

# Destination Graduation:

Dropout Prevention, Intervention and Re-engagement



State Board of Education  
January 2009

# Graduation Definitions and Methods

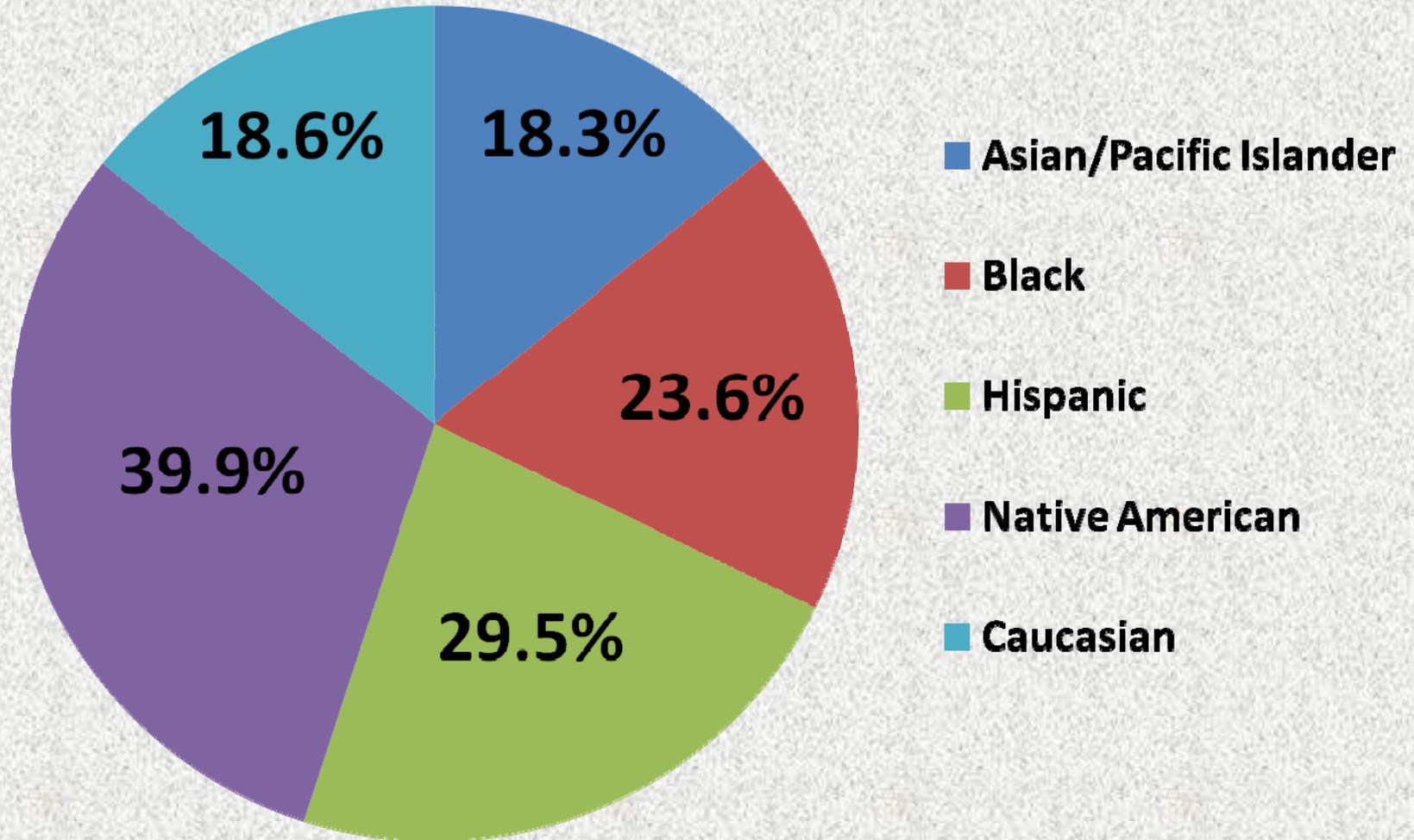
On Time Graduation Rate	$100 * (1 - \text{grade 9 dropout rate}) * (1 - \text{grade 10 dropout rate}) * (1 - \text{grade 11 dropout rate}) * (1 - \text{grade 12 dropout rate}) - \text{grade 12 continuing rate}$
Extended Graduation Rate	$\frac{\text{number of on-time and late graduates}}{\# \text{ of on-time graduates divided by on-time graduation rate}}$
National Governors Association Graduation Rate	$\frac{\text{on-time graduates in year } x}{(\text{first-time entering ninth graders in year } x - 4) + (\text{transfers in}) - (\text{transfers out})}$

