

Detailed, monthly updates from around the Road Map Project
August 2014

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THANK YOU for reading the August issue of the Road Map Traffic Report! These updates build upon information shared in the previous Traffic Report. Please visit the [Road Map Project website](#) to view earlier issues.

EDUCATION RESULTS NETWORK

The next Education Results Network meeting is coming up! We hope to see you there. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to RSVP!

Education Results Network Meeting
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 25
Puget Sound Educational Service District
800 Oakesdale Ave. SW
Renton, WA 98057

BIRTH TO 3RD GRADE

Let's Read! summer reading campaign

The *Let's Read!* summer reading campaign has been working with [Univision Seattle](#) to spread the message of reading during summer through interviews with *Let's Read!* partners, including a local physician, librarian and interpreter. Thanks to Dr. Diana Lindner, of Reach Out And Read; Marcela Calderon-Vodall, of The Seattle Public Library; and Audita Brockett, of Renton School District, for participating in these interviews! Click the following links to see the respective interviews: [ROAR](#), [SPL](#), and [RSD](#). Text messages also went out to thousands of subscribers of Univision's text alerts throughout the summer. Examples of the text messages include, "Read at least 30 minutes every day" or "Read in any language with your children."

This summer, the *Let's Read!* team also launched Summer Literacy Corps, a pilot project, with help from [United Way of King County's One Million Meals Campaign](#). As part of Summer Literacy Corps, two interns brought books and literacy activities to children visiting South King County summer meal sites, especially those without existing programming for children. Bringing resources and activities directly to children encouraged continued learning

LET'S READ! May Saetern

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ROAD MAP TO COLLEGE CAMPAIGN

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and reading during the summer. The Summer Literacy Corps also distributed [Vroom](#) materials in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.

Over an 11-week period, the *Let's Read!* literacy tips went out to over 150 partners of the campaign via email and social media. In addition to the weekly literacy tips, STEM tips were sent every other week. (This year, both The Seattle Public Library and King County Library System changed their summer reading programs to summer learning programs to include STEM.) Most of the literacy and STEM tips were recommended by partner librarians with these two library systems. During the last week of August, back-to-school tips were sent each day. Thanks to everyone who helped spread these messages to families this summer!

COLLEGE & CAREER SUCCESS

Road Map to College campaign

The annual Road Map to College Campaign will be kicking off again for the 2014-15 school year. The Road Map to College team has developed new logos for the campaign and is in the process of overhauling the website to better communicate these important student supports. Please visit roadmaptocollege.org to take a look. Much more content will be added to the website in September.

DiscoverU

DiscoverU is around the corner, Oct. 13-17, so please keep an eye on the website for new materials and resources! Also, scheduling is underway for fall College Application Events, which run from October to December. Event dates and locations will be posted to the website throughout September.

High School to College Completion Action Plan

In July, the [High School to College Completion Advisory Group](#) met for a summer planning session. During the session, advisory group members looked at progress made on the action plan strategies and made revisions to the next version of the action plan. The advisory group is working toward finalizing a more detailed and revised action plan by the end of the fall.

Community and technical college data

Community and technical college (CTC) data partners were convened on Aug. 13 to provide technical feedback on the Road Map Project's CTC reports. The CCER data team received input that is helping guide the next phase and edits of the work. During the fall, draft data will continue to be shared with CTC data partners, as well as the Puget Sound Coalition for College and Career Readiness and Road Map Project Postsecondary Success Subcommittee, which will be focusing on further developing postsecondary persistence and completion strategies for the updated version of the High School to College Completion Action Plan.

ELL WORK GROUP

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NEWS FLASH - New Seattle Colleges placement policy

The Seattle Colleges have revised their course placement policies. In addition to the COMPASS Test and ACT scores, Seattle Colleges will accept high school transcripts for math and SAT for math and English on a trial basis. This new policy leverages Race to the Top's support for all 11th graders' participation in the [SAT for free during the school day](#). Each community college has a page describing steps needed to enroll that may be found [here](#).

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELL)

ELL Work Group priorities

As part of one of the [ELL Work Group's](#) 2014 projects, the work group is partnering with Education Northwest to align definitions of long-term, newcomer and former ELLs between the seven Road Map Project districts and will be discussing this at the September work group meeting. This is an exciting development and the first step within a larger effort to better understand our older ELL population and expand pathways to serve them as well as developing better indicators to capture progress of this student population.

In early August, Hilary Loeb, the staffer for the Puget Sound Coalition for College and Career Readiness presented to the Road Map Project ELL Work Group on the [Puget Sound Compact](#). The ELL Work Group is very excited to have the opportunity to present to the coalition on the [ELL Action Plan](#) (PDF) in October.

In the end of June, the work group worked with the Road Map Project's Community Network to provide feedback for the [Race to the Top Deep Dive 3](#) letters of intent, and are looking forward to supporting next steps in this process to support ELL students and their families.

The [Road Map ELL Endorsement Program](#) at Heritage University's ELL Academy & Institute is off to a great start. The first cohort began this summer with 13 individuals enrolled. The second cohort will begin Sept. 18, and currently has 23 enrolled with more expected.

