

PUSHING FORWARD ON PROGRESS

An Overview of
Education Forward DC

education
FORWARD DC



WE CAN MAKE WASHINGTON,
DC, THE CITY WHERE EVERY
PARENT CAN SAY,

“I don’t need luck to
get my child into a
great school, and
my child won’t need
luck to go to college
or get a job.”

Test scores and graduation rates are
up in the District of Columbia.

Still, in 2016, out of 90,000 public
school students, only about 24,000
were enrolled in high-quality schools.



WE CAN MAKE WASHINGTON,
DC, THE CITY WHERE EVERY
RESIDENT CAN SAY,

“Our public schools
make Washington
a fantastic place
to live and do
business.”

Charter school enrollment
is at an historic high, and
district school enrollment is
growing steadily.

Still, confidence in the
system dips in middle
school.



WE CAN MAKE WASHINGTON,
DC, THE CITY WHERE EVERY
TALENTED PRINCIPAL AND
TEACHER CAN SAY,

“I want to be in DC
because it’s where
I make the biggest
difference.”

Seventy-five percent of teachers
new to DCPS have prior teaching
experience.

Still, more than a quarter of DC schools
have had at least three principals
since 2012.



ABOUT US

Education Forward DC accelerates the work of visionary education leaders to foster a city of high-quality, equitable public schools for every DC student and family.

Our work now builds on progress supported from 2008 until 2016 by the DC Schools Fund, which operated out of NewSchools Venture Fund.



WHAT WE DO

We're focused on the underserved students who haven't experienced DC's progress—yet.

By supporting schools that serve the students left behind amid DC's tremendous overall gains, we can create a strong and sustainable education system for all students in the city.

WHAT DO WE MEAN?



High-quality schools — those that work to ensure that all students are supported so that they will be successful in their academic and social development.

WHO DO WE MEAN?



Students who are "at-risk" of academic failure — those who are considered to have a higher probability of failing or dropping out of school because of circumstances that could jeopardize their ability to complete school or learning-related factors that could adversely affect their academic performance.

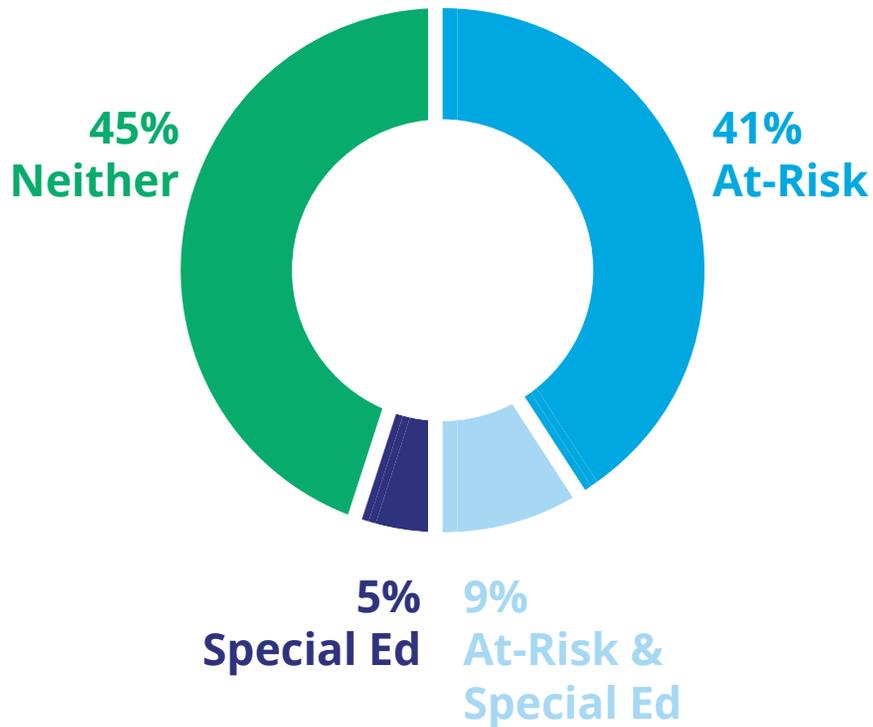
Special Education — those students that receive specially designed instruction and related services required to meet their unique needs, as directed by an individualized education program (IEP).

