

HOLISTIC SUPPORTS TO HELP STUDENTS CONNECT, THRIVE, AND PERSIST IN COLLEGE

Pathways to Adult Success Solution Forum
Everyone Graduates Center, Johns Hopkins University School of Education
March 1, 2022

Welcome and Agenda

- **Future Grads, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula (California):**
 - Monique Gagnon, *Senior Director, Measurements and Impact*
 - Esme Ortiz, *Vice President, High School and Postsecondary Programs*
- **Achieve Atlanta Scholars:**
 - Susanne Diggs-Wilborn, *Vice President for College Success*
- Open Discussion and Resource Sharing
- Upcoming Events

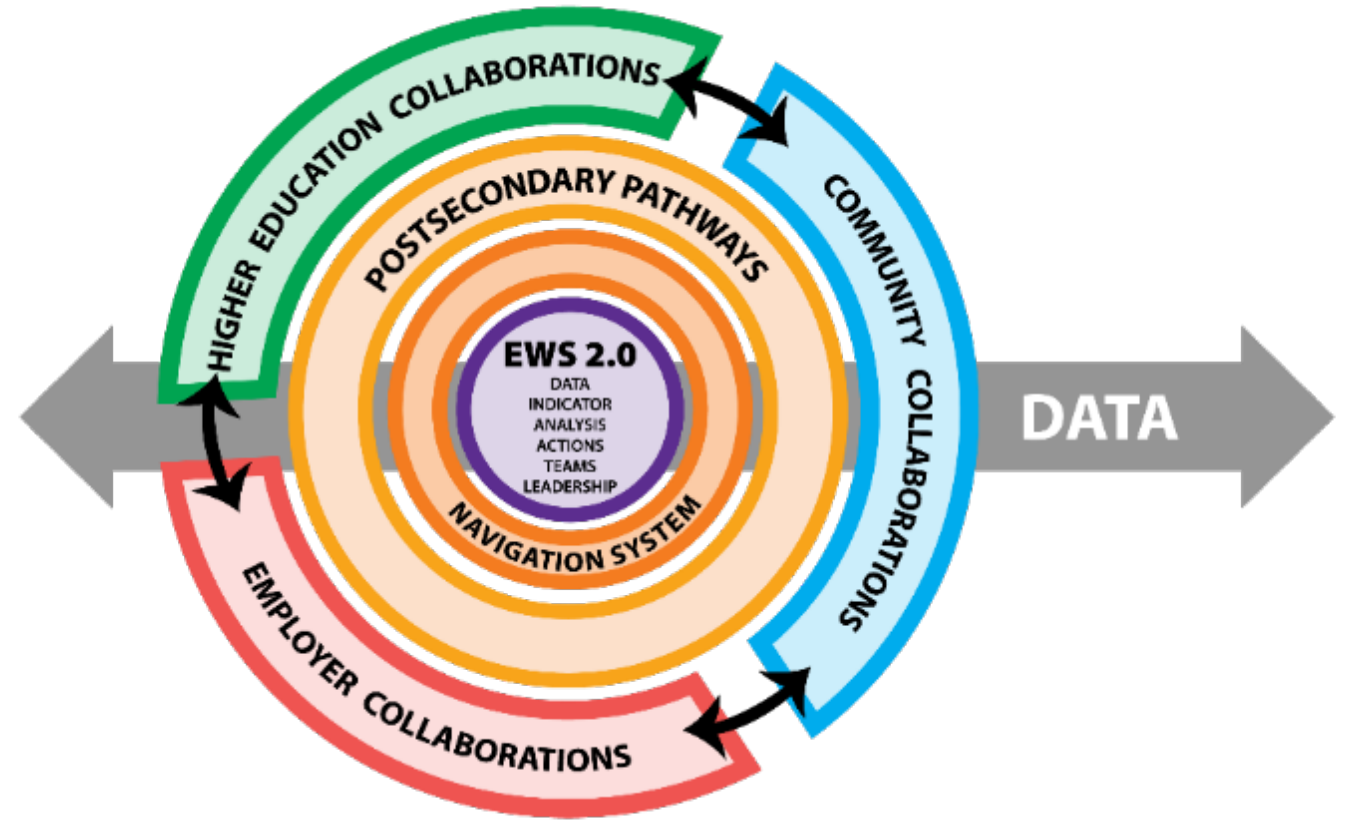
Organizing Our Discussion

- We have a large and diverse group of people and organizations participating in today's session (K-12, Higher Ed, Non-Profits, State Depts. of Ed.).
- Please share ideas, resources, and ask questions via the chat function.
- One of the moderators will read each question or comment out loud, and then ask for responses via the chat function.
- The moderator may ask the participant to respond verbally for elaboration or clarification.
- After the session, we will send out all resources shared and add to the Solutions Forum webpage on the PAS website.



