Child Has a Healthy Start.

1. Percent of all births with late or no prenatal care
2. Percent of kindergartners with complete immunizations
3. Number of family and center child care programs with a “Quality Level of Excellence” designation from Early Achievers

Why these indicators? A healthy lifestyle with good nutrition, regular physical activity, and early and regular prenatal care lead to a healthy start. Immunization rates serve as a proxy for wellness visits to a primary care physician and are important to a child’s health. Finally, quality child care prepares young children for kindergarten and is especially impactful for young children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

How are we doing? Bellevue’s prenatal care is similar to King County and Washington State, but some minority groups are not getting the care that they should. Bellevue’s kindergarten immunization rates are slightly higher than King County and Washington State. Early Achievers, a statewide quality rating and improvement system for licensed child care providers, was recently launched. We will use ratings from this program as our indicator. As most providers are not yet participating in Early Achievers, we cannot judge the quality of child care in Bellevue at this time.

Going forward: Eastside Pathways will continue to work with our partners to educate and engage with families on prenatal care, healthy lifestyles, and early childhood development. We will also support efforts to have more child care programs participate in Early Achievers.



ASHLEY: QUALITY PRESCHOOL PREPARES FOR KINDERGARTEN

Surrounded by adults and older siblings, three-year old Ashley thought the world revolved around her. “She did not express herself appropriately. It was always ‘I want’ – it was all about her,” observes her mother Kathy. * So Ashley struggled when she started at the preschool run at Main Club by the Boys and Girls Club. She did not want to sit at circle time and had trouble sharing. But after two years, Ashley was ready for kindergarten at Spirtridge. “She loves it,” notes her mom. “Kindergarten is the new first grade. Kids are learning. Ashley eased in. Preschool taught her not just ABCs but about writing and social skills.”*

Now Ashley attends the after-school program at Hidden Village in a program coordinated by King County Housing and the Boys and Girls Club. “The staff at the Boys and Girls Club are great,” Kathy finishes. “The kids have fun but also do school work. It is structured and warm.”

* Not her real name

PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

We have two indicators for our goal of Every Child Attains Optimal Physical and Mental Health and Safety.

1. Percent of students who report being physically active at least 60 minutes per day
2. Current substance use among students in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12

Why these indicators? Regular physical activity reduces rates of obesity and serious disease and may contribute to better performance in school. Drug and alcohol use is harmful to teens and young adults whose growing brains are more vulnerable to their long-term effects.

How are we doing? Most of our students reported that they did not get enough exercise, which aligns with King County and the State. Drug and alcohol use is quite low in 8th grade and increases by 12th grade with alcohol being the most popular substance followed by marijuana and cigarettes.

Going forward: Eastside Pathways will encourage its partners to examine what it means to be physically and mentally healthy and work with them to develop programs to address the issues.