THE REASONS WHY WE DO IT

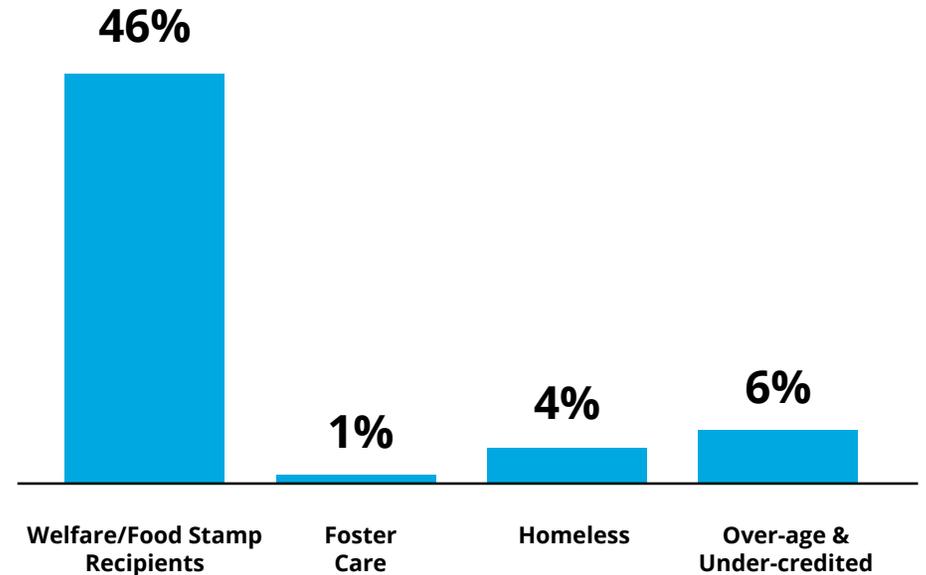
The majority of DC's students qualify as "at risk of academic failure" or have special education needs.

DC STUDENT ENROLLMENT

by Special Education and At-Risk Status



AT-RISK STUDENTS



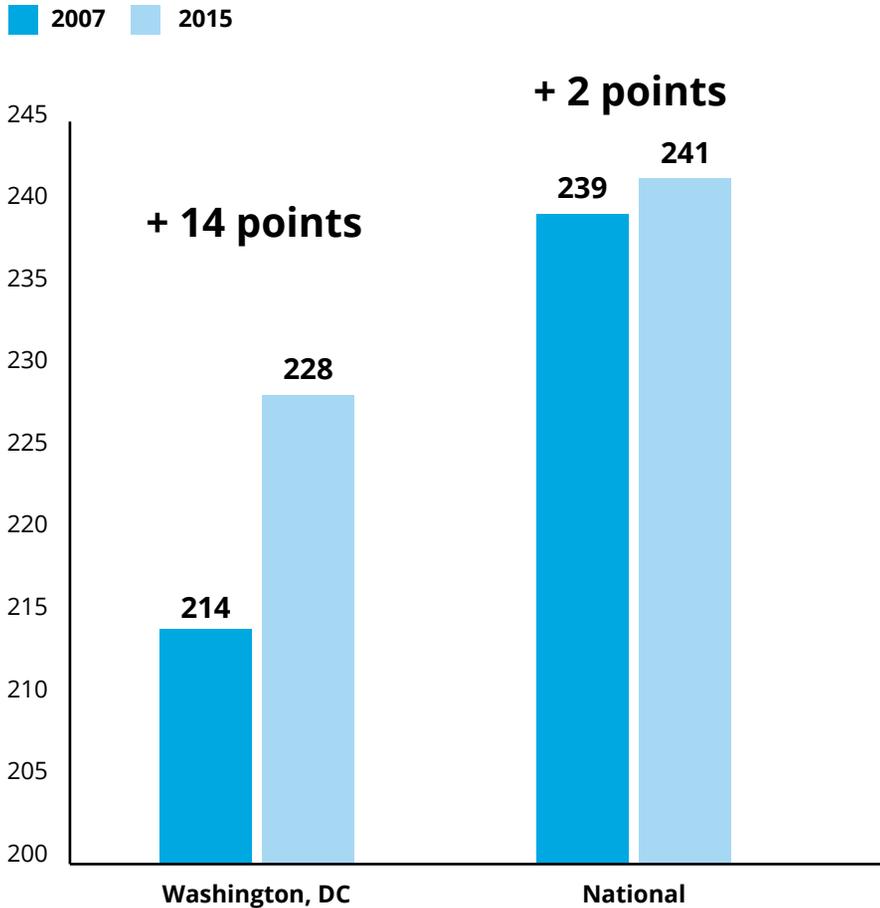
ACHIEVING EQUITY IS VITAL TO A PROSPEROUS ECONOMY

Improving educational outcomes and narrowing educational achievement gaps would significantly increase economic growth and raise government revenues.