Building Pathways to Adult Success for and with all students has never been so crucial

- The pandemic has disrupted existing student support and guidance systems.
- Uncertainty is the norm.
- Momentum to and through postsecondary is being impacted.



Impact of Pandemic on College Students

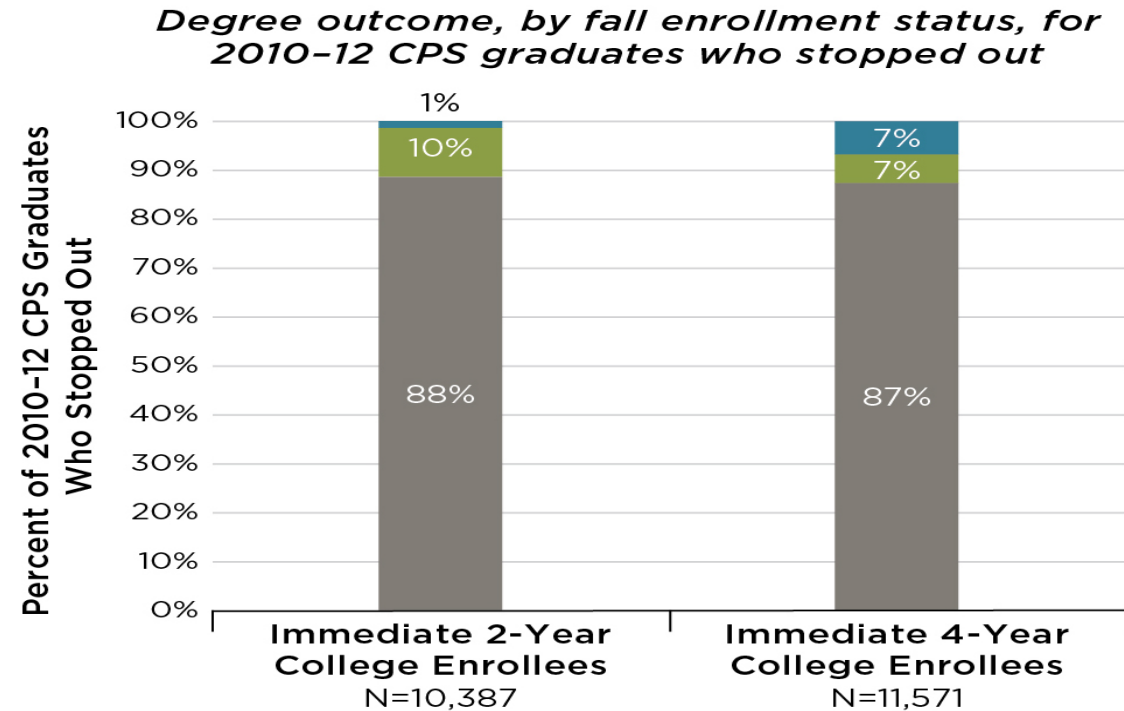
- COVID-19 has raised new barriers for many postsecondary students, with heightened impacts emerging for students of color, students with disabilities, and students who are caregivers, both for entry into higher education and for continuing and completing their studies.

US Dept of Education, Office of Civil Rights

Momentum Matters for College Completion

FIGURE 5

Few Students Who Stopped Out Completed a College Credential



Degree Outcome:

- Completed Bachelor's Degree within 6 Years
- Completed Associate Degree or Certificate within 6 Years
- Completed No Degree within 6 Years

Note: Stopping out refers to leaving college for at least one term, regardless of whether students return to college or not. Percentages may not total to 100 percent due to rounding.

Future Grads

Monique Gagnon, *Senior Director, Measurements and Impact*
Esme Ortiz, *Vice President, High School and Postsecondary Programs*

Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula (BGCP)

Future Grads Program



BGCP Story

Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula (BGCP) partners with families, schools, and school districts to close the gap and provide our students with expanded learning opportunities through after school, summer, and school day programming.