# Graduation and Dropout Rates

## WA State Summary

	<b>2003- 2004</b>	<b>2004- 2005</b>	<b>2005- 2006</b>	<b>2006- 2007</b>
<b>On Time Graduation</b>	<b>70.10%</b>	<b>74.30%</b>	<b>70.40%</b>	<b>72.5%</b>
<b>Extended Graduation</b>	<b>74.3%</b>	<b>79.3%</b>	<b>75.12%</b>	<b>77.5%</b>
<b>Annual Dropout Rate</b>	<b>5.8%</b>	<b>5.10%</b>	<b>5.70%</b>	<b>5.5%</b>
<b>Est. 4 Year Cohort Dropout Rate</b>	<b>21.5%</b>	<b>19.10%</b>	<b>21.4%</b>	<b>21.0%</b>

# 06-07 Dropout Rates By Ethnicity



# Est. 4-yr Cohort Dropout Rate

**2003-2004    2004-2005    2005-2006    2006-2007**

All	21.50%	19.10%	21.40%	21.00%
Asian (incl Pacific Islander)	14.10%	12.60%	16.50%	18.30%
Black	33.60%	25.40%	36.60%	23.60%
Hispanic	34.70%	29.80%	31.90%	29.50%
Native American	39.90%	36.00%	39.30%	39.90%
Caucasian	18.70%	16.90%	18.30%	18.60%

# Risk Factors

- Poor attendance/ academic performance, repeating one or more grades, and truancy
- Social and health related issues
- Significant number of family moves
- High numbers of detentions/suspensions
- Conflict or lack of involvement between home and school culture
- Mental health-drug/alcohol issues
- Lack of clarity of classroom goals, curriculum relevance, personalized education

# What Youth Say

## Non- academic:

- Boredom
- Low expectations of adults
- Assuming adult responsibilities
- Missed too much school to catch up