	BRONZE SCENARIO If the U.S. matches the OECD average math and science achievement score	SILVER SCENARIO If the U.S. matches the Canadian average math and science achievement score	GOLD SCENARIO If the U.S. matches the average math and science achievement score of the most advantaged quarter of U.S. students
	2050	2050	2050
GDP would be	1.7% Higher	6.7% Higher	10% Higher
The cumulative increase in present value GDP would be	\$2.5 Trillion	\$10 Trillion	\$14.7 Trillion
The cumulative increase in present value government revenues would be	\$902 Billion	\$3.6 Trillion	\$5.3 Trillion

WE CAN, AND WE MUST, BRING ALL STUDENTS INTO DC'S PROGRESS

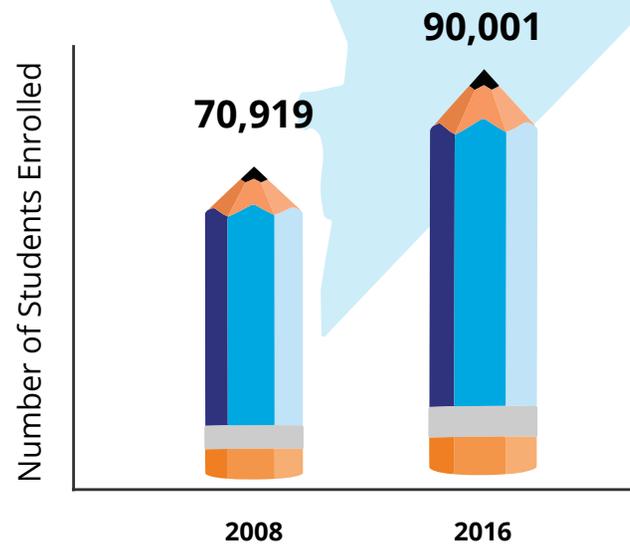
DC's gains on the National Assessment for Educational Progress (NAEP) in math have outshone the nation



DC's high school graduation rate increased by more than 10 points over the past five years



Enrollment in DC's public schools increased by more than 25% since 2008



A CITY POISED FOR GREATER PROGRESS

Strong Leaders Supporting Reform

Strong Schools

Equity and Choice

Collaboration



ANTWAN WILSON

Chancellor of DC Public Schools (DCPS)

- Joined DCPS, the fastest-growing urban school district on the Nation's Report Card, in February 2017
- Previously led Oakland Unified School District to significant progress and national recognition
- Wilson has announced an ambitious strategic plan to continue the huge strides DCPS has made in the last decade

We're working with DCPS to improve academics in the highest-priority schools.



SCOTT PEARSON

Executive Director of the DC Public Charter School Board (PCSB)

- PCSB is the city's only charter authorizer, setting a high bar for quality throughout DC, and is a national model for charter school authorizing
- Pearson served in the Obama Administration as the Deputy of the Office of Innovation and Improvement for the Department of Education. Co-founded Leadership Public Schools.

We're providing management assistance and funding for high-quality charter schools to meet the ambitious bar set by the PCSB.



HANSEUL KANG

State Superintendent of Education

- The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) works in close partnership with DCPS and public charter local education agencies to sustain, accelerate and deepen the progress being made in DC education
- Kang previously helped to lead the state department of education in Tennessee to tremendous progress statewide

We're providing funding and strategic support for the OSSE state report card to help families more easily make decisions about school choice.



JENNIFER NILES

Deputy Mayor for Education (DME)

- The DME's office is responsible for implementing Mayor Muriel Bowser's vision for academic excellence and creating a high-quality education continuum from birth to 24
- Niles is the founder and former head of the acclaimed and award-winning E.L. Haynes Public Charter Schools

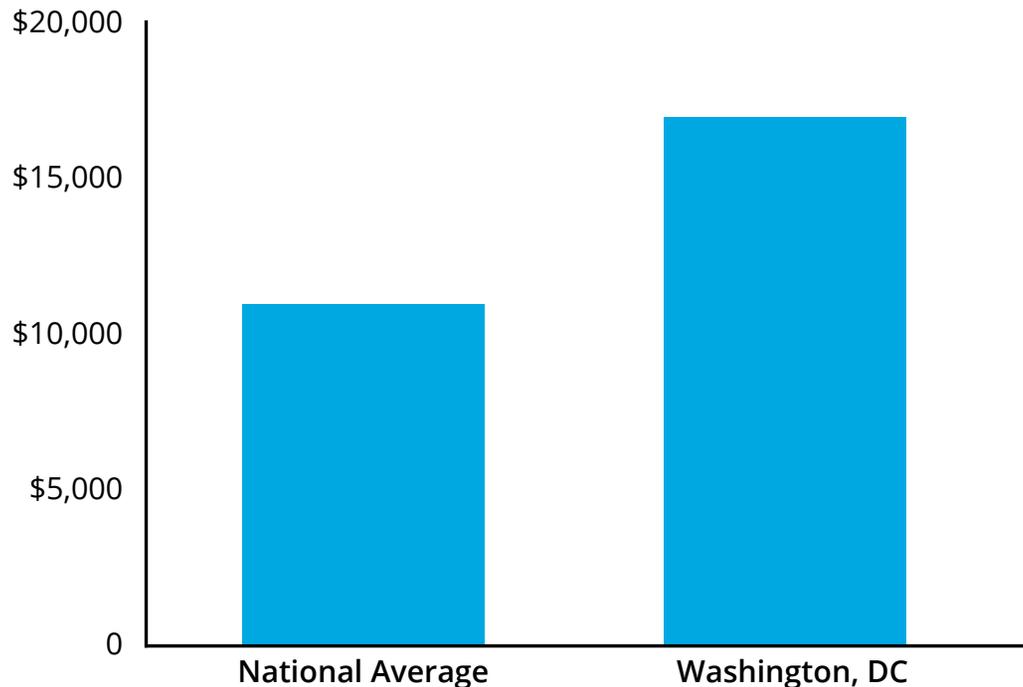
We're providing funding to support the organizations in the DME Cross-Sector Collaboration Task Force as well as helping to bring new partners to the table.

