



# TRAFFIC REPORT

Detailed updates from around the Road Map Project

May/June 2015

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Hello!

Thank you for reading the May/June issue of the Road Map Traffic Report! These updates build on information shared in previous Traffic Reports. Please visit the [Road Map Project website](#) to view earlier issues.

The Traffic Report is issued every two months to better provide you with helpful and thorough updates from across the Road Map Project. Please email [info@ccedresults.org](mailto:info@ccedresults.org) with any feedback.

Thank you!!

-CCER Team

## ROAD MAP PROJECT-WIDE UPDATES

### Policy Link Equity Summit

Policy Link is planning a large Equity Summit in Los Angeles from Oct. 27-29. The Community Network will be taking the lead in helping to organize a Road Map Project education equity delegation from our region to attend. Stay tuned for more details. If you would like to assist in the planning of the delegation, please contact Mary Jean at [mjryan@ccedresults.org](mailto:mjryan@ccedresults.org).

### Best Starts for Kids

The King County Council is currently deliberating the [Best Starts for Kids](#) initiative and considering its inclusion on the November ballot. The proposal has many components, all of which have significance for the Road Map Project. Multiple work groups in the Road Map Project are keeping updated with Best Starts for Kids, and a presentation was made at the June Education Results Network meeting by Sheila Capestany, the county's lead staff on the initiative. The Advocates Caucus will soon be considering recommending to the Project Sponsors group that the proposal be endorsed as one of the overall Road Map Project advocacy priorities.

### **Road Map Project restructuring**

The Project Sponsors group and the Community Network are both considering some restructuring of role and composition and areas of focus. In order to end up with the best possible steering/strategic advisory function for the next phase of the Road Map Project, representatives from both groups will be discussing this over the summer. If you are interested in joining these discussions, please contact Mary Jean at [mjryan@ccedresults.org](mailto:mjryan@ccedresults.org).

## **BIRTH TO 3RD GRADE**

*CONTACT (Let's Read!): Sara Siegel, Let's Read! Campaign Coordinator,*  
[ssiegel@ccedresults.org](mailto:ssiegel@ccedresults.org)

*CONTACT (Birth to 3rd Grade Work Group): Lynda Petersen, CCER Associate Director and Birth to 3rd Grade Work Group staffer,* [lpetersen@ccedresults.org](mailto:lpetersen@ccedresults.org)

### **Supporting summer learning**

*Let's Read!* is excited to be partnering with United Way of King County and School's Out Washington to bring quality educational programming to free summer meal sites across King County. Eighty United Way-sponsored AmeriCorps members will not only serve free meals, but also provide fun, interactive and educational activities for kids visiting meal sites to keep them engaged.

Since May, the *Let's Read!* team has distributed over 50,000 stickers, posters, magnets and summer reading agreements to over 30 local partner organizations and schools in every one of the Road Map Project region districts. These materials will be highly visible to kids and families throughout the region and encourage them to read and learn during the summer months.

Thanks to First Book Seattle, *Let's Read!* has over 3,000 free books to give away this summer! The giveaway will be held in Auburn on July 9. For more information or to receive free books, please contact Sara Siegel ([ssiegel@ccedresults.org](mailto:ssiegel@ccedresults.org)). In addition to materials and books, weekly learning tips will be sent out every week this summer. If you are interested in receiving weekly literacy and STEM tips from *Let's Read!*, please contact Sara Siegel ([ssiegel@ccedresults.org](mailto:ssiegel@ccedresults.org)).

### **Birth to 3rd Grade Work Group priority strategies**

At the June meeting, the Birth to 3rd Grade Work Group completed a nine month process to identify a set of strategies to support implementation of in the next 1-2 years. Thanks to all of the work group members who contributed greatly to this process! The set of five strategies spans the continuum from prenatal through 3rd grade, and includes opportunities for alignment with efforts and partners across the Road Map Project. Over the next two months, work group members and lead implementers will participate in strategy-specific meetings to help develop implementation plans. If you would like more information about the process or would like to participate in the implementation planning for one of the strategies, please contact Lynda Petersen ([lpetersen@ccedresults.org](mailto:lpetersen@ccedresults.org)).