## Academic:

- Academically unprepared for high school
- Repeating a grade

\*\* Silent Epidemic: Perspectives of High School Dropouts, March 2006

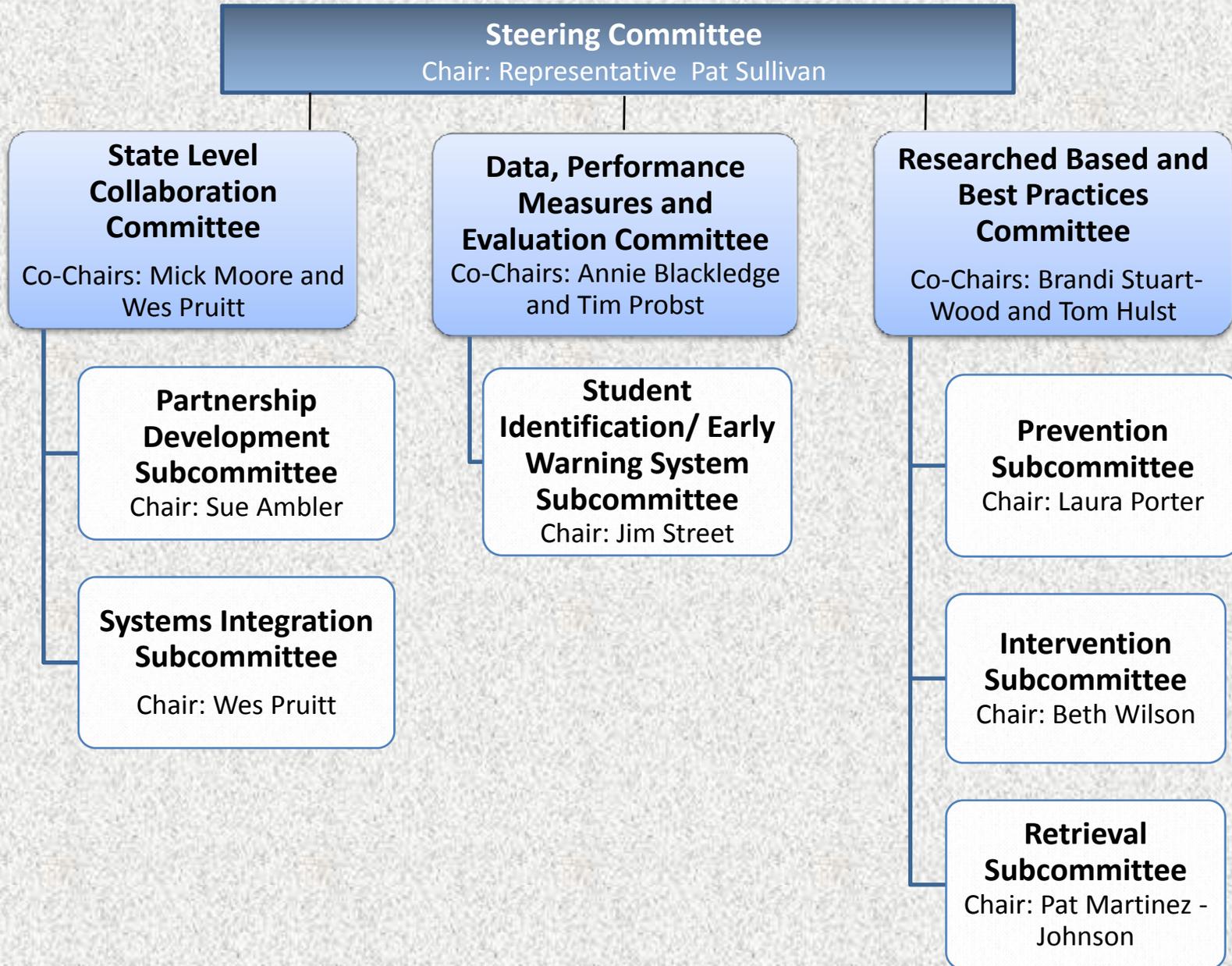
# SHB1573: Building Bridges

The primary purpose of the Building Bridges legislation is to increase the number of Washington State students who graduate from high school on time and re-engage students who have already dropped out of school.

Two Main Components:

- » State Level Workgroup
- » Grant program

# Building Bridges Workgroup



# Three Systemic Initiatives: Priority Recommendations

1. Establish a statewide goal for reducing dropouts and develop a coordinated system of cross-agency supports at the state and local level to achieve that goal;
2. Build the resources and systems needed by school districts to plan and develop comprehensive, culturally relevant dropout prevention and intervention programs and activities; and
3. Create a dropout retrieval system which provides a meaningful career pathway option for students who have dropped out and are not likely to return to the K-12 school system.

# Statutory Goal

**1.1:** Set a statutory goal, including targets for reducing disproportionality, to address the dropout problem as follows:

- A: Establish a 2015 target, for the percentage of students that will graduate from high school; and
- B: Establish a 2015 target for the percentage of youth who have dropped out to reengage in education and be college and work ready.

