**Goals Exceeded, Gaps Closed**

The 30-point gain we see in the TPS Class of 2016 5-year extended high school graduation rate surpasses the state average as well as the community’s 50% increase goal. That’s a 52% increase over baseline! The 4-year on-time graduation rate is up 31 points for the Class of 2017, from 55% in 2010.

The gap for the 5-year extended graduation rate has closed entirely: 92% of Black students graduated, compared to 89% of White students. The graduation gap for Hispanic students has also closed to three points (89% White, 86% Hispanic).
6th Grade Achievement
UP 12 points – 89% of 6th graders are passing all or all but one class and gaps are shrinking, especially for Hispanic and Native American children, as well as those living in poverty (89%, 86%, and 86%, respectively).

8th Grade Math
UP four points – 69% of 8th graders are passing algebra or geometry with a C or better.

3rd Grade Reading
UP four points – Test scores remain low, with less than half (46%) meeting standard. Gaps are wide and growing, especially for Black and Pacific Islander students, 24% and 28% (respectively) of whom are reading on grade level.

Chronic Absence
UP two points – On average, 45% of TPS high schoolers are chronically absent (missing 18+ days, excused or unexcused). Poverty plays a major role in attendance, from elementary to high school (an average of 55% of high school students in poverty are chronically absent, as compared to 33% of non-poverty students.)

College Entry Exams
UP 19 points – 99% of Tacoma seniors are taking the SAT Exam. We now turn our attention to boosting subject scores, especially in math and writing, where Students of Color experience gaps of more than 20%.

College-Credit-Eligible Classes
UP 38 points – More than twice as many students (71%) now take at least one college-credit-eligible class than they did in 2012, with gains of more than 30 points over baseline across every demographic.

Ready for Kindergarten
DOWN one point – Fewer than half of entering kindergarteners demonstrate the necessary skills as prescribed by WaKIDS. More troubling is that most demographic groups seem to be losing ground on this measure, especially Native American students, who have lost 18 points since 2013.

College Enrollment
DOWN four points – This measure remains low at 54%, a slight decline from 58% in 2010. Demographically speaking, the rates are even lower (35% for Native American students) for all Students of Color (except Asian) and for those in poverty.

College Completion
DOWN one point – Completion within 6 years is also low, with one-third completing a post-secondary degree. Rates have slid from 37% to 35% (Class of 2010 to Class of 2011) and have declined four points and seven points for Black and Hispanic students, respectively.

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