POISED FOR GREATER PROGRESS

STRONG SCHOOLS

- High per-pupil funding for both charter and district schools, including for two years of preschool
- Autonomy for charter schools
- Strong ecosystem for innovation
- Accountability embedded into new STAR rating system through ESSA plan

Funding Per Pupil

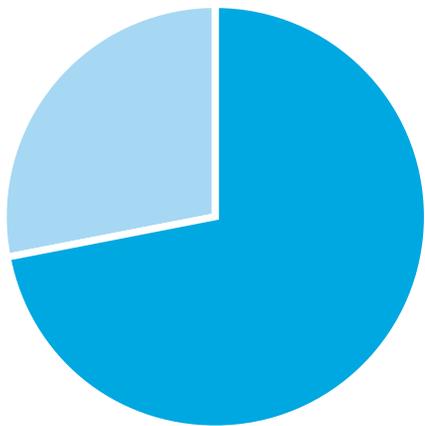


We've provided strategic support and funding to parent and community groups that successfully advocated for an increase in per-pupil funding beyond what Mayor Bowser proposed.

POISED FOR GREATER PROGRESS

EQUITY AND CHOICE

- My School DC common lottery lowers the barriers to access schools
- Nearly 3/4 of DC families are taking advantage of school choice by selecting a charter school or an out-of-boundary district school
- The city's 118 charter schools enroll 46% of public-school students
- New STAR rating system will look at academic growth and subgroup performance
- Publication of school-by-school equity reports reveals how well all groups of students are being served



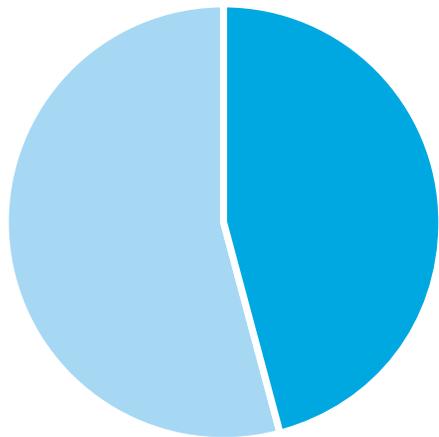
72%
**of DC families enrolled
in charter schools or
out-of-boundary
district schools**

As the DC Schools Fund, we provided funding for the unified school lottery. Now, as Education Forward DC, we're supporting the creation of annual equity reports on every school.

POISED FOR GREATER PROGRESS

COLLABORATION

- Approximately 54% of public school students attend a traditional DC Public School and 46% attend a public charter school
- The next chapter of improving education in DC necessitates that both sectors work together.
- The DME's office created the DC Cross-Sector Collaboration Task Force to bring together education leaders, schools, teachers, parents and community members to create a citywide vision and plan for improving the quality of all DC public schools.



46%
**of DC public school
students enrolled in
charter schools**

In addition to providing much-needed funding, Education Forward DC collaborates with and often brings together government agencies, other funders, civic and business leaders, individual schools and community groups – to advance quality and equity in all DC public schools.

DC'S STORY OF IMPROVEMENT

DC's progress has not gone unnoticed. Media outlets and education leaders across the country recognize the strides we are taking.

“ [DC is a great example] for the rest of the country of **what can happen when schools embrace innovative reforms and do the hard work** necessary to ensure that all students graduate ready for college and careers.”

- Arne Duncan
Former U.S. Secretary of Education

OBSTACLES TO CLEAR AND OPPORTUNITIES TO EMBRACE

Despite the progress DC has made, challenges persist and there are new opportunities to take advantage of.

OBSTACLES TO ACCELERATING DC'S PROGRESS

Despite the progress DC has made, challenges persist.