# Systems Collaboration

**1.2** Direct state agencies that provide major programs for at-risk youth and dropouts to develop programmatic objectives and measures to help meet the state dropout goals and to work together to achieve those goals. Specifically, the Legislature should direct state agencies to provide:

- A:** Protocols and templates for model agreements on sharing records and data to improve outcomes for at-risk youth; and
- B:** Professional development within existing resources that informs staff about the latest research in working with at-risk youth and provides knowledge about programs and services for such youth.

# Retrieval System

- 3.1:** Establish a statewide dropout retrieval system with programmatic goals for students to make significant basic skill gains, complete a high school credential, gain college and work readiness skills, and obtain an industry credential or certificate.
  
- 3.2:** Develop a single, comprehensive regulatory framework to guide and govern dropout retrieval programs.
  
- 3.3:** Establish the authority for regional partnerships to design services for 16 to 21 year old youth who have dropped out and are not likely to return to high school and identify a lead agency to contract for such services.

# Grant Program

Grants awarded to partnerships of schools, families, and communities to build comprehensive dropout prevention, intervention and retrieval systems that:

- Identify students “at risk” of dropping out of school
- Provide timely interventions and supports.
- Re-engage students who have already dropped out.

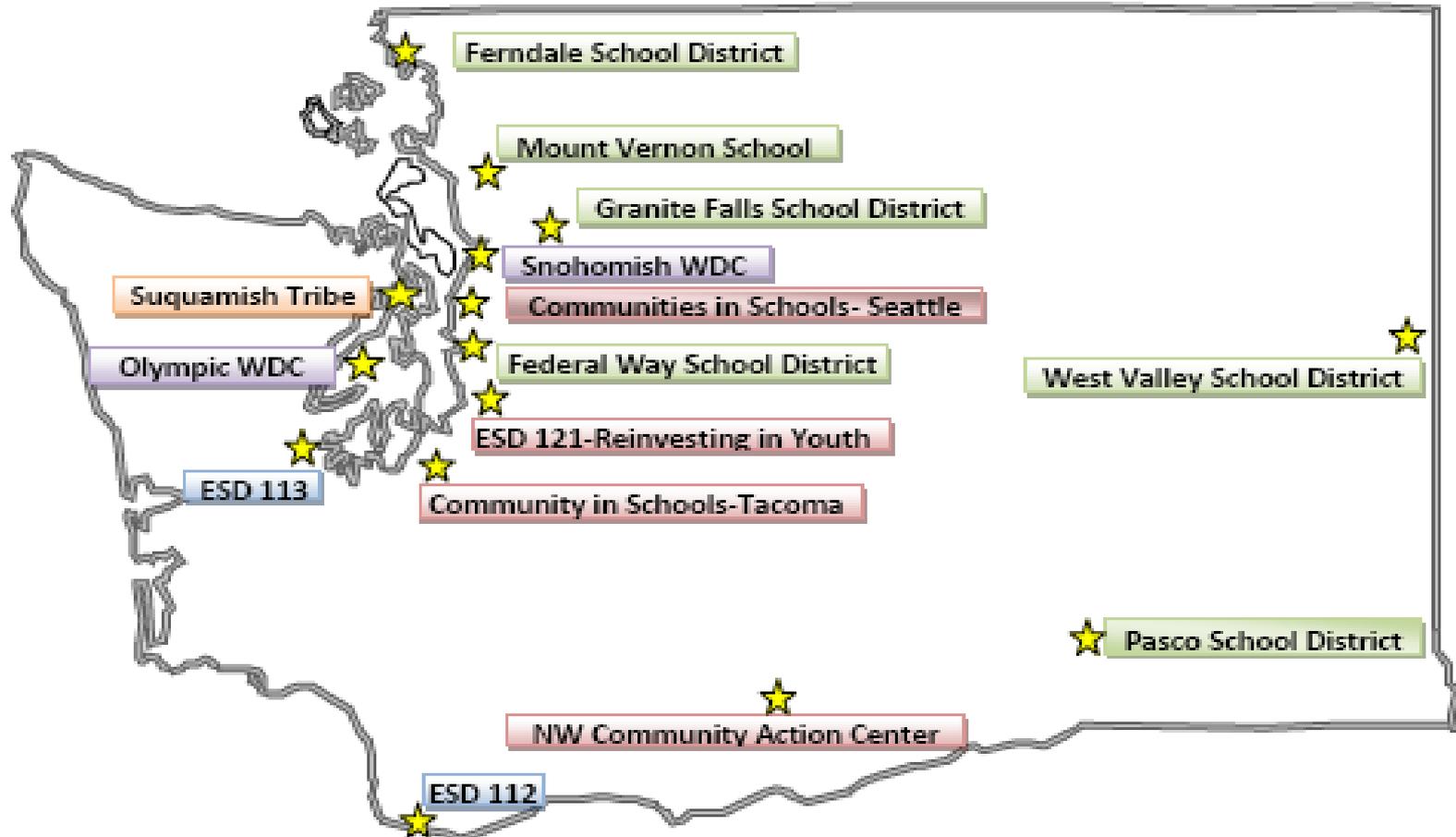
**Grant Period:** January 2008- June 2009