Students Served

Serve about **3,000 students** in Kindergarten – Post-Secondary

At schools we serve, **90% students on free/reduced lunch**

Average cost of 1 bedroom apartment: **\$3,000/month**

Future Grads Program

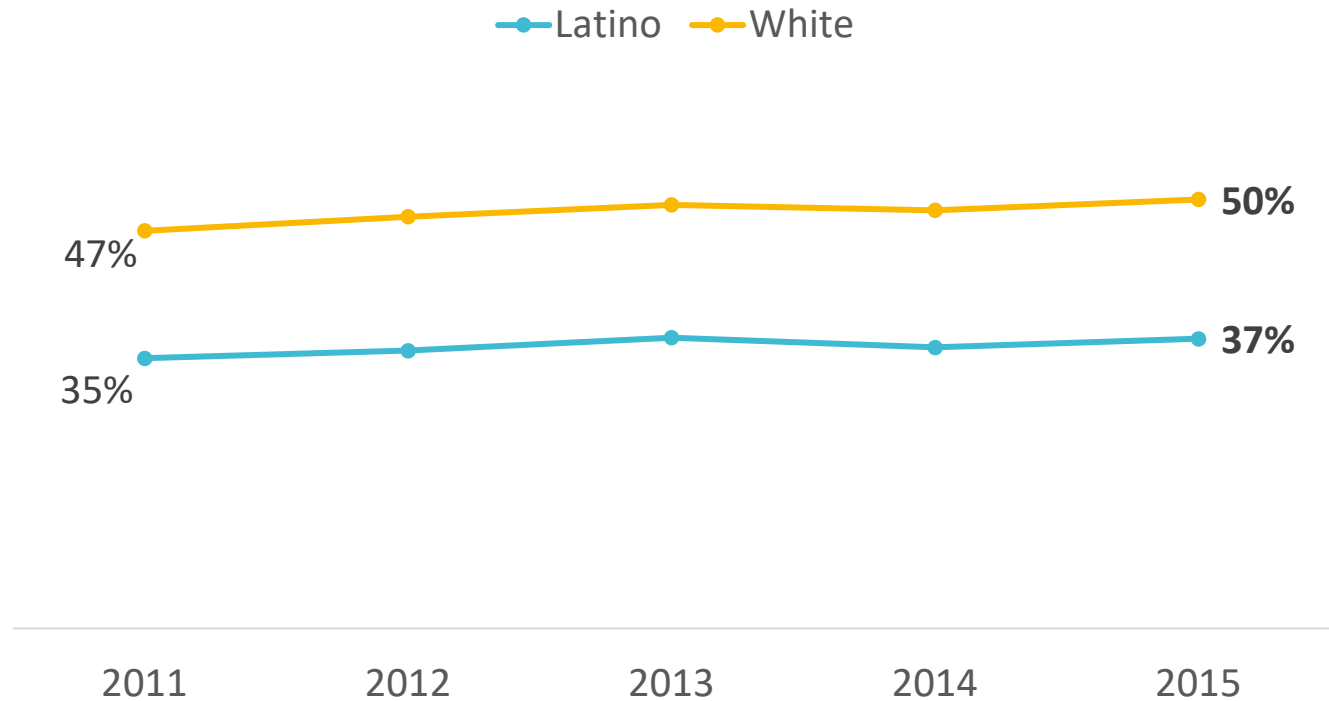
Future Grads supports students to and ***through*** college graduation

