

APRIL 2014

# PROGRESS REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



Road Map Region

**RACE to the TOP**

## TO OUR COMMUNITIES:

In 2012, seven school districts joined forces in an unprecedented partnership to win \$40 million in federal Race to the Top funds. This effort was a tremendous collaboration that brought us together with our education associations and school boards, in addition to mayors, educators, housing authorities, health service providers, community-based organizations and parents.

We call ourselves the Road Map District Consortium, a reference to our participation in the Road Map Project, a community-wide effort in South Seattle and South King County to drive major educational improvement with a focus on personalized learning and doubling the number of students graduating from college by 2020. Standing behind this Consortium is a highly committed group of 23 education leaders and numerous community partners who have put aside turf and institutional silos to work together for the benefit of students in our region.

Our consortium serves Washington State's most disadvantaged students, including 70 percent of the county's low-income students, 69 percent of the county's English Language Learner (ELL) students and 58 percent of the county's students of color. The Race to the Top grant covers 261 schools, 147,085 students (56 percent of King County) and 10,876 educators. The goal of our collective impact work is to accelerate academic progress for the changing face of public education in America. We have high expectations for all students and the collective wisdom and resources to get them there.

This 2014 Progress Report highlights our consortium's goals, our accomplishments from the first year of Race to the Top implementation, and our vision for students to experience significant improvements along the entire education continuum, from cradle to college and career. In its pages, you will see how our districts and community partners have learned with and from one another to support students to Start Strong, be STEM Strong, and Stay Strong.

Thank you for your support of the Road Map District Consortium. Together, we know we can achieve equitable outcomes for all students in our region.

**Dr. Kip Herren** AUBURN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**Robert Neu** FEDERAL WAY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
**Dr. Susan Enfield** HIGHLINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
**Dr. Edward Lee Vargas** KENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**Dr. Merri Rieger** RENTON SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**Jose Banda** SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
**Dr. Nancy Coogan** TUKWILA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**John P. Welch** PUGET SOUND EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT

**START STRONG \$8 MILLION**

We are creating a strong pre-K through 3rd grade system.

GOALS	STRATEGIES
Kindergarten readiness from 37% to 80%	<b>Project 3A/B:</b> Establish a High-Functioning PreK-3rd Grade System Region Wide. Investment Fund for Strategies at the Community Level
3rd grade reading proficiency from 73% to 86%	Commitment 1: Summer Reading Program for every high-need elementary school
3rd grade reading and math opportunity gaps to half	

**STEM STRONG \$6.4 MILLION**

We are strengthening Science, Technology, Engineering and Math skills throughout the region.

GOALS	STRATEGIES
4th grade math proficiency 60% to 80%	<b>Project 4:</b> Provide Digital Math and Science from Tools to all K-8 Schools
5th grade science proficiency from 51% to 68%	<b>Project 5:</b> Create a Regional System for Career Awareness and Exploration
<b>Commitment 4:</b> Double the number of 8th graders taking Algebra or higher Math opportunity gaps in half	<b>Commitment 3:</b> Supplement Next Generation of Science Standards Implementation

**STAY STRONG \$10.3 MILLION**

We are bridging the connection from high school to post-secondary opportunities and including college and careers.

GOALS	STRATEGIES
Graduation rate from 74% to 87%	<b>Project 6:</b> Create an integrated System of Middle and High School Advising
College enrollment from 60% to 71%	<b>Project 7:</b> Provide ReditStep, PSAT & SAT for free, in school to all 8th, 10th and 11th grade students
Remediation from 52% to 37%	<b>Project 8:</b> Make more college and career readiness courses available
	<b>Commitment 5:</b> Implement the High School and Beyond Plan

**FOUNDATIONAL ELEMENTS \$14 MILLION**

We are investing in teaching and leading, data systems and grant management to increase student achievement throughout the region.

