EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Tacoma Rising & Closing Gaps
2017 Community Impact Report

WHERE WE ARE NOW
Exceeding Expectations Record-High Graduation

4-Year On-Time
Tacoma Public Schools Goal: 85% by 2020

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<tr>
<td>2020 Goal</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>83%</td>
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5-Year Extended
Community-Built Goal: ↑ 50% by 2020

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<td>2020 Goal</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>86%</td>
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POVERTY IS NOT DESTINY
Students in Need

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<tr>
<td>4-Year On-Time H.S. Graduation</td>
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<td>55%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>85%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low-Income Students H.S. Graduation</td>
<td>Tacoma</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>68%</td>
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<td>Homeless Students H.S. Graduation</td>
<td>Tacoma</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<td>English Learners H.S. Graduation</td>
<td>Tacoma</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>56%</td>
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20+ Point Gains across Every Demographic

Graduation rates are rising significantly across every race and ethnicity and regardless of poverty. At the same time, graduation gaps between white and students of color have been cut in half or closed to less than 5% from previous double-digits.

Most notable? For the first time there was no gap in the graduation rates between Black and White Students for the Class of 2016 from a previous 8% gap in 2011. The gap between Hispanic and white students closed by two-thirds from 16% to 5%.

NOTE: Poverty is defined as those students who qualify for Free or Reduced Lunch (FRL).
2017 BRIGHT SPOTS

**Summer Learning Enrollment**
**UP 51%** – More than doubled summer program slots filled from 5,616 to 11,456, counting students enrolled in multiple programs. Nearly doubled the number of summer learning participants from 3,645 to 6,491.

**6th Grade Achievement**
**UP 15 points** from 77% to 92% in students passing all or all but one class. Gains across all demographics. Gaps closings between white students and students of color.

**College Credit-Eligible Classes**
**UP 32 points** from 33% to 65% in students taking at least one college credit-eligible class. Gains across all demographics.

**College Enrollment**
**UP 13 points** from 32% to 45% for TPS graduates in the graduating cohort of students tracked since 9th grade. The college enrollment rate of all TPS seniors (both in and out of the cohort) was 57%.

2017 OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

**Ready for Kindergarten**
**UP five points** from 44% to 49%, slightly above state average of 47%, but still less than half of all entering kindergarteners demonstrate the characteristics of entering kindergarteners in all six developmental areas. Increases across most demographics, except Hispanic.

**3rd Grade Reading**
**UP six points** from 42% to 48% literacy assessment, below the state average of 54%, and less than half of all third grade students. Modest increases across most demographics between 2014-15 and 2015-16 for this new literacy SBAC assessment.

**9th Grade Achievement**
**UP four points** from 72% to 76%. Now three of four freshmen passing all or all but one class to stay on track. However, some students of color have made gains while others have not (+10 Hispanic, +8 Asian, +3 White, +5 Pacific Islander, +6 Multi-racial, -3 Black, -2 Native American, -8 Students in Poverty.)

**Student Attendance**
**UP 1 point** from 26% to 27% for the rate of chronic absence (18 days or more), but this measure varies considerably by grade level: 18% in elementary, 26% in middle school, and 44% in high school. Rates of chronic absence grow by school level and in high school the rates of unexcused absences continue to grow.

**College & Technical School Completion**
**UP three points** from 32% to 35%, measuring the cohort of TPS graduates who complete a two- or four-year degree or one-year technical certificate within six years of graduation. Modest increases across most demographics (+7 Asian; +3 White; +6 Black; +3 Students in Poverty, -1 Hispanic). However, most gains have been driven by female graduates, who have increased by seven points from 35% to 42%, while male graduates have remained stagnant at 28% (TPS Class of 2005 to 2010).

DIG DEEPER: More info, including interactive data dashboards, is available at GraduateTacoma.org/Data