- Many DC students still face major gaps in college and career readiness compared to peers
- Certain groups (special education, at-risk) need more support to reach their full potential
- We need a different set of innovative school models that will serve all of our kids well
- Mismatch between school supply and family demand
- Parents should be at the table to make decisions
- We have work to do to better understand what parents want from schools
- Cross-sector collaboration is always an aim but not always the reality

Education Forward DC is positioned to meet these challenges:

GREAT SCHOOLS &
TOP TALENT

Education Forward DC is positioned to meet these challenges:

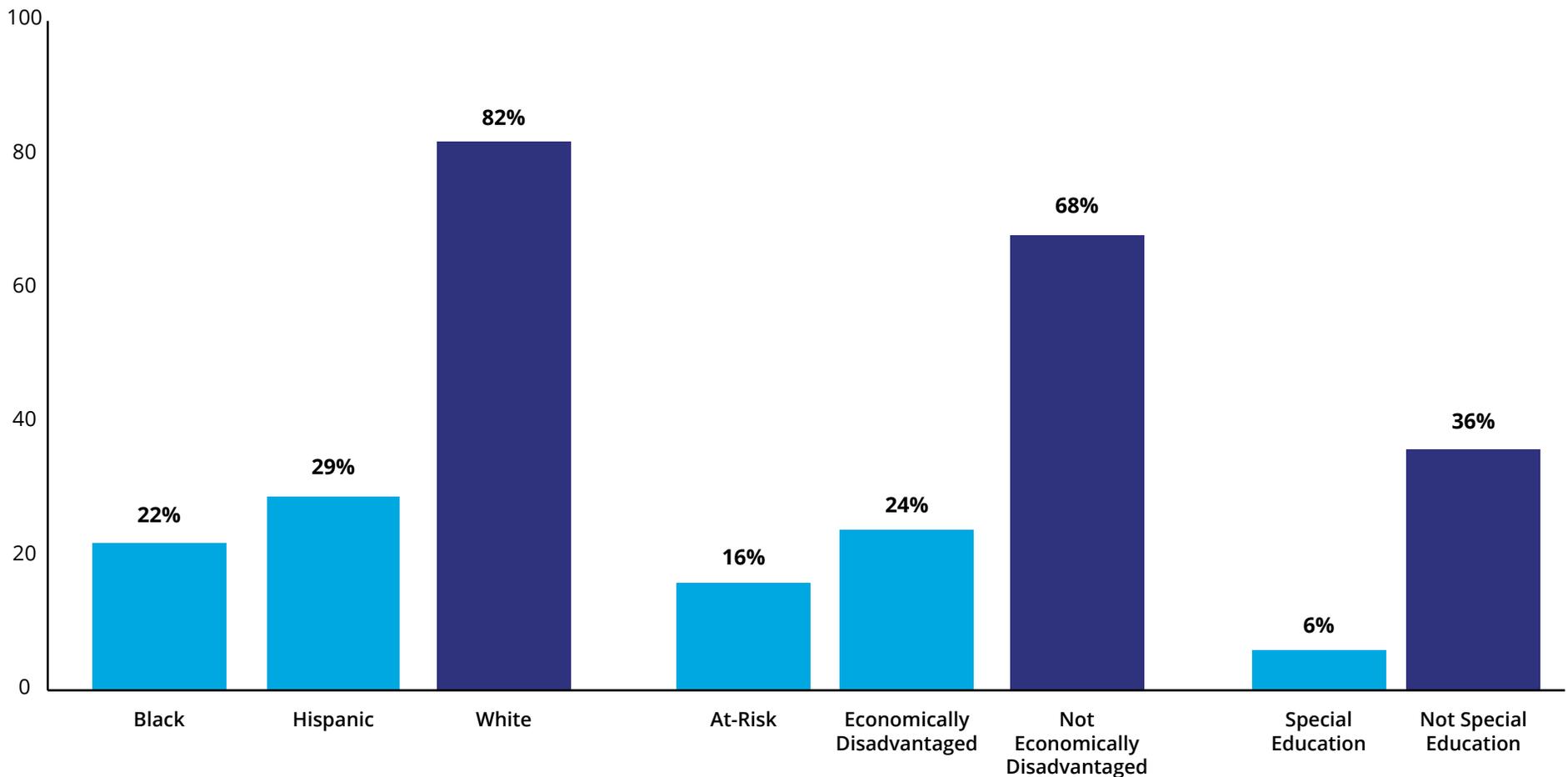
ADVOCACY &
PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

OBSTACLES TO ACCELERATING DC'S PROGRESS

Many DC students face major gaps in college and career readiness as compared to their peers

2017 PARCC SCORES

% of All Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations (Citywide by Special Population, ELA)



OUR STRATEGIES AT WORK

Over the next five years, we are committed to doubling the number of underserved students in Washington, DC who are college- and career-ready, with a particular focus on at-risk and special education students.