- **Project 1:** Investment Fund for Teaching and Leading **\$7.5 million**
- **Project 2:** Data Portal and Data Sharing Agreements **\$2 million**
- **Deep Dives:** School Community Partnerships **\$2 million**
- **Project PE:** Program Evaluation **\$1 million**
- **Project PM:** Project Management, Oversight, Fiscal Management **\$1.5 million**
- **Commitment 2:** Common Core Implementation
- **Commitment 6:** Teacher, Principal, and Superintendent Evaluations

# START STRONG PROGRESS

Thanks to the Race to the Top grant, every district in our Consortium now has a Preschool through -3rd Grade Action Plan – our own “road map” to seamlessly support students from the early years through primary school. Teams of teachers, principals, superintendents, and community early learning partners participated in the first Prek-3rd Grade Regional Convening in August 2013, where they developed a shared understanding of the University of Washington’s Kaurez Framework for Planning, Implementing, and Evaluating Prek-3rd Grade Approaches. Using student data, coaches helped teams to develop Prek-3rd Grade systems-building action plans which each resulted in a successfully funded project under the Project 3B Investment Fund of Race to the Top. Also, to combat summer learning loss, every district implemented a summer reading plan with community-based organizations to support students.



Start Strong

*“We recognize the importance of high-quality early learning in the success of our students in school and beyond. Pre-K Play and Learn will provide incoming Highline children with an opportunity to become more school-ready, while fostering strong partnerships between families and school. We are thrilled to have this opportunity to expand preschool learning opportunities to our youngest students.”*

**HIGHLINE EARLY LEARNING SPECIALIST**





## STEM STRONG PROGRESS

The STEM Strong initiatives include the implementation of the Next Generation Science Standards, students taking Algebra or higher in 8th grade, digital STEM online learning tools, and a shared career awareness and exploration system. In our first year, advisory groups were formed for each of these initiatives, bringing together teachers, district leaders, and staff from community-based organizations to begin to implement and align their work across all districts. The Race to the Top grant has worked closely with Washington STEM and the South King County STEM Network to support students with work-based learning experiences.

- A regional Field Guide was produced that will support a system of student career awareness and exploration.
- Task groups of school, business and community leaders were established to support the STEM Strong initiatives
- Digital STEM online learning tools selected for use in high-need elementary and middle schools

**District Highlight:** In 2011, racial inequities existed in student math achievement in the Kent School District as evidenced by at least a 20-point gap. For the past year, secondary math teachers have engaged in intensive professional development focused on eliminating that gap. At each high-needs middle and high school, all mathematics instructional staff, including Special Education staff has engaged in Best Practices Seminars, Mathematics Studio professional development, resident coaching and participated in a digital forum called Online Math Collaborative.

*“The studio observation was my most valuable learning! By observing the actual teaching from my mentor teacher, I learned and got ideas for my future teaching plan. I have learned how to actively engage my students during class discussion.”* KENT MATH TEACHER

*“Studio is by far the best thing we have ever done to move teacher practice. We need coaching days in-between to keep the momentum going.”* KENT PRINCIPAL

# STAY STRONG PROGRESS

Race to the Top Stay Strong provides coordinated supports to promote students' college and career readiness. In 2013-14, Stay Strong has focused on enhancing our regional guidance counseling system by placing 18 University of Washington Dream Project College and Career Readiness Assistants in regional middle and high schools, and by launching trainings focused on eliminating the opportunity gap. Through the College Board College Readiness Pathway, students have taken the ReadinessStep, PSAT and SAT during the school day at no cost. Districts are also in the early stages of implementing efforts to broaden access to more rigorous courses and personalized instruction through \$1.5 million in the Race to the Top College and Career Readiness Investment Fund.



"I wanted to thank you for your placement of [the CCRA] at Foster High School. She is a great resource in our school and has already been a wonderful asset for our students. She's has innovative ideas and resources and has seamlessly fit in to our developing program of College and Career Readiness."

FOSTER HIGH SCHOOL COLLEGE AND CAREER COUNSELOR

"I really enjoyed the workshop! It was quite empowering and I'm excited for our building to continue this great work to support all children".