Prioritized strategies:

- **Increase parent/family engagement** and knowledge of brain development, early literacy and numeracy and the importance of their role in supporting their child's development
- Spread information to parents about the **region's kindergarten registration campaign**, with a focus on reaching recent immigrant/refugee families, limited English-speaking families and other populations with lowest rates of kindergarten readiness
- Increase developmental screens and awareness of availability of **early intervention services**
- Increase **data coaching focused professional development** for early learning and K-3rd grade professionals in order to improve instruction
- Develop and implement plans to **prevent summer learning loss**, especially for low-income children

### **Work group letters of support**

While the Birth to 3rd Grade Work Group was working through the process to identify priority strategies, the group decided to also lend its collective voice in support of two exciting developments in early learning. On June 3, the work group submitted a letter of support for the [Early Start Act](#) to Senate Ways & Means Chair Andy Hill and House Appropriations Chair Ross Hunter in concert with the statewide Early Learning Action Alliance. Thanks to the tireless work of early learning advocates all over the state and the leadership in our legislature, the [Early Start Act passed](#) on June 30 and has been sent to the governor for his signature. The passage of this act includes a \$158 million investment in early learning in the 2015-17 budget and a new level of commitment to early learning in Washington.

Additionally, on June 24, the work group submitted a letter of support for King County Executive Dow Constantine's [Best Starts for Kids](#) proposal to the King County Council. The work group's letter included support for the plan that 50 percent of the funding will support positive outcomes for children prenatal to 5 and their families, and that the latest in brain science will guide the development of the implementation plan. The proposal is currently being considered by the Budget and Fiscal Management Committee. The next committee meeting is July 8. This committee will vote for the proposal to be considered by the full council later in July. If approved by the full council, the proposal will be on the November ballot.

## **COLLEGE & CAREER SUCCESS**

*CONTACT: Kirsten Avery, "Avery," CCER College and Career Success Director and High School to College Completion Advisory Group staffer, [kavery@cccedresults.org](mailto:kavery@cccedresults.org)*

### **College Bound Scholarship sign-up rate reaches 94%**

As of June 29, 94% of the 5,409 eligible 8th graders in the Road Map Project region had signed up for the College Bound Scholarship. The College Bound Scholarship combines with other state aid to cover the average cost of tuition (at comparable public colleges), some fees and a small book allowance for students from low-income families who sign up by June 30 of their 8th grade year, maintain a 2.0 GPA, stay out of legal trouble, file the FAFSA and successfully enroll in a participating higher-education institution when they graduate.

Highline Public Schools and Renton School District led the region by signing up 100% of their eligible 8th graders. Tukwila School District, Auburn School District and Kent School District followed closely behind with respective sign-up rates of 99%, 97% and 95%. Thanks to the efforts of schools, community organizations, cities and many other partners working together to

ensure thousands of middle school students are now on track to take advantage of this opportunity.

Although the June 30 deadline has passed, the sign-up rate is expected to rise as applications submitted before that deadline are processed. Additionally, any students who submitted an incomplete application before the deadline have until August 31 to complete their application. If you have questions regarding the College Bound Scholarship campaign, contact Jennie Flaming at [jflaming@psed.org](mailto:jflaming@psed.org).

### **DiscoverU Fall 2015 -- TAKE THE PLEDGE!**

Mark your calendars, DiscoverU is taking place Oct. 12-16, 2015! DiscoverU is an exciting week for students across Seattle and South King County to explore college and career options. Students of all ages, pre-K through college, will have the opportunity to think about how education can help them reach their dreams. During this week, students will learn about educators' college and career paths, see staff proudly sporting their college gear and participate in fun activities that encourage them to explore their futures. But DiscoverU isn't limited to schools! Everyone from colleges, businesses, community-based organizations, libraries, city governments, community members and families are invited to join DiscoverU and put college and career in the spotlight! To learn more about DiscoverU, visit <http://roadmaptocollege.org/discoveru/>.

To support participation, new resources, sample lessons and posters will be posted to the DiscoverU educators webpage on the Road Map to College website in the fall. Visit <http://roadmaptocollege.org/discoveru/educators/> to see DiscoverU materials from previous years.