Dual generation pilot project in South King County

OneAmerica is launching a dual generation pilot project with a focus on immigrant and refugee families in South King County. The first information session for Spanish-speaking parents was held Aug. 30 in Federal Way. The focus of this effort is to both empower parents to support themselves economically and in what they need to fully support their children's learning. The aim of parents organizing together is to raise parent voice into decision-making arenas around issues affecting immigrant and refugee parents and ELL students. For more information, please call OneAmerica staff member Chelsea Whealdon at 206-452-8419.

STEM NETWORK

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YOUTH DEVELOPMENT WORK GROUP

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STEM (SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH)

South King County STEM Network

The South King County STEM Network announced last week it will receive a multi-year grant totaling \$200,000 from Washington STEM, a statewide nonprofit, to help improve STEM teaching and learning in the region. CCER will act as the lead staff organization for the South King County STEM Network with Sylvester Cann spearheading the work.

The South King County STEM Network was first convened in 2012 to create a business plan (similar to work plans or action plans created by other Road Map Project work groups) to improve STEM outcomes for students in the region. The business plan focuses on three priority areas: building awareness and enthusiasm for STEM, providing real-world STEM career experiences and developing STEM literacy in the classroom.

The network includes school district and community college educators, community and non-profit leaders, STEM professionals and other education stakeholders interested in STEM.

The network will convene on Monday, Sept, 22, and will focus on supporting strong regional implementation of the business plan and building momentum around improving STEM outcomes. Please contact Sylvester for more details. To read a press release about the grant announcement, [please click here](#).

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FOR EDUCATION RESULTS

Youth Development for Education Results Work Group

The Youth Development for Education Results Work Group, staffed by Youth Development Executives of King County (YDEKC), will be launching on Sept. 17. Key work for the work group will include:

- *Develop an action plan to support stronger partnerships between youth-serving community-based organizations (CBOs) and schools.* The plan will outline, document and encourage implementation of effective partnership practices around policy, leadership, data and management practices between schools and CBOs in supporting school success.
- *Support effective data sharing and use.* The plan will build on efforts to improve data access, data stewardship and data use between schools and CBOs, and between CBOs where appropriate. The plan will also support data stewardship and governance practices among CBOs.
- *Advance regional efforts to measure and improve student engagement and motivation.* YDEKC, along with many partners, will improve and encourage the continued adoption of the student engagement and motivation survey or equivalent tools for use in schools and CBOs.

OPPORTUNITY YOUTH WORK GROUP

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- *Support CBO alignment with Road Map Project goals and indicators.* Many CBOs intentionally work on various Road Map Project Indicators of Student Success (in addition to motivation and engagement). The work group will identify and explore implementation of models (data coaching or otherwise) that support indicator-focused CBO work.

To review the full draft work group commission, [please click here](#) (PDF).

OPPORTUNITY YOUTH

Opportunity Youth Action Plan drafted

The Opportunity Youth Work Group has [drafted an action plan](#) focused on building a robust, coordinated, diverse system of re-engagement pathways designed to help youth and young adults reconnect to education and progress toward a college or career credential and living-wage work. During August, work group members gathered feedback from a range of stakeholders including the King County Youth Development Network, PathNet, South King County district truancy liaisons, the Road Map Project Community Network, Somali Youth & Family Club, WAPI and many more individuals and organizations. Input on [the plan](#) is welcome! Please contact Nicole Yohalem to share feedback.

Regional re-engagement network

This fall, CCER will begin hosting monthly meetings of a regional re-engagement provider network. Input is being gathered now from providers via survey with the goal of building a robust learning community that supports peer learning, continuous quality improvement and system building.

Reconnecting Youth initiative identifies CBO partners

Reconnecting Youth is a partnership focused on re-engaging 18-21 year old opportunity youth. The partnership involves the United Way of King County along with King County Employment and Education Resources, Renton Technical College, Renton and Tukwila schools, the Puget Sound Education Service District and CCER. In August, the United Way announced three new community-based organization (CBO) partners will join the effort: SafeFutures, Multiservice Center and Seattle Education Access. These CBOs will provide case management and navigation services in partnership with YouthSource and Renton Technical College. This marks a major expansion of re-engagement capacity in South King County and will help ensure that several hundred opportunity youth get the instructional and wrap-around support needed to reconnect to education and employment in 2015!

PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Regional team attends family engagement institute at Harvard

As part of the Road Map Project's focus on parent engagement, a regional

PARENT ENGAGEMENT

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team attended the inaugural Harvard Family Engagement in Education Institute held August 6-8. The region's 40-person group included parents, staff from community-based organizations (CBOs), teachers, principals, superintendents and school board directors that represented all seven school district communities in the Road Map Project region. The trip was made possible for parents and CBOs through a proposal submitted by the Community Network to the Rapid Resource Fund, a pooled fund created by members of the Road Map Project Aligned Funders group. The primary goal of the institute was to equip participants with tools that help build practices and a culture for utilizing the knowledge families bring to improving student achievement. The institute featured hands-on learning with national experts, such as Dr. Karen Mapp, Senior Lecturer on Education at Harvard University; Dr. Soo Hong, author of *Cord of Three Strands*; and Michele Brooks, Assistant Superintendent for Engagement at Boston Public Schools.