OUR MODEL IS DESIGNED TO CREATE **SUSTAINED, POSITIVE IMPACT** ON THE EDUCATION ECOSYSTEM



**Aggregate Philanthropy
and Invest Purposefully**



**Provide Strategic and
Advisory Support to
Grantees**

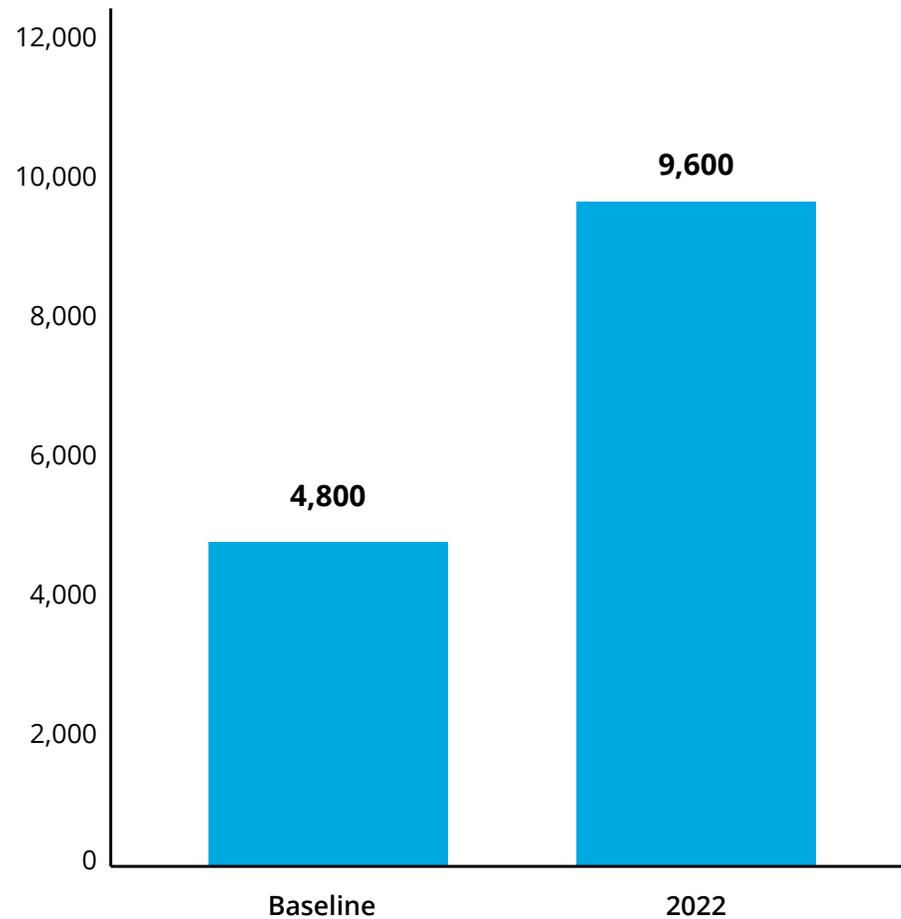


**Orchestrate Efforts
to Support Citywide
Transformation**

STRATEGIES AT WORK

Our five-year goal: double the number of under-served students who are college- and career-ready

**PROJECTED NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN UNDERSERVED SUBGROUPS
(AT-RISK AND SPECIAL EDUCATION) WHO ARE COLLEGE- AND CAREER-READY**



Note: Students scoring a 4 or 5 on PARCC's 5-point scale

STRATEGIES AT WORK

We are making investments in **four** areas to reach our five-year goal



A Great School for Every Student in DC



Schools Led By Excellent Principals and Teachers



A School System Designed for DC Families



Policies that Sustain DC's Progress



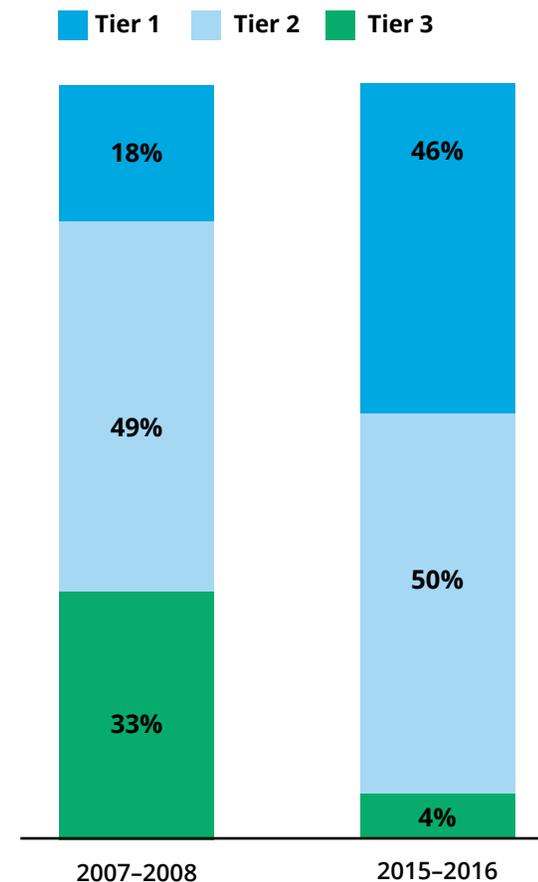
A GREAT SCHOOL FOR EVERY STUDENT IN DC

To continue to improve DC's education system for all students, we will support a portfolio of schools designed to serve at-risk and special education students.

