



Eastside Pathways

Community Report 2019

S U M M A R Y

Who We Are

Eastside Pathways is a partnership of nearly 70 organizations working tirelessly to mobilize the community to increase their capacity to support every youth, child and family.

In eight years' time, Eastside Pathways has transitioned from an emerging startup to a sustainable and expanding collective impact partnership. Throughout this continuing journey we remain united around common goals, measurements and strategies in service of supporting every child and youth from cradle to career.

This is the partnership's sixth version of the community report. Meant to provide a snapshot of data and our collective work, this report reflects data from the 2017-18 school year.

Since that time, Eastside Pathways continues to place an intentional focus on the dynamic work of the collaboratives, with a specific eye toward the facilitation of the collaboratives and the use of data to support the work.

Additionally, since the publication of the previous community report, we built upon our successful foundation within the Bellevue School District (BSD) and expanded into the Lake Washington School District (LWSD).

Equity

Eastside Pathways, within our backbone staff and our partnerships, is committed to creating the tools, opportunities, and supports necessary for progress along our journey toward racial equity. We work to spotlight the importance of equity and its presence in the work of the partners and collaboratives.

Early Learning

The **School Readiness Collaborative** is creating an environment of increased coordination between early learning and K-12 educators which will benefit all children, especially those whose families may be least connected.

Working toward the foundational goal that *every child is ready to learn*, the collaborative's four main themes continue to this day: professional development for early learning providers, building family knowledge, promoting kindergarten readiness, and increasing the use of developmental screenings and services.

This collaborative partnered with the Eastside Pathways Data Council to investigate the early learning experiences of children entering kindergarten. In addition, working collectively with partner organizations like NISO Programs to

recruit and employ bilingual, bicultural community members trained in early learning has helped advance and improve advocacy focused on engaging our Latinx families and boosting rates of kindergarten readiness for Latinx students in BSD and LWSD.

Thriving School Years

Eastside Pathways recognizes the continued impact of community organizations on the developmental pathways and success of youth in their care. Community support is the focal point of another Eastside Pathways goal: *every child thrives both in and out of school.*

In 2018, with the funding of a Best Starts for Kids grant, several partners participated in the **Summer and Extended Learning Collaborative** working to provide high-quality programming and services to Bellevue students experiencing homelessness.

These partners, including the Bellevue School District, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Bellevue, the City of Bellevue, KidsQuest Children’s Museum, and the Bellevue Family YMCA, also worked to streamline the process through which individuals can apply for financial scholarships at different

organizations. These out-of-school enrichment opportunities can affect in-school results for youth and kids as well.

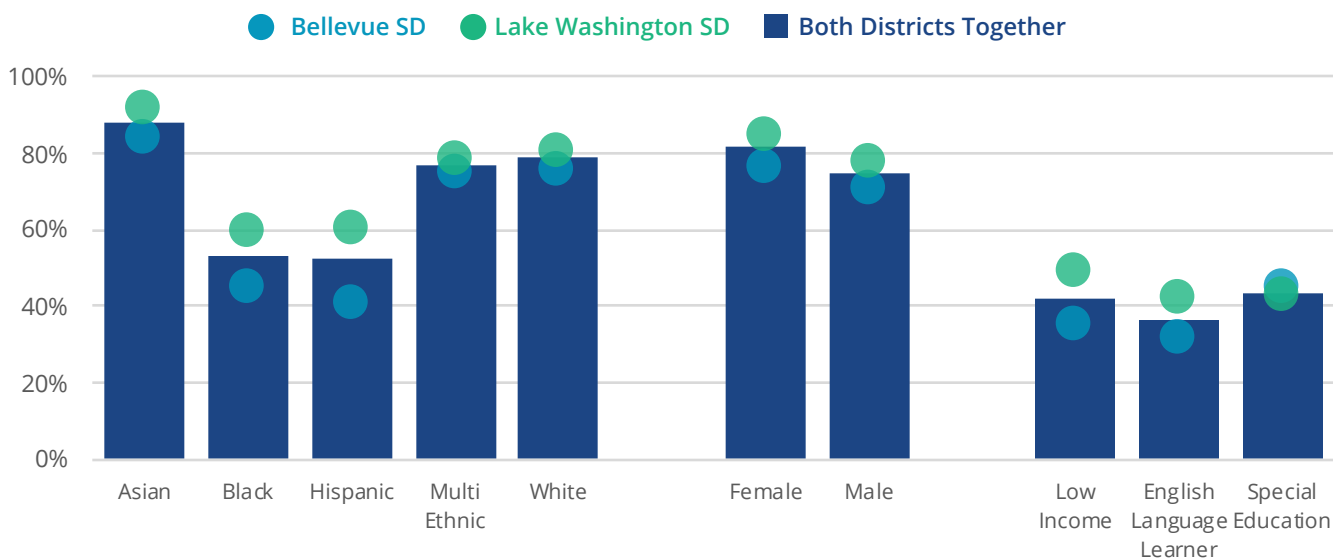
Third grade reading is a prominent indicator of progress toward our goal of kids thriving in and out of school. It reflects the accumulation of a child’s experiences up to that point, accentuating the continued importance of in- and out-of-school services to support student development. Data show third grade reading rates vary widely by race/ethnicity in BSD and LWSD.

