

Eastside Pathways is a partnership of over 50 organizations working to mobilize the community to support every child. We unite around common goals, measurements, and strategies to maximize each child's opportunity for a productive, fulfilling life.

The partnership has identified goals and accompanying indicators to guide its work. While it is too soon to use the indicators to draw conclusions about changing trends for youth in Bellevue, recent data suggest that third grade reading proficiency may be increasing. Most other indicators fluctuated slightly from baseline levels.

This is the partnership's third community scorecard. It covers the 2013-14 school year. The main story of the year was not one of moving the needle, but of setting up the infrastructure needed to drive toward systemic change.



Growth and Evolution

Eastside Pathways experienced tremendous growth in 2014. The partnership grew to 52 organizations and the backbone expanded to three full-time staff. The **Partner Leadership Committee** launched in late 2014 as a new decision-making body representing the partnership. It is comprised of executive-level staff from cross-sector partner organizations.

The work of the partnership also expanded. Previously, most collaborative work supported reading in the elementary grades. Additional work groups have now started in the areas of college and career readiness, community engagement, business engagement, and mental and physical health and safety/social-emotional learning.

All of this work continues to take place in the context of a school district that has been growing in size as well as in ethnic, linguistic, and socioeconomic diversity for over a decade. In the 2013-14 school year, 20 percent of the district's 18,953 students received free or reduced-price meals at school, over 80 different languages were spoken, and nearly one-third of students spoke a language other than English at home. Homelessness had also increased, affecting just over one in 100 students.

New Data on Indicators

Three years into this work, we cannot yet identify clear trends or directly link them to the work of the partnership. The purpose of this scorecard is to use data to provide a snapshot of where we are now. It does not attribute credit to individual partners or to Eastside Pathways as a whole.



The bright spot in this year's scorecard is **third grade reading** scores. The percent of third graders reading at grade level increased by around 5 points, from 83 percent in 2012 to an estimated 88 percent in 2014. This increase may be reflective of the partnership's concentrated work on literacy and reading support in the early grades. It could also reflect any number of factors outside of Eastside Pathways.

This year's third grade reading data was unusually complex because of changing assessments at the state level. Most students took the MSP exam as they have for the past five years. Some students piloted the new Smarter Balanced assessment which will be adopted statewide in 2015. We arrived at the 88 percent number by using the most recent available MSP scores at each school and believe that it is a useful number to guide the partnership's work.

Most **other indicators** declined slightly compared to at least one of the prior two years, including rates of prenatal care, kindergarten immunizations, high school graduation rates, and postsecondary completion. This may be normal fluctuation and is not automatically cause for concern. It could also suggest areas of growing need in Bellevue if a clear trend develops in future years.

Finally, indicators for several goals are still being developed as work continues in the areas of kindergarten readiness, career readiness, social and emotional skills, parent and family support, and community engagement

The following sections describe the various Eastside Pathways groups working to change these indicators.

Campaign for Grade-Level Reading

The Campaign for Grade-Level Reading is our first collective initiative and into its third year. Our goal is to have all third graders reading at grade level by 2016. In the 2013-14 year, over 25 different organizations participated in the Campaign.

The **School Readiness** Collaborative provided a venue for partners to collaborate on ways to provide quality early learning opportunities to Bellevue families. They planned several targeted opportunities and events to spread the message that early learning is important, easy, and inexpensive and focused on connecting with families not currently being reached by other methods.

The **Summer and Extended Learning** Collaborative focused on reimagining the summer school experience, ultimately bringing together community partners and the school district to provide a streamlined full-day program combining academics with enrichment activities.

The **Attendance** Collaborative launched an information and awareness campaign to build good habits related to being in class on time, ready to learn. The collaborative worked with 11 elementary schools in 2013-14 and reduced tardiness by 24 percent. The campaign expanded to all 17 elementary schools the following year.

College and Career Readiness

Eastside Pathways launched a second initiative, the College and Career Readiness Initiative, in early 2015. We know that 70 percent of jobs in Washington are expected to require postsecondary education by 2020, yet some Bellevue students are not even completing high school. This initiative aims to ensure that every student graduates from high school, college, or technical school with the skills needed for success.

The new **Transitions** Collaborative will support students through key transition points in their education, including elementary to middle school, middle to high school, and high school to postsecondary. The group has prioritized the 8th to 9th grade transition for its first efforts.

The new **Career Pathways** Collaborative will support youth in connecting with a pathway to career success. This workgroup will develop programs that help more students obtain post-secondary degrees and certificates that will provide them with the career options, skills, and experiences needed for career success. The collaborative plans to work closely with the Business Engagement Group.

Health and Wellness

Our newest collaborative effort is the **Mental and Physical Health and Safety/Social-Emotional Learning** Team. The group is gathering and analyzing available data to better understand the issues in this area and will be developing a work plan.

Community and Business Engagement

Parent and family support and community involvement are essential for a robust cradle-to-career support system for children. Several groups are working on these goals in an interconnected way.

The **Community Engagement for Cultural Integration** Collaborative is working to close the opportunity gap by ensuring that every student and family is connected to their school and community. The three goals are: to ensure that children can access culturally relevant programming, to identify and empower natural leaders in the community, and to inform and equip the community on sustainable cultural integration. Strategies for achieving this include racial equity training and use of the Community Café model to facilitate meaningful conversations with stakeholders.

Similarly, the **Eastside Racial Equity Team** brings parents and nonprofit leaders together to increase racial consciousness, transform community systems, and ensure cultural integration. They also evaluate Eastside Pathways' collaborative work and partners' work to create a culture of racial equity within each organization and across the collective.

The **Business Engagement Group** partners with Eastside Pathways to provide awareness and education to the business community on identified gaps and needs on the Eastside. The group is in a discovery and exploration stage to build a vision for the long-term, systemic involvement of businesses in achieving the partnership's goals.

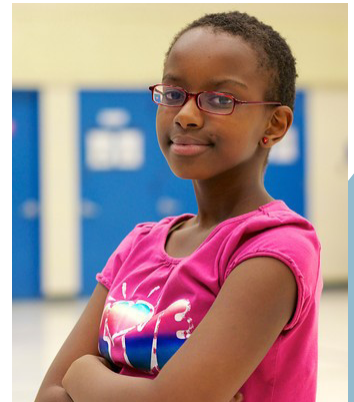
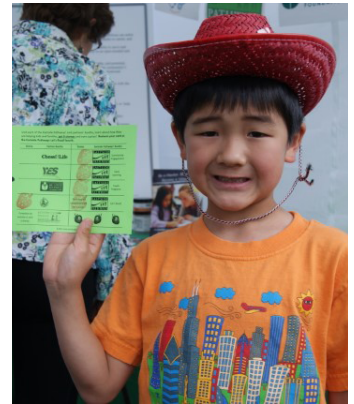




What's Next

Given the many areas of work newly underway, the next few years should be exciting ones for Eastside Pathways. We will continue to monitor and refine our existing indicators, identify additional ones where necessary, and strive to bring them all into closer alignment with the work happening on the ground.

We remain steadfast in the belief that a collective impact community must be data-driven. This scorecard is an important step in that direction and should be complemented by examining data more frequently and in more detail for continuous improvement. In the coming months and years, we commit to deepening our responsiveness to community needs and using many forms of data to shape our work in supporting every child from cradle to career.



EASTSIDE

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