We aim to fund 35 high-quality schools across the city to support the development of 14,000 seats

- Starting new schools where they are needed
- Helping to restart and redesign existing schools to better meet student needs
- Helping successful local charter and district schools grow and expand

As the DC Schools Fund from 2008 until 2016, our investments have helped to dramatically increase the percentage of students attending high-quality charter schools.





A GREAT SCHOOL FOR EVERY STUDENT IN DC: A FEW OF OUR GRANTEES

Two Education Forward DC Entrepreneurs in Residence are opening exciting new schools in 2018.



Shawn Hardnett's North Star Preparatory Academy for Boys aims to develop a school environment that reimagines, redesigns, and recreates the student experience for Black and Latino boys.

Hardnett has an impressive background in facilitating student achievement as a teacher, founder and school administrator within the KIPP system, at Friendship Public Charter School, and at Center City Public Charter School.



Mashea Ashton's Digital Pioneers Academy aims to educate all students, specifically high-need students, at high levels by ensuring all teaching and learning is infused with computer science and coding.

Mostly recently, Mashea served as the CEO of the Newark Charter School Fund. She previously served as the executive director for the New York Program for New Leaders for New Schools, and as the executive director for Charter Schools for the New York City Department of Education.



SCHOOLS LED BY EXCELLENT PRINCIPALS AND TEACHERS

We will invest in human capital organizations to ensure that schools have great teachers and leaders.

Teacher Pipelines & Development

- Strengthen organizations to recruit, train and retain teachers

Leadership Pipelines & Development

- Support organizations to grow and support great leaders to sustain and grow high-performing schools

Talent Management

- Support capacity-building at schools and networks of schools to improve systems, structures and practices to retain and develop talent



SCHOOLS LED BY EXCELLENT PRINCIPALS AND TEACHERS: A FEW OF OUR GRANTEES

Grantees are particularly focused on recruiting teachers and leaders of color or who otherwise share backgrounds with their students.



EdFuel provides leadership and talent development tailored to the education sector. With Education Forward DC's support, EdFuel is working with principals, assistant principals and instructional leadership teams on diversity, equity and inclusion training.



Relay is a national, accredited, nonprofit institution of higher education serving 2,000 teachers and 400 school leaders across the United States. We are supporting its first cohort in DC, which is composed of more than 50 early-career and career-changing teaching residents and master's degree candidates.



A SCHOOL SYSTEM **DESIGNED FOR DC FAMILIES**

DC schools should reflect the citywide diversity of student needs and interests, so that every student can grow and learn in a setting that works for them.

We are focused on ensuring a better match between the needs of families and the city's schools

- Gather input from families about what's working and what they want for students, and amplify their voice to inform school decisions
- Analyze the school options that currently exist for families across the city and forecast what's needed for the future
- Help families get the information they want and need about schools in the city



A SCHOOL SYSTEM DESIGNED FOR DC FAMILIES: A FEW OF OUR GRANTEES

Education Forward DC supports groups that ensure that communities and families are partners in creating great schools.



The Ward 8 Parent Operator Selection Team (POST) is a panel of parents who came together to decide what kind of schools they wanted in their neighborhood that would serve the needs of both military families and the families in the surrounding community. They issued a request for proposals for a charter school to operate adjacent to the military base in Ward 8. They reviewed these proposals, and are making recommendations to the Public Charter School Board.



While a broad range of information is publicly available about DC schools, the data is located in a variety of disparate places and it is particularly difficult for parents to compare schools across sectors. Families are hungry for more user-friendly tools with school information that is relevant to their needs. OSSE will issue a new “state report card” for every public school (district and charter), which will help parents better understand how their students’ current schools are performing and inform their school choice decisions.



POLICIES THAT SUSTAIN DC'S PROGRESS

Creating the conditions under which great schools can open and grow.

- Getting to a point where families are able to make the best choices for themselves requires advocacy on citywide issues that most influence school quality and equity, such as school autonomy, student mobility, enrollment policies and equitable allocation of resources
- Education Forward DC's advocacy has been largely focused on the charter sector; the next phase of this work is about creating the conditions that allow DCPS to start new, high-quality schools and address the district's lowest-performing schools



POLICIES THAT SUSTAIN DC'S PROGRESS: **A FEW OF OUR GRANTEES**

Education Forward DC supports organizations working across sectors to improve quality and choice for DC families.



PAVE is a DC-based nonprofit that connects, trains and empowers parent leaders to give families in DC a voice and choice in the vision for education in our city.

Founded in April 2016 with an all-parent governing board, PAVE is dedicated to creating an environment where the vision for education in DC is created with children and families, not for them.