In the meantime, here is how you can prepare for DiscoverU:

1. **Mark your calendars and spread the word.** Make sure you add DiscoverU to your organization's or institution's calendars and share the save-the-date.
2. **Take the DiscoverU Pledge!** This year, there is an online pledge for DiscoverU. Now you can pledge your school, organization or individual participation online and see who else is participating. To take the pledge, visit <http://roadmaptocollege.org/discoveru/discoveru-pledge/>.
3. **Sign-up for the DiscoverU newsletter.** The DiscoverU newsletter will share information and resources and highlight participating organizations in the weeks leading up to DiscoverU. You can join the listserv by taking the DiscoverU pledge or adding your email to the listserv here <http://roadmaptocollege.org/discoveru/>.

If you have any questions about DiscoverU, contact Torie Gonsalves at [tgonsalves@ccedresults.org](mailto:tgonsalves@ccedresults.org).

### **Community and technical college data**

Through a partnership with local community and technical colleges (CTCs), the Washington State Board of Community and Technical Colleges and the Washington State Education Research and Data Center, CCER has received CTC data for students graduating from districts in the Road Map Project region who have gone on to enroll in local CTCs. CCER has been able to analyze outcomes for these students and will share a Road Map Project region-level analysis at the July 8 Puget Sound Coalition for College and Career Readiness Retreat. At the retreat, coalition members will also identify how they would like to use the data and future analysis to support the work of the coalition, their institutions and the Project Finish Line learning community. Ultimately, the regional analysis will be made available on [roadmapproject.org](http://roadmapproject.org) to

support the work of other Road Map Project partners. For more information, contact Avery at [kavery@ccedresults.org](mailto:kavery@ccedresults.org).

### **High School and Beyond Leadership Institute**

The Road Map Project, in partnership with Race to the Top, is hosting the 3rd annual High School and Beyond Leadership Institute (HSBLI) from August 18-20, 2015. The HSBLI will convene 50 school and district staff members, ranging from high school counselors to CTE directors to parent engagement coordinators, to focus on building a college-going, career-centered culture in their districts. Participants from the seven Road Map Project region districts will be analyzing and utilizing data to identify areas of improvement and to inform programming in the 2015-16 school year.

At this time, the leadership institute is open only to Road Map Project region school districts and participants must be nominated, but all resources and materials will be made available online after the institute. To view High School and Beyond Leadership Institute materials from previous years, visit <http://www.roadmapproject.org/resources/presentations-materials/>. For more information, contact Torie Gonsalves at [tgonsalves@ccedresults.org](mailto:tgonsalves@ccedresults.org).

### **Puget Sound Coalition and Project Finish Line**

The Puget Sound Coalition retreat takes place on July 8 and will bring together superintendents, college presidents and guests to discuss the group's work plan to improve high school graduation, college enrollment and college completion in 2015-17.

[Project Finish Line](#), a \$1.3 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation supporting student completion among member community and technical colleges, is currently underway with hiring taking place at partner campuses for completion coaches. Dr. Maureen Pettitt will be planning efforts to launch the regional learning community that is focused on student completion. Dr. Pettitt brings rich experience to this role, having directed institutional research at Skagit Valley College for 17 years. She has also led student and faculty learning communities across Washington and serves as faculty at the [Washington Center for Improving the Quality of Undergraduate Education](#). She has met with project teams and will be developing a survey to identify regional priorities for learning community topics and activities.

### **Race to the Top Stay Strong**

Stay Strong grantee, Rainier Beach High School had its International Baccalaureate Program featured recently on [PBS](#). Districts submitted the third round of proposals to the [Race to the Top College and Career Readiness Investment Fund](#) and these grants will be reviewed in mid-July.

## **ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELL)**

*CONTACT: Chelsea Whealdon, OneAmerica Education Policy Associate and ELL Work Group staffer, [chelsea@weareoneamerica.org](mailto:chelsea@weareoneamerica.org)*

### **World Language Credit Program video available in 11 languages!**

Thanks to the generous support of the Road Map Project Rapid Resource Fund, the [video for the World Language Credit Program](#) has been translated into the 11 top languages in South King County (with two more -- Arabic and Russian -- coming soon!). We need to spread the word to families and get these out in the community as a way to both inform families and students about the opportunity and to promote the importance of home language development from a young age. You can find all translated videos posted [here on this page](#). Please post the

videos to your own websites, download them or use our link! If you would like the downloadable versions, please email Chelsea Whealdon at [chelsea@weareoneamerica.org](mailto:chelsea@weareoneamerica.org).