Future Grads is open to **any** student at our partner high schools

Serve students at both 4-year **and** 2-year institutions

Focus on 4-
year and 2-
year students

College Completion Rates for Students who Begin at a 2-Year College



Future Grads Program Pillars

College
Systems

College
Preparation

Self-
Advocacy

Networking

Gratitude

Future Grads Program Model

10th Grade

- **Summer Academy**
- Academic & Life Skills
- Relationship-Building

11th Grade

- College Tours
- Personal Statements
- College List

12th Grade

- College Applications
- Financial Aid
- Post-Application Support

Postsecondary

- **Postsecondary Retreat**
- Academic Advising
- SE Support
- Career Readiness

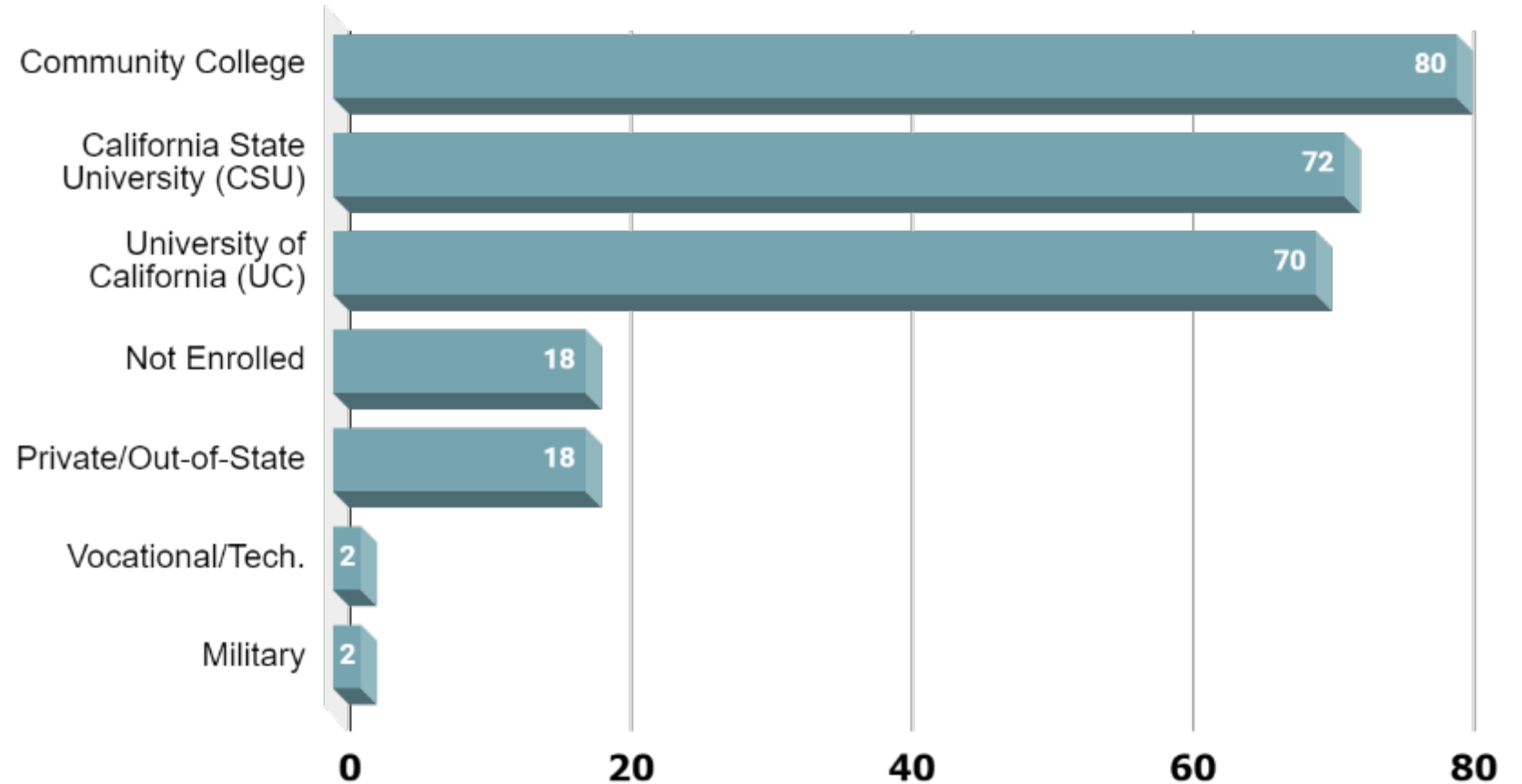
Post- Secondary Program

- Postsecondary education planning based on college system
- Academic advising
- On-campus resource connections
- Transfer application support
- Financial Aid renewal
- Career Preparation
- Social-emotional support
- Cultivating first-gen community

Future Grads Participants

	2020	2021	2022
10th	59	45	47
11th	59	45	68
12th	73	75	95
Postsecondary	148	211	262
Total	339	376	472