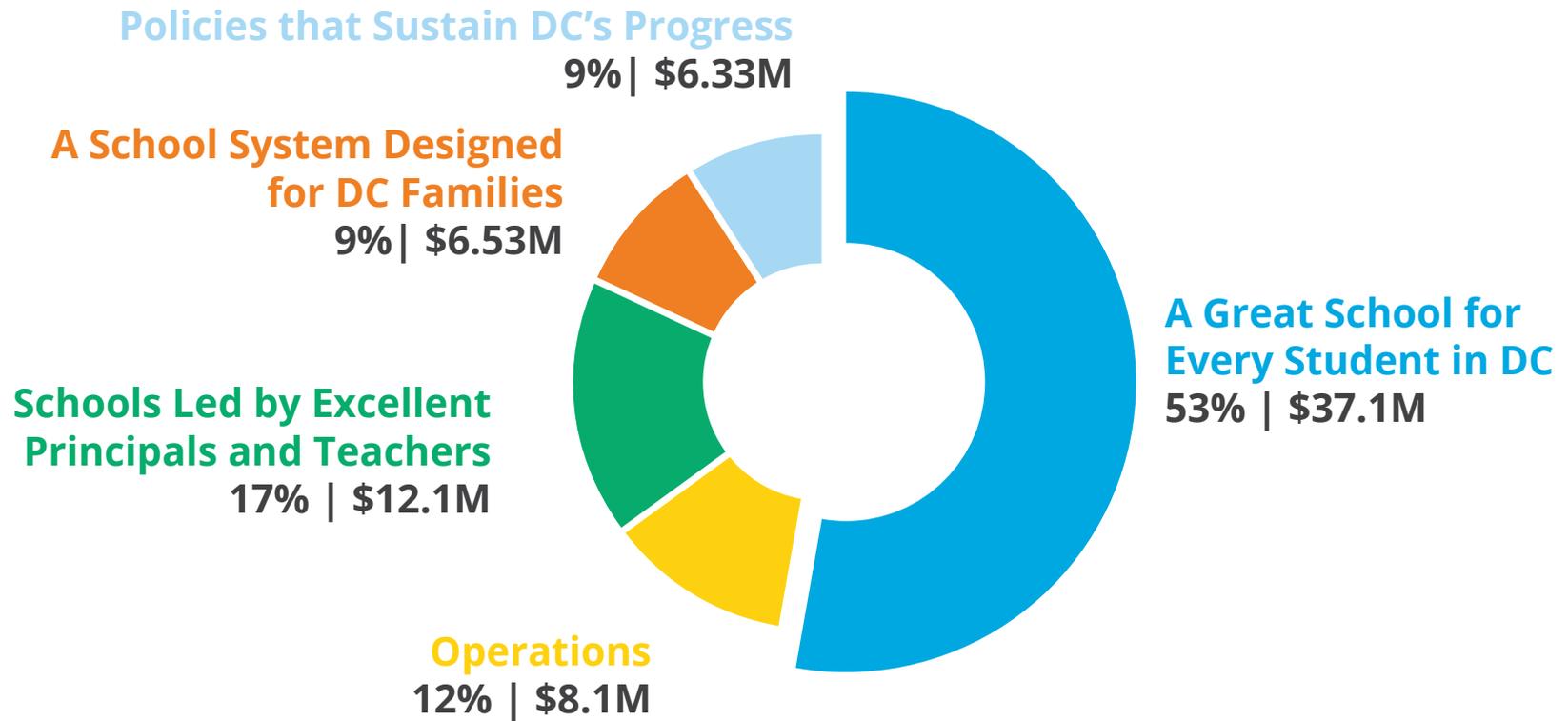
Education Reform Now is a national nonprofit organization that cultivates and supports leaders who champion America's public schoolchildren, and aims to make progressive leaders the champions of high-quality public education.

WHY WE NEED YOUR PARTNERSHIP

We have big goals and need your expertise and financial support to reach those goals.

WHY WE NEED YOUR PARTNERSHIP

We have an aspirational goal of putting more than \$70 million dollars to work for DC students over the next 5 years



National and local funders are critical to growing the number of high-quality schools in DC and using the DC story as a model for other urban communities.

YOUR PARTNERS IN THIS WORK

The Team

- An advisory committee to our board, composed of donors who contribute at least \$500,000 to Education Forward DC
- Founding team of 9 people
- Composite of strong analytical and education-sector experience across the team:
 - Experience in education and government including Office of DC Deputy Mayor for Education, DCPS, Chicago Public Schools, Thurgood Marshall Academy, KIPP DC, New Leaders, E.L. Haynes, Aspire Public Schools, DC Prep, Excel, Lynch Leadership Academy, Louisiana Recovery School District, Illinois state government, Match Charter Public High School, Education Elements and Boston Prep
 - Strategy, law and business backgrounds including Bain & Company, the Bridgespan Group, Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, eHealth, and McKinsey & Company

Investment Committee

- An advisory committee to our board, composed of donors who contribute at least \$500,000 to Education Forward DC
- Guide the development and implementation of our strategy
- Make recommendations about the strategy and investment plan

Education Forward DC accelerates the work of visionary education leaders to foster a city of high-quality, equitable public schools for every DC student and family.



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SECTION HEADER TEMPLATE

subheader

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