### **UW partners with ELL Work Group to conduct study on older ELLs**

A team at the University of Washington's College of Education will conduct a recently funded research project titled, "What's After High School? Understanding the High School-to-College Trajectory of Academically Successfully English Language Learners in two Road Map School Districts." Big thank you to the Rapid Resource Fund! This project will dive deep into two Road Map Project school districts to help us better understand the pathways of ELL students between secondary and postsecondary to inform what supports are necessary to support this student population. If you are interested in learning more or being involved please contact Chelsea Whealdon at [chelsea@weareoneamerica.org](mailto:chelsea@weareoneamerica.org).

## **YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FOR EDUCATION RESULTS**

*CONTACT: Jessica Werner, Executive Director of Youth Development Executives of King County and Youth Development for Education Results Work Group staffer,*  
[jwerner@ydekc.org](mailto:jwerner@ydekc.org)

### **Work group action plan**

The Youth Development for Education Results Work Group completed the first draft of its action plan goals and strategies. Draft goals include:

- Goal 1: Enhance and improve systems at the community, school, district and regional level that support strong partnerships to improve student outcomes
- Goal 2: Advance efforts to measure and improve student success skills and dispositions (i.e. engagement, motivation, social emotional, non-cognitive skills)
- Goal 3: More and better expanded learning opportunities during the summer and throughout the school year.

You can access more details [here](#), and stay tuned for a fleshed out plan by the fall. As always, you can access documents and other related PPTs or resources from our work group [here](#).

## **OPPORTUNITY YOUTH**

*CONTACT: Nicole Yohalem, Director of the Road Map Project Opportunity Youth Initiative and Opportunity Youth Work Group staffer,*  
[nyohalem@ccedresults.org](mailto:nyohalem@ccedresults.org)

### **Regional Re-Engagement Network**

This community of practice made up of case managers, instructors and program leaders from Open Doors and other re-engagement programs began meeting in September 2014 and continues to meet the fourth Friday of each month. May's meeting focused on Open Doors indicators of academic progress, and June's meeting focused on increasing youth voice and leadership. The network is exploring joint branding and an improved web presence. Meeting materials and participant information are posted [here](#). The [Opportunity Youth Advisory Group](#) also continues to meet quarterly to advise on and review progress on implementation of the [Opportunity Youth Action Plan](#).

### **Youth video project**

The Opportunity Youth Action Plan includes an emphasis on youth-led outreach strategies. Youth from the King County Youth Advisory Council were trained by professional filmmakers

through Reel Grrls and are now developing short YouTube-style videos about different programs around the region to educate their peers about options to reconnect with education. Filming has taken place at YouthSource in Renton, iGrad in Kent and Multi-Service Center in Federal Way, and youth are now editing down hours of footage. Stay tuned!

#### **Peer outreach pilot**

Two community-based organizations that offer re-engagement programming in South King County and had additional capacity this summer, Multi-Service Center and Safe Futures, received small grants from United Way and CCER to pilot peer outreach strategies. Each organization hired former program participants as part-time peer outreach workers. These staff meet youth where they are -- in parks, transit centers, malls, libraries, churches and on Facebook and Instagram - and use their own family and social networks to spread the word and recruit young people to participate. We are documenting successes and challenges and will share lessons learned with the Opportunity Youth Advisory Group and Regional Re-Engagement Network.

#### **Opportunity Youth Incentive Fund (OYIF) Convening**

In May, a Road Map Project team including youth, staff from CBOs, philanthropy, non-profits and local government attended the Aspen OYIF convening in New Orleans. Our team learned a lot and also had several opportunities to present. Youth leader Freda Crichton presented on the partnership between the King County Youth Advisory Council and the Road Map Project. Jennifer Hill from King County presented about on-ramps to college and career, and Jeff Corey from Seattle Education Access presented on college/career navigation. One of the most powerful aspects of the meeting was the [opening keynote](#) by Angela Glover Blackwell on why racial equity matters in collective impact efforts.

