BUILDING A COMMUNITY FOR COLLEGE ACCESS

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PIERCE COUNTY PATHWAYS
A COMMUNITY–WIDE MOVEMENT

Over 350 partners aligning goals, data, and resources to help every child achieve success from cradle to career.

IT TAKES ALL OF US

STEAM Learning Network
Out of School & Summer Learning
Tacoma College Support Network
Graduate Tacoma Advocacy Network
USA TODAY labels Tacoma, WA a “dropout factory” with only 55 percent of its students graduating from high school

FFTS is established as a 501(c)(3) to staff and support the Graduate Tacoma community-wide movement to improve graduation rates

Graduate Tacoma joins the StriveTogether Network

Community surpasses the 2020 goal to increase graduation rates by 50% and becomes a proof-point community
QUALITY COLLECTIVE IMPACT APPROACH

Lessons learned from community partnerships have shaped a data-driven approach to collective impact that is building momentum and success stories across the country. Connected by the work on the ground, StriveTogether Cradle to Career Network members are committed to sharing knowledge, building upon what works and driving action to improve key outcomes along every child’s path to education success.
Data Driven

Graduate Tacoma community partners are making informed decisions as a result of data transparency and access. We provide a trusted source of aggregated, disaggregated, and student-level data for partners to best impact and influence outcomes for youth.
RELIABLE DATA

POINTS TO WHAT’S WORKING AND WHAT ISN’T

- What’s working? (Community Bright Spots)
- What isn’t? (Obstacles to Opportunity)
- Who is it not working for? (Equity Gaps)
- How do we solve for that? (Practice & Policy Shifts)
Making the Case

THE GREAT RESET

- MAKING THE CASE
- A DECADE OF COLLECTIVE IMPACT
- THE GREAT RESET
- 2030 COMMUNITY-WIDE GOAL
- SUMMARY OF DATA COLLECTION
- INDICATORS DRIVING STUDENT SUCCESS
- OPERATIONALIZING DATA
- THE ROAD TO SYSTEMS CHANGE
- APPENDIX & ENDNOTES
2030 Goal Statement

By 2030, 70% of Tacoma Public Schools students will earn a degree, technical certificate, or gain a good-earning wage employment opportunity within six years of high school graduation. Targeted efforts will focus on students of color and those impacted by poverty.

Success will require meaningful cross-sector alignment and partnership, data-sharing and accountability, targeted resourcing, advocating for racially just practices, and maintaining progress on all indicators, cradle to career.

70% Across Post-Secondary Pathways

- **GOOD EARNING WAGES**
  70% of all TPS graduates have a good earning wage employment opportunity, regardless of pathway.

- **COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY**
  70% of all TPS graduates have enrolled in college or university.
  70% of those enrolled in college or university have completed a certificate or degree within six years of high school graduation.

- **APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS**
  70% of TPS graduates who enroll in an apprenticeship program will continue onto a good earning wage job in the apprenticeship's trade or occupation.

Racial and economic equity gaps close for all groups.
Indicators Driving Success

**Cradle to Career Indicators**

- Kindergarten Readiness
- 3rd Grade Reading
- 8th Grade Math
- College & Career Readiness
- 4 & 5-Year Graduation
- Social & Emotional Well-Being
- Positive Adult Interactions
- College Enrollment & Completion
- Apprenticeship Enrollment & Completion
- Achieving a Good Earning Wage Job

**Institutional Indicators**

- Post-Secondary Representation of Priority Populations by Institution
- Equity & Representation in Staffing
- Institutional Performance on Accountability Pledges
Pierce County Pathways

A coordinated system of supports enabling postsecondary success and economic mobility for all students

Access
Dedicated to increasing the number of students who enroll in right-fit colleges or technical schools one year after graduation.

Completion
Dedicated to increasing the completion rates of 2- and 4-year college degrees and certificates.

Workforce
Dedicated to supporting students transitioning from high school into a good-earning wage job.
Pierce County Access

Pierce County Access seeks to increase the rate of students who apply to and enroll in a right-fit college or institution. We are dedicated to expanding strategies and partnerships to more school districts and community-based organizations in the county through collective action and systems-level strategies, ultimately leading to more equitable college access for all students.

CAMPAIGN FREE AID
An effort to promote the completion of financial aid applications, including FAFSA and WASFA.

WHAT'S NEXT
Coordinated community response to all individual student requests as they transition out of high school.
Campaign Free Aid

Grants, work-study, loans, and scholarships help make college or career school affordable. Students and families can get help completing financial aid applications for free!

What's Next

TPS seniors can now connect with a personalized coach and receive support with college applications, paying for school, finding a job, mentoring, and more.
There are many ways to get money for college, but one of the most important is filling out your financial aid forms. No matter your background, you qualify for state or federal aid - sometimes, both! Don't miss the opportunity to take advantage of someone that can help you fill out your paperwork - parents are welcome!
Campaign Free Aid 2022-23 FAFSA - County Wide
(filter at top right, school-level last updated 5/1/2023)
(Schools with less than 10 completions will not appear)

This graph looks at most recent building FAFSA rates, compared to prior report or year. Count and Rate colored by demographics, difference by report/year. Reference line compares current district totals to goals.*

WSAC Download Date
5/1/2023

Color FAFSA Count / Rate Bars by % Seniors That are Low Income Students

Color FAFSA Rate Difference Bars by Difference from Last Year

WHAT'S NEXT


Take a moment to share your post-high school dreams with us and get a personalized coach to help you make them a reality. You’ll receive the very best guidance on your What’s Next.

- College application and communication
- Financial aid and paying for your education
- Resume writing and job search
- Job training programs and pre-apprenticeships
- Mentoring and more

5 minutes can change everything.

GET STARTED NOW
52% of Pierce County K-12 students identify as people of color.

15% of Pierce County K-12 teachers identify as people of color.

Source: IZA Institute of Labor Economics, The Long-Run Impacts of Same-Race Teachers
Total Seniors Who’ve Taken the Survey:

719

How confident are you that you’ll graduate on time?

- Very confident: I am on track to earn all my credit: 582
- Somewhat confident: I am currently working with m.: 112
- Not confident: I am worried I will not graduate on time: 15
- I am not sure: 10

What do you need help with? (Mark all that apply)

- Looking for a scholarship
- Understanding financial aid
- FAFSA
- Completing College Application
- Deciding which college to go to
- Looking for a job
- Looking for apprenticeship
- Working on cover letter & resume
- Learning about Automatic
- Help: Not sure but wanna learn
- I do not need any help
- Completing college papers

- Total help needed: 201
Number of Students Requesting Help:

326

What is your top plan after graduation?

- I am certain that I am going: 413
- I want to go to college (Bak.) 105
- I am pursuing a job training: 55
- I am planning to have a job: 45
- I am certain that I will have: 42
- I am not sure: 31
- I am joining the military: 18
- I have other plans that are: 10

FAFSA Completion for students considering college:

- Yes, I've completed my FAFSA/WASFA: 364
- I have done nothing on my FAFSA/WASFA: 62
- I have submitted my FAFSA/WASFA but: 22
- I'm not sure: 22