FEDERAL WAY MIDDLE SCHOOL COUNSELOR

- **Project 6:** More than 60 counselors recently participated in professional learning focused on building district, school and counselor capacity to eliminate the opportunity gap in advising.
- **Project 7:** More than 7,409 and 8,953 students respectively have taken the ReadinessStep and PSAT through the College Readiness Pathway in fall 2013.
- **Project 8:** Investment Fund projects are underway, reflecting diverse evidence-based strategies including: supporting a strong ninth grade transition, strengthening career and technical course pathways and providing supports to students in Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses.
- **Commitment 5:** An inventory highlighting district implementation of the High School and Beyond Plan was created with recommendations to promote the success of this tool.



# FOUNDATIONAL ELEMENTS PROGRESS

## TEACHING & LEADING

Project 1 creates an investment fund that districts may access to improve teacher and principal skills and abilities, to assist in the creation of personalized learning environments in the region's high-need schools. The emphasis of this fund is on math, science and English Language Learner instruction as well as teacher/principal leadership. Districts received more than \$2 million in grants during our first year to support teachers and principals in high-needs schools. Projects support teacher and leadership capacity, as well as science and math instruction.

## REGIONAL DATA PORTAL

Accurate, timely data is essential for personalized, high-quality instruction for every student, but educators often face challenges accessing student data. Project 2—Develop Common Regional Data Portal and Data Sharing Agreements—enables the secure, rapid transfer of educational data to the right people at the right time while ensuring student and family privacy.

In the first year of implementation, a Data Coordinating Committee was established, comprised of representatives from all districts, as well as community partners. This group conducted an inventory of district systems, software, and capacity for data management. The Committee analyzed this inventory to describe requirements for a “regional student data transfer system” that would meet the needs of districts and CBO partners. These requirements were used to create a preliminary system design and architecture that will be implemented in Year 2.

- All Road Map districts and community partners are working together to connect their data systems, leverage shared technology across the region, and define shared policies and procedures.
- The Road Map region has agreed upon definition of the “student data backpack” – those data sets essential to personalized, high quality instruction – that the private, secure, accurate and timely regional student data system will transport as students move from district to district within our region.

## COMMUNITY-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

Race to the Top “Deep Dive” Projects, focused on intensive community-school partnerships, are forging new and innovative ways to provide education and supports to high-need children, families and communities in ways that can be replicated and have regional significance. These community-school partnerships drive change using a whole-child lens, including schools, neighborhoods, communities and families.

- Highline Public Schools, the White Center Community Development Association and the King County Housing Authority continued their successful partnership to support students and families in the White Center neighborhood. The rapid rehousing initiative has positively impacted several families this year.
- The successful Parent Academy for Student Success, started in the Kent School District, expanded to Renton School District.
- \$1 million was awarded for additional Deep Dive projects in Auburn, Renton and Seattle, to begin in spring 2014.

**DISTRICT INVESTMENT SUMMARIES (AS OF 3/26/14)**

Districts have received or are in the process of receiving Race to the Top grant funding for the following projects.

**AUBURN**

- Distributed Leadership grant (\$192,000), to strengthen teacher and principal leadership (Project 1)
- Coaching, teacher professional development and support (\$6,620 in grants, plus coaching from PSESD) to build a Preschool Through 3rd Grade Systems Team (Project 3A)
- PreK-3rd Grade Systems grant (\$222,365) to implement teacher mentoring and Guided Language Acquisition Design (Project 3B)
- Two College & Career Readiness Assistants to support counselors in high-need schools (1 each at Auburn High School and Olympic Middle School) (Project 6)
- Four-day professional development series for 6 counselors, administrators and community partners (Project 6)
- Readiness, PSAT and SAT testing for free, during the school day, for all 8th, 10th and 11th grade students, plus \$22,549 in test administration support (Project 7)
- College Board Springboard Advising & Industry Certification (\$200,880) to support students' college and career readiness (Project 8)
- Community-School Partnership grant (\$445,722) to start the North Auburn Parent and Community Partnership for Kids to support after school, weekend and summer academic enrichment at Dick Scobee Elementary and Neighborhood House at the Burndale Homes Youth Tutoring and Resource Center (Deep Dive 3)
- Technical support grant to support required accountability reporting (\$6,840) (Project Evaluation)