**Number of Grants:** 15 grantees serving 36 school districts

**Annual Awards:**

- ✓ 12 grants awarded in the \$125,000 category
- ✓ 3 grants awarded in the \$175,000 category

# Building Bridges Grantee Program Locations



# WSU Evaluation of Program Implementation\*

Building Bridges has been effective in:

- Selecting a broad base of programs capable of testing important models with key at-risk populations
- Forging community partnerships in support of school-based interventions
- Reaching populations with significant known dropout risk
- Programs models align well with the dropout intervention literature with comprehensive response efforts including academic, basic need, peer and adult mentoring, and social support interventions

\* first 9 months of operation thru September 2008

# Grant Program- Target Populations

Target populations to be identified and receive priority for services in the Building Bridges Grant Program:

- » Foster care
- » Juvenile justice
- » Special education
- » Dropouts
- » Any additional target populations

# Grant Program Implementation

Activity	Students Served*
Prevention	2,827
Intervention	1,024
Retrieval /Re-engagement	193

## Priority Populations:

- 5% of students in foster care
- 14% of students in special education
- 15% of students court involved

\* First six months of operation (February – June 2008)

# Dropout Early Warning Data System Breakthrough Project

- Collaborative Project between OSPI, ESD 113, Shelton School District
- Data driven decision making project:
  - Development of a universal data screening process
  - Intervention and progress monitoring process based on Response to Intervention (RTI) framework
- Direct service and school improvement /AYP applications

# Breakthrough Project Goal

To develop a data system that identifies students “at risk” of dropping out and an intervention process.

To be piloted in collaboration with Shelton School District (grades 8-12):

- Shelton High School (*Grades 10-12*)
- CHOICE (Challenging High School Opportunities in Continuing Education) High School (*Grades 9-12*)
- Oakland Bay Junior High (*Grades 8-9*)

# Data

- **Universal Screening Criteria \*\***

- Absences(+5)
- Behind credits/retention
- WASL Scores
- Adjudication status

\*\*At risk- 3 out of 4

- ▶ **Ancillary dropout reports-** “at risk” reports run for identified students

- Foster Care
- ELL
- Migrant
- D and F grades
- Discipline
- Health Concerns
- 504

- ▶ **Database Intervention Codes-** to monitor identified student enrollment and progress

# Intervention Process

- **Local team convened-** school and community providers
  - Catalogue of available interventions
  - Intervention process developed- Response to Intervention model utilized
  - Integration with current intervention processes- Building level
    - Building level intervention teams identified
    - Intervention team leads and backups trained on data systems

# Other Applications

## Classroom, School and District Improvement

- Professional Development
- Professional Learning Communities

## Programs

- Readiness to Learn
- Student Achievement
- High School and Beyond Planning
- Student Learning Plans
- Navigation 101
- Response to Intervention

## American School Counselor Model:

- A Framework for School Counseling Programs