## **FAMILY ENGAGEMENT**

*CONTACT: Anthony Shoecraft, CCER Family and Community Engagement Director, [ashoecraft@ccedresults.org](mailto:ashoecraft@ccedresults.org)*

#### **Harvard Family Engagement Institute**

The 2015 Harvard Family Engagement Institute will be held July 21-24 at Harvard University. Representing family engagement stakeholders from early learning through K-12, the Road Map Project delegation includes 66 parents, staff from community-based organizations, district leaders, school board directors, principals and educators. A pre-institute convening was held June 25 at Federal Way Public Schools to build connections among the delegation; identify and discuss goals for the trip; and have Q&A with Dr. Karen Mapp from Harvard, the institute's lead organizer. A regional planning team with representatives from CCER, Puget Sound Educational Service District, King County Housing Authority, YMCA, Federal Way Public Schools and more helped to design the pre-institute convening and the post-institute convening planned for July 30. You can track the delegation's experience at the institute on social media by following the hashtag #RMPfamily. For questions, please contact Carlina Brown-Banks at [cbbanks@ccedresults.org](mailto:cbbanks@ccedresults.org).

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

*CONTACT: Carlina Brown-Banks, CCER Parent Engagement Coordinator, [cbbanks@ccedresults.org](mailto:cbbanks@ccedresults.org)*

#### **Welcome receptions for incoming Road Map Project region superintendents**

On June 27, the Community Network Council hosted a welcome reception to honor new Kent School District Superintendent Dr. Calvin Watts and his family to the Kent community. Members

from the Kent School Board, including the president, and a host of civic, community and institutional leaders shared remarks throughout the program. Dr. Watts and his family were also welcomed into the community by a number of cultural and youth-led performances. The reception was held at the Kent Senior Community Center.

A welcome reception for Dr. Tammie Campbell, the new Federal Way Public Schools superintendent, was hosted by Truman High School and featured performances by the Wildwood Elementary School choir, Illahee Middle School choir and Decatur High School Jazz Band. Students, families, staff and community members gathered at this welcome event.

### **Living Room Conversations and Results Roundtable**

In the Road Map Project region this year, there have been five Living Room Conversations about relevant data points; one with youth, two with Seattle parents and one with Federal Way parents. We have five more planned before the end of summer. These conversations continue to be encouraging in leading parents to consider what they know about their schools and how they see their students in the data. Kent Community Network Council collaborated with 15 community partners to plan a Kent Community Results Roundtable. There were important discussions among the variety of partners attending the event and all of the attendees helped to make the event a huge success. More than 120 people attended and translation services were available in four languages. Additionally, 10 students participated in a "fishbowl discussion," where the students spoke in the middle of the room about their reflections on the data and the adults listened. Superintendents Dr. Tony Apostle and Dr. Calvin Watts were among the attendees. If you are interested in planning, participating in or support a Results Roundtable or Living Room Conversation, please contact Carlina at [cbbanks@cedresults.org](mailto:cbbanks@cedresults.org).

## **ALIGNED FUNDERS**

*CONTACT: Betsy Dennis, Aligned Funders staffer,*  
[bdennis@philanthropyNW.org](mailto:bdennis@philanthropyNW.org)

### **Aligned Funders May meeting**

Funders representing 11 funding organizations attended the May Aligned Funders meeting held at United Way King County. Participants engaged in a lively discussion about recent updates from around the Road Map Project and about the importance of leadership. The group also shared reflections from a recent Collective Impact Funder Convening in New Orleans.

### **Rapid Resource Pooled Fund**

In May, the funders participating in the Rapid Resource Fund were pleased to award two grants. The first was submitted by the ELL Work Group and the grant was awarded to the University of Washington College of Education to support data collection and analysis to support understanding the high school-to-college trajectory of academically successful ELL students in two Road Map Project region school districts. The second was submitted by the Community Network and the grant was awarded to CCER to enable four additional parents or community-based organization representatives to attend the Harvard Family Engagement Institute in July.

Upcoming deadlines for future proposals will be announced in August. The fund is currently open to additional funding partners. Please contact Leslie Silverman [lsilverman@philanthropyNW.org](mailto:lsilverman@philanthropyNW.org) for more information about the Rapid Resource Fund.

