

5-YEAR EXTENDED GRADUATION

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Scaffold of Services Supports Extended Graduation

A number of TPS initiatives identify and support students who have fallen off their graduation path or dropped out of school.

One early intervention, the Academic Extension Program, allows students with long-term suspensions to continue their studies with evening classes at Willie Stewart Academy. Other programs to help students meet extended graduation goals include:

- Day Reporting School: Provides services for underserved, at-risk, and court-ordered youth on probation.
- Remann Hall Juvenile Detention Center School: Helps incarcerated youth develop learning skills and increase academic progress.
- Pearl Street Center: Serves youth committed to the Comprehensive Mental Health Center's residential program.
- Willie Stewart Academy: Creates individualized learning plans that blend computer-driven curriculum with teacher support.

“Students come at different times of year, with different credits,” notes Willie Stewart Academy Principal Greg Eisnaugle. “And many come in and out of a program several times.” These re-engagement initiatives result in a 12% graduation rate among enrolled students.

48%

Percent increase in the five-year extended graduation rate since the Class of 2010.

KEY FINDINGS

Close to Our 50% Goal, Students in Poverty Lagging

Tacoma's community-built goal is to increase the five-year extended graduation rate by 50% by the class of 2020. The number to hit is 87%. The rate hit a record-high 86.5% for the Class of 2015, representing a 48% increase toward our goal of 50% by the Class of 2020.

This is the fifth consecutive year of improved rates in extended graduation at TPS and the first year we've exceeded the state. Our increase in five-year extended graduation rates since 2010 is two and three times the growth of similarly sized school districts, and more than four times greater than the gains made by the state as a whole.

We are heartened to see across-the-board gap closures, with one exception: Although the five-year extended graduation rate for students in poverty is up 26 points, the gap between those in poverty and those who are not has widened from 5% to 13%.

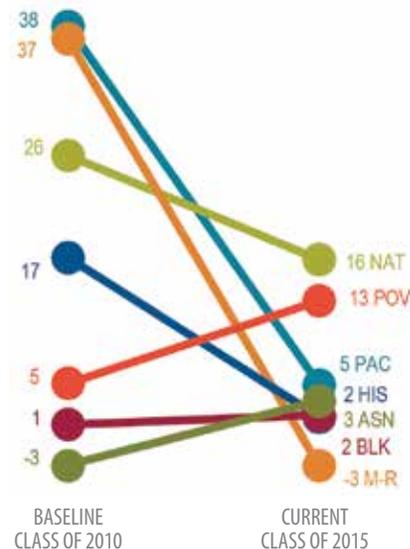
It's worth noting that students of color comprise a much greater proportion of those living in poverty. This disparity disproportionately increases their exposure to the effects of poverty compared to White students.



Sources: Tacoma Public School District, Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction

CLOSING GAPS – HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

Gaps as % difference – Students of color: White students. Poverty: Non-poverty.



DATA DIVE

↑ HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION



BASELINE CLASS OF 2010



CURRENT CLASS OF 2015

AIMING HIGHER GOAL: Increase the five-year extended high school graduation rate by 50% - to 87% by the Class of 2020.

% BY POVERTY, RACE, ETHNICITY, & STATE