High School Success

The **Career Pathways Collaborative** focused on Eastside Pathways’ goal of having *every youth graduate from high school and be prepared for their post-secondary plan.* Eastside Pathways recognizes alternative pathways to high school graduation and has decided to track both four- and five-year graduation rates moving forward.

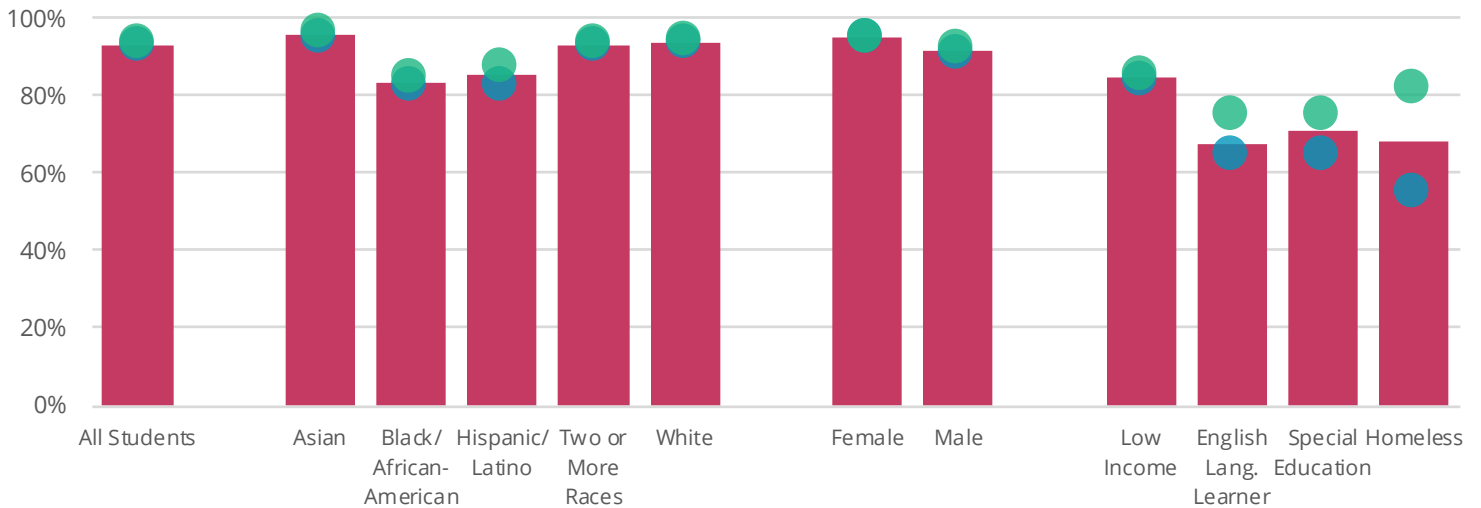
The data on four-year graduation rates (p. 3) show disparities across demographics. Students with special needs, designated as English Language Learners, or experiencing homelessness have an average graduation rate around 70% (across BSD and LWSD).