**FEDERAL WAY**

- School Change Teams grant (\$432,640), to support leaders and teachers to understand data, select change levers and effectively lead change processes (Project 1)
- Coaching, teacher professional development and support (\$7,430 in grants, plus coaching from PSESD) to build a Preschool Through 3rd Grade Systems Team (Project 3A)
- PreK-3rd Grade Systems grant (\$109,693) to develop a Kindergarten Framework for classroom instruction and materials (Project 3B)
- Two College & Career Readiness Assistants to support counselors in high-need schools (1 each at Federal Way High School and Totem Middle School) (Project 6)
- Four-day professional development series for 22 counselors, administrators and community partners (Project 6)
- Readiness, PSAT and SAT testing for free, during the school day, for all 8th, 10th and 11th grade students, plus \$34,965 in test administration support (Project 7)
- Advanced Placement Support, Persistence & Completion grant (\$199,672) to support students who have not been previously enrolled in rigorous advanced courses, or who continue to struggle, in order to further close the enrollment gap (Project 8)
- Technical support grant to support required accountability reporting (\$7,980) (Project Evaluation)

# HIGHLINE

- Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) Academy grant (\$440,000), to build a STEM Academy in middle and elementary schools (Project 1)
- Coaching, teacher professional development and support (\$9,440 in grants, plus coaching from PSESD) to build a Preschool Through 3rd Grade Systems Team (Project 3A)
- PreK-3rd Grade Systems grant (\$207,542) to provide information and culturally responsive outreach to families, caregivers and childcare providers about school success and ways to enhance young children's learning (Project 3B)
- Three College & Career Readiness Assistants to support counselors in high-need schools (1 each at Highline High School, Cascade Middle School and Chinook Middle School) (Project 6)
- Four-day professional development series for 16 counselors, administrators and community partners (Project 6)
- REDIStep, PSAT and SAT testing for free, during the school day, for all 8th, 10th and 11th grade students, plus \$26,562 in test administration support (Project 7)
- Ninth Grade Support grant (\$250,000) to ensure success for ninth graders in order to support advanced course-taking (Project 8)
- Community-School Partnership to improve student achievement in the White Center neighborhood (\$385,787) (Deep Dive 2)
- Technical support grant to support required accountability reporting (\$6,840) (Project Evaluation)

# KENT

- Problem-Based Learning grant for teacher professional development and to create a library of exemplary learning units (\$231,597) (Project 1)
- Secondary math grant for teacher and leader development in mathematics instruction in middle and high schools (\$260,928) (Project 1)
- Coaching, teacher professional development and support (\$9,040 in grants, plus coaching from PSESD) to build a Preschool Through 3rd Grade Systems Team (Project 3A)
- PreK-3rd Grade Systems grant (\$100,724) to implement the district's PreK-3rd Grade Action Plan and to begin a Summer Jump Start program for entering PreK and Kindergarten students (Project 3B)
- Two College & Career Readiness Assistants to support counselors in high-need schools (1 each at Kent Meridian High School and Mill Creek Middle School) (Project 6)
- Four-day professional development series for 5 counselors, administrators and community partners (Project 6)
- REDIStep, PSAT and SAT testing for free, during the school day, for all 8th, 10th and 11th grade students, plus \$41,783 in test administration support (Project 7)
- Advanced Placement and College Bound student support grant (\$220,754) (Project 8)
- Community-School Partnership to improve student achievement in the Kent East Hill neighborhood (\$216,494) (Deep Dive 1)
- Technical support grant to support required accountability reporting (\$7,980) (Project Evaluation)