## **ADVOCACY**

*CONTACT: Sylvester Cann, CCER Advocacy Director and Advocates Caucus staffer,*



[scann@ccedresults.org](mailto:scann@ccedresults.org)

### **"Follow the Money" strategy**

Most of us have one question on our mind as the legislature wraps up this session and prepares to make a historic investment in education: Will this money be used for its intended purpose and close opportunity gaps? The Road Map Project is gathering data to help answer that question.

CCER will be partnering with a number of organizations to hire a consultant from Third Sector Intelligence to conduct an analysis of the state's investment to the seven Road Map Project districts in areas of basic education (i.e. Learning Assistance Program, parent involvement coordinators, Transitional Bilingual Instructional Program, etc.). A lot of new money will flow to districts earmarked for opportunity gap-closing measures and we want to make sure the money is used effectively for that purpose. A comprehensive scope of work has been drafted to gather useful data. Two examples of deliverables in the scope are listed below:

- Analysis of total allocation from Washington State to seven Road Map Project school districts (Auburn, Federal Way, Highline, Kent, Renton, Seattle, Tukwila) FY 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, projected 2016-17. Include a breakdown for funding for major categories, including: Special Education, Learning Assistance Program (LAP), Transitional Bilingual Instructional Program (TBIP) & Exited, Maintenance, Supplies and Operating Costs (MSOC), Student Transportation, Parent Involvement Coordinators, Guidance Counselors.
- Analysis of the voter-approved, local levy funding available in each of the seven school districts that is used for any of the above major funding categories. Include the specifics of the levy amount that was approved by voters and the duration. Also want to know how the levy funding is used if outside of the above major funding areas (i.e. teacher compensation, etc.).

This is a really exciting project that has already generated a great deal of interest. If you are interested in reviewing the scope of work, or if your organization is interested in partnering on this analysis, please contact Sylvester Cann at [scann@ccedresults.org](mailto:scann@ccedresults.org).

## **DATA**

*CONTACT: Alessandra Pollock, CCER Director for Data,*  
[apollock@ccedresults.org](mailto:apollock@ccedresults.org)

### **Community and technical college data**

The CCER Data Team and Postsecondary Success team have been hard at work creating useful analysis of postsecondary persistence and completion data for our local colleges. New analysis is now in the hands of our college partners and will be presented at the July 8 Puget Sound Coalition retreat. We are looking forward to developing additional reports and visualizations to support postsecondary success.

### **Road Map Project Data Advisors Group**

The Data Advisors Group kicked off the annual review of student success indicators during its June meeting. This effort will continue through the September and November meetings. The group welcomes Andrew Parr, senior analyst at the Washington State Board of Education, who will begin attending in September.

### **Smarter Balanced Assessments**

The Data Advisors Group members have been working together to share Smarter Balanced implementation results and initial outcomes among Road Map Project districts. We are encouraged by the participation in the new assessments and by the results reported by the districts from aggregated data. We are also looking forward to conversations about continually improving the assessments and their implementation as part of the appropriate use of data to improve instruction and support our students.

### **Results Roundtables and Living Room Conversations**

CCER Data Team staff have helped prepare data presentations for several community groups in the last few months to support our community and parent engagement work. Presentations included the Kent Roundtable and for the Somali Parent Forum as well as additional Living Room Conversations supported by individual parents.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

*CONTACT: Kristin Johnson-Waggoner, CCER Communications Manager,  
[kjohnson@ccedresults.org](mailto:kjohnson@ccedresults.org)*

### **Strategic communications plan update**

Partner organizations are critical to the development and implementation of the Road Map Project strategic communications plan. To strengthen partners' knowledge about the plan and encourage input and engagement, CCER held three meetings in June. The meetings each had a different focus, such as how the region can lift and amplify community aspiration and demand for public education (aka build public will) and how we can work together to improve information quality and access for parents. Participating partners included the Puget Sound Educational Service District, Child Care Resources, College Spark Washington and OneAmerica. The meetings generated rich feedback and valuable discussion that will guide the plan's development. If you are interested in getting involved or sharing feedback, please contact Kristin at [kjohnson@ccedresults.org](mailto:kjohnson@ccedresults.org).

Next steps for the communications plan include refinement of preliminary strategies and tactics with continued partner input. Implementation of components of the plan will begin this fall.