Future Grads Post-secondary Class 2016-2021



Achieve Atlanta Scholars

Susanne Diggs-Wilborn, Psy.D. *Vice President College Success,
Achieve Atlanta*



Holistic Supports to Help Students, Connect, Thrive and Persist in College

March 2022



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The Context

Who We Are

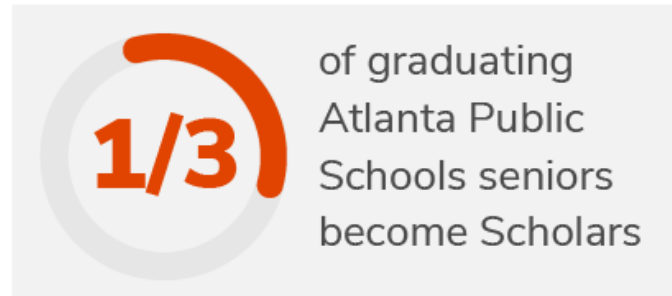
Achieve Atlanta's mission is to **help Atlanta Public Schools (APS) students access, afford, and earn postsecondary credentials**, so that Atlanta becomes a city where race and income no longer predict postsecondary success and upward mobility.



Scholar Profile



Scholars are Black
or Hispanic



Attending
319
different colleges



Scholar Data Findings

- For every 1-point increase in high school GPA (100-point scale), a student's likelihood of persisting to second year of college increases by 12%.
- Students who are absent more than 15% of senior year of high school are roughly a third less likely to persist than those missing fewer days.
- High school GPA continues to impact persistence to year 3 of college.
- Factors such as work hours, credits accumulated, and campus involvement start to show statistically significant impacts on persistence to years 3 and 4 of college.

What Scholars are Saying...



Lack of Sense of Belonging and Campus Support

"(I) felt like an outsider at this private PWI and only other minorities were on football team; my grades slipped, football was challenging, and I was too different from everybody else."

-Cohort 2017 Scholar



Remote Learning

"It was a struggle. I feel like if it was in person, it would have been less challenging. When I was in high school, I had a lot more help. When it is online, you can't really get the help."

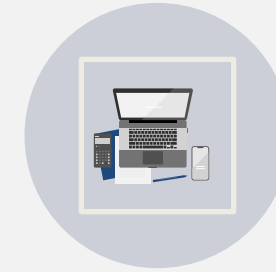
-Cohort 2020 Scholar



Working to Support Families

"My mom lost her job due to COVID so I quit school to get a job to help pay the bills."

-Cohort 2020 Scholar



Not Academically Prepared

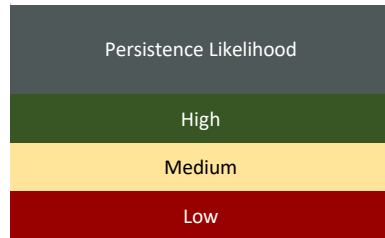
"A lot of students are not prepared for the college-level work or academic freedom that college gives you."

-Partner Coach

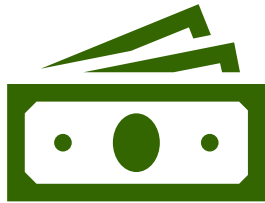
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How We're Tackling the Challenges

Direct Scholar Support



Persistence Likelihood Rating to help partners tailor coaching and recognize students most at risk of stopping out

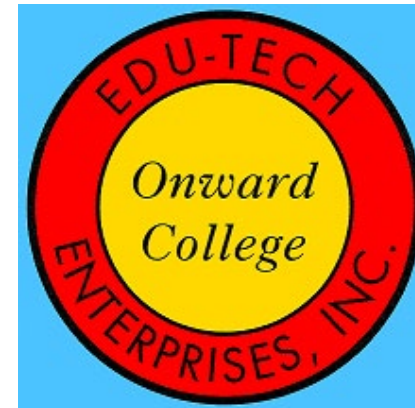


Emergency grants to reduce the likelihood of unexpected expenses (medical, transportation, housing) derailing our Scholars' college journeys



Providing Scholars' and their families with access to **behavioral health services to address acute needs**

Partnership Support Practices



APS Students



Introduction of match & fit concepts and important college search factors during junior year; supporting juniors to build balanced college lists through the Match & Fit List Builder



New training and capacity building on college affordability for school teams: comparing financial aid awards; supporting verification and aid appeal processes

Open Discussion and Resource Sharing



Announcements

- Upcoming PAS Solutions Forum Dates:
 - Mar. 31, 2022, 2:00pm ET
 - Apr. 26, 2022, 2:00pm ET
- Coming Soon:
 - *Designing Education* podcast hosted by Robert Balfanz





Thank You, Be Well, & Onward!

We will follow up with a recording of the session, slides, and a list of references and materials shared today.