Percent of Third Grade Students Meeting Standards in English Language Arts, Spring 2018



High School Graduation Rate, Class of 2018 (4-Year Graduation)

● Bellevue SD ● Lake Washington SD ■ Both Districts Together



The collaborative also recognized the need for students to see more avenues of modeled success for themselves in the future. During the 2017-18 school year, the collaborative launched a mentoring program — dubbed “Pizza With a Purpose” — at Interlake High School.

“Having professionals from marginalized groups like ours come and share their success stories shows us high school students how we too can achieve our dreams. Through Pizza With a Purpose, I met [a doctor] who works at Kaiser Permanente. Thanks to her guidance, I was able to get a position in MRI at Kaiser Permanente’s Bellevue Medical Center.”

– Miguel, Interlake High School Student / Pizza With a Purpose Host

Pizza With a Purpose was born from the feedback of Black and Latinx students wanting to interact with professionals of color to receive mentoring on career options and model what their future path may look like.

Launching a Career

Eastside Pathways’ goal beyond high school graduation states that *every young adult attains postsecondary education or training and enters a career of their choice*. The **Career Pathways Collaborative’s** initial step toward fulfilling this goal addressed “summer melt”: the phenomenon where student who planned to attend college in the fall did not actually do so.

The collaborative brought together Bellevue School District and Bellevue College, allowing staff from the college to orient students and help them enroll. Both organizations instituted policy changes to remove barriers and accept earlier registrations while the collaborative gathered data on college completion within six years of graduating high school.

We know there are many avenues for success, and this data only captures progression along one postsecondary pathway: college matriculation. Moving forward, our work will include capturing more robust data to measure the wide-ranging success of young adults.

Healthy Minds & Bodies

The **Mental Health & Wellbeing Collaborative** worked towards the goal of ensuring *every child and youth attains optimal mental and physical health*. In 2018, the collaborative addressed two areas of growing concern: large scale prevention (of challenges related to wellbeing) through consistent social-emotional learning strategies, and appropriate intervention through coordinated mental health services.

The collaborative's focal points remain critical when 20% of young people experience mental health challenges with a vast majority of those young people not connected to the services required to address these challenges.

Youth Eastside Services (YES) has been a foundational partner in helping lead this collaborative work from its inception, leveraging their 50 years of experience providing evidence-based counseling and treatment to children, teens and families in East King County.

From the foundation of the Eastside Pathways Mental Health and Wellbeing Collaborative, that group matured into a self-sustaining workgroup. YES stepped into the leadership role to regularly convene behavioral health organization leaders and school district leaders to continue to implement system improvements leading to agencies and providers spending more time providing in-school service.

What's Next

The Eastside Pathways Partnership is building upon the policies, practices and procedures learned over the past eight years and heading into a new phase of development.

With the support and vision of a newly unified board and funding to fortify the backbone staff, Eastside Pathways can build more effective practices across the partnership.

Harnessing the views and expertise of our partner organizations, Eastside Pathways has engaged in co-creating our strategic plan by aligning our goals with the needs of our partners and the larger community.

A benefit of this alignment will be the direct and honest conversations about what the data show regarding inequities and opportunity gaps. As we commit to developing time-bound and targeted goals, we look forward to continuing on this collaborative journey toward the goal of every child in East King County thriving from cradle to career.

SOURCES

3rd Grade Reading: Percent of students meeting standard (level 3 or 4) on Smarter Balanced assessment, Spring 2018. Data from Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).

High school graduation: Four-year cohort graduation rate, Class of 2018. Data from OSPI.