## RENTON

- Leadership/Teacher Academy and Summer Bridge for Math grant (\$374,120) (Project 1)
- Coaching, teacher professional development and support (\$7,020 in grants, plus coaching from PSESD) to build a Preschool Through 3rd Grade Systems Team (Project 3A)
- PreK-3rd Grade Systems grant (\$167,854) to begin a Summer Jump Start program, collaborate with community partners to reach early learning providers, and develop a PreK-1 assessment aligned with Common Core standards (Project 3B)
- Two College & Career Readiness Assistants to support counselors in high-need schools (1 each at Renton High School and Dimmit Middle School) (Project 6)
- Four-day professional development series for 6 counselors, administrators and community partners (Project 6)
- Readiness, PSAT and SAT testing for free, during the school day, for all 8th, 10th and 11th grade students, plus \$20,375 in test administration support (Project 7)
- International Baccalaureate grant for Renton High School (\$170,640) (Project 8)
- Community-school partnership grant (\$298,498) to provide extended learning and community and parent engagement at Honey Dew and Highlands elementary schools (Deep Dive 3)
- Technical support grant to support required accountability reporting (\$6,840) (Project Evaluation)

## SEATTLE

- Seattle Teacher Residency investment (\$225,455), a full-year classroom apprenticeship program (Project 1)
- Coaching, teacher professional development and support (\$10,240 in grants, plus coaching from PSESD) to build a Preschool Through 3rd Grade Systems Team (Project 3A)
- PreK-3rd Grade Systems grant (\$240,000) to implement professional development for teachers and other staff, and to start Play & Learn groups focused on Kindergarten readiness (Project 3B)
- Four College & Career Readiness Assistants to support counselors in high-need schools (1 each at Chief Sealth High School, Cleveland High School, and Aki Kurose Middle School and Denny Middle School) (Project 6)
- Four-day professional development series for 17 counselors, administrators and community partners (Project 6)
- Readiness, PSAT and SAT testing for free, during the school day, for 8th, 10th and 11th grade students, plus \$31,310 in test administration support (Project 7)
- International Baccalaureate expansion grant (\$251,552) (Project 8)
- Community-school partnership grant (\$315,849) to provide students of Emerson Elementary School with in- and out-of-school math and literacy instruction, with a focus on the arts (Deep Dive 3)
- Technical support grant to support required accountability reporting (\$10,260) (Project Evaluation)

# TUKWILA

- Coaching, teacher professional development and support (\$6,210 in grants, plus coaching from PSESD) to build a Preschool Through 3rd Grade Systems Team (Project 3A)
- PreK-3rd Grade Systems grant (\$121,380) to implement professional development for teachers and expand the district's Summer Jump Start program (Project 3B)
- Two College & Career Readiness Assistants to support counselors in high-need schools (1 each at Foster High School and Showalter Middle School) (Project 6)
- Four-day professional development series for 15 counselors, administrators and community partners (Project 6)
- Readiness, PSAT and SAT testing for free, during the school day, for all 8th, 10th and 11th grade students, plus \$4,651 in test administration support (Project 7)
- College readiness grant (\$200,000) to improve students' credit accrual and course failure rates (Project 8)
- Technical support grant to support required accountability reporting (\$4,560) (Project Evaluation)

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

As outlined in the grant application, the Road Map District Consortium is overseen by a nine-person Executive Committee. This group was selected via a nomination and election process in January. The public was invited to submit nominations for the three school district leaders and the two at-large members.

### DISTRICT MANAGEMENT LEADERS REPRESENTATIVES

**Rob Neu** SUPERINTENDENT, FEDERAL WAY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Alan Spicciati** CHIEF ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER, HIGHLINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**John Schmitz** PRINCIPAL, KENNYDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, RENTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

### AT-LARGE COMMUNITY PARTNER REPRESENTATIVES

**Mary Jean Ryan** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY CENTER FOR EDUCATION RESULTS

**Vu Le** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, VIETNAMESE FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION

### UNION LEADERSHIP REPRESENTATIVES

**Jason Brown** FEDERAL WAY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Dianne Jordan** AUBURN SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Jonathan Knapp** SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### PUGET SOUND EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT

**John P. Welch** SUPERINTENDENT

RTT-D FISCAL REPORT: Expenditures, Encumbered Contracts & Budget Balance (as of 3/30/14)