The institute was a powerful shared learning experience that provided lessons on:

- building aligned, systemic and effective family engagement
- developing strategies for school staff, community partners and parents
- designing family engagement strategies that are connected to student learning

Some key next steps include the following:

- The Tukwila participating parent—along with the community partner, superintendent and board member—briefed the Tukwila School Board on Aug. 15 about key takeaways from the trip related to the district's policy, governance and practice implications.
- Participating parents from Kent and Seattle will write about their experience for the Road Map Project website blog.
- Participating parents from Federal Way and Highline will speak about their experience at the Education Results Network meeting in September.
- Learning materials and resources from the institute are being gathered and will be shared broadly.
- A list of high-impact family engagement strategies that was identified by the group is being prioritized into an actionable plan for advancing regional parent engagement work.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engaging faith-based communities

A gathering of regional faith leaders was convened in June in an effort to invite the active involvement of faith-based partnerships that work on improving student success in the region. More than 25 institutions, organizations and congregations were represented, all of whom expressed

alignment with several focus areas of the project, including the parent engagement, Opportunity Youth, early learning and college access bodies of work. Given the common goal with the faith community to improve the lives of students and the storied history of faith leaders being at the forefront of civil rights in this country, the Road Map Project's ultimate goal is to partner with the regional faith community to address the civil rights imperative facing our region: eliminating the educational opportunity gap for children growing up here. The gathering was the first in a series of ongoing relationship-building opportunities between the regional faith community and Road Map Project. For more info, please contact Anthony Shoecraft.

ALIGNED FUNDERS

ALIGNED FUNDING

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Rapid Resource Fund

The Road Map Project Aligned Funders group, comprised of funders investing in South King County and South Seattle to improve educational outcomes for all students, created the Rapid Resource Fund this year to provide timely investments in the Road Map Project region. The first grant award helped a local team attend the Harvard Family Engagement in Education Institute (see the Parent & Family Engagement section).

This project is one example of how the Rapid Resource Fund intends to have an impact in furthering the work in the Road Map Project. The fund reviews proposals advanced by the work groups that address the following criteria: a discrete, immediate, short-term project with a clear connection to a Road Map Project action plan (or a Road Map Project work group priority) that has the potential to have systemic impact above the school or community-based organizational level and is in the \$5,000 to \$20,000 range. The remaining submission deadlines for 2014 are Sept. 19 and Nov. 14.

Betsy Dennis, with Philanthropy Northwest, is leading the management of the fund and facilitating the conversations with fund partners as they consider proposals. For more information regarding this fund, please see the [April Traffic Report](#). If you would like a copy of the Rapid Resource Fund guidelines or have questions, please contact your Road Map Project work group staffer and/or Betsy.

ADVOCACY

Road Map Project Advocacy Agenda

Works groups are in the process of identifying advocacy priorities they wish to nominate to be included for project-wide advocacy support. The due date for those nominations is Sept. 18.

The Road Map Project Advocates Caucus will review the nominations against the recently developed [advocacy priority criteria](#) (PDF) and make a recommendation to the Project Sponsors at an upcoming meeting.

DATA

Analyzing new data

CCER's data team is focused on pulling insight from the large amount of data provided publicly on [OSPI's Report Card website](#). The data team is also refining the data system to enable and improve reporting with regard to students' postsecondary outcomes. The team recently met with representatives of the region's community and technical colleges to work out technical data issues.

The annual analysis cycle to prepare the Road Map Project Results Report is gaining momentum. Stay tuned for the release of the report in early 2015!

PROJECT SPONSORS

Project Sponsors commitments

Mary Jean Ryan, CCER's Executive Director, has been meeting with the founding Project Sponsor members – those who have been in the group since the beginning of the project – to discuss their 2014-15 commitments. The final commitment documents will be shared with the full Project Sponsors at the upcoming meeting on Sept. 30 or at the November retreat. If you are a member of the Project Sponsors group and have not yet completed your commitment document, please try to send it back to Mary Jean by Sept. 20. It is inspiring to see the breadth and depth of Project Sponsor involvement in the Road Map Project and the serious commitments being made to the work ahead.

In September and October, work group staffers will be assisting the Project Sponsor members who are representing work groups with the drafting of their commitments.

The first meeting of the Project Sponsor retreat planning sub-committee will be on Sept. 30, immediately following the regular meeting. A few more volunteers are needed. Please let Mary Jean know if you are willing to help and feel free to send in ideas.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications plan

The work to develop a Road Map Project communications plan is moving forward. The critical task of determining the plan's objectives and audiences was the focus of a meeting in August with Road Map Project partners and CCER staff members. The Metropolitan Group, the communications firm selected to guide the plan development process, facilitated the meeting. The resulting discussions provided important insight which shaped the development of draft objectives. These will be widely vetted in the coming weeks.

COMMUNICATIONS

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