

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE: January 31, 2014

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT: Commit! Our Kids. Our Tomorrow.

On Wednesday, February 5, 2014, you will be updated by Todd Williams, Executive Director of Commit! in a briefing entitled "Commit! Our Kids, Our Tomorrow."

The briefing materials are attached for your review. Please let me know if you have any questions.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A.C. Gonzalez'.

A.C. Gonzalez
Interim City Manager




CC: Warren M. S. Ernst, City Attorney
Judge Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge
Rosa Rios, City Secretary
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Ryan Evans, Interim First Assistant City Manager
Jill Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager
Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Charles M. Cato, Interim Assistant City Manager
Theresa O'Donnell, Interim Assistant City Manager
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
Frank Libro, Public Information Officer
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager- Council Office

commit!
Our Kids. Our Tomorrow.

Presentation to Dallas City Council
February 5th, 2014

Articulating our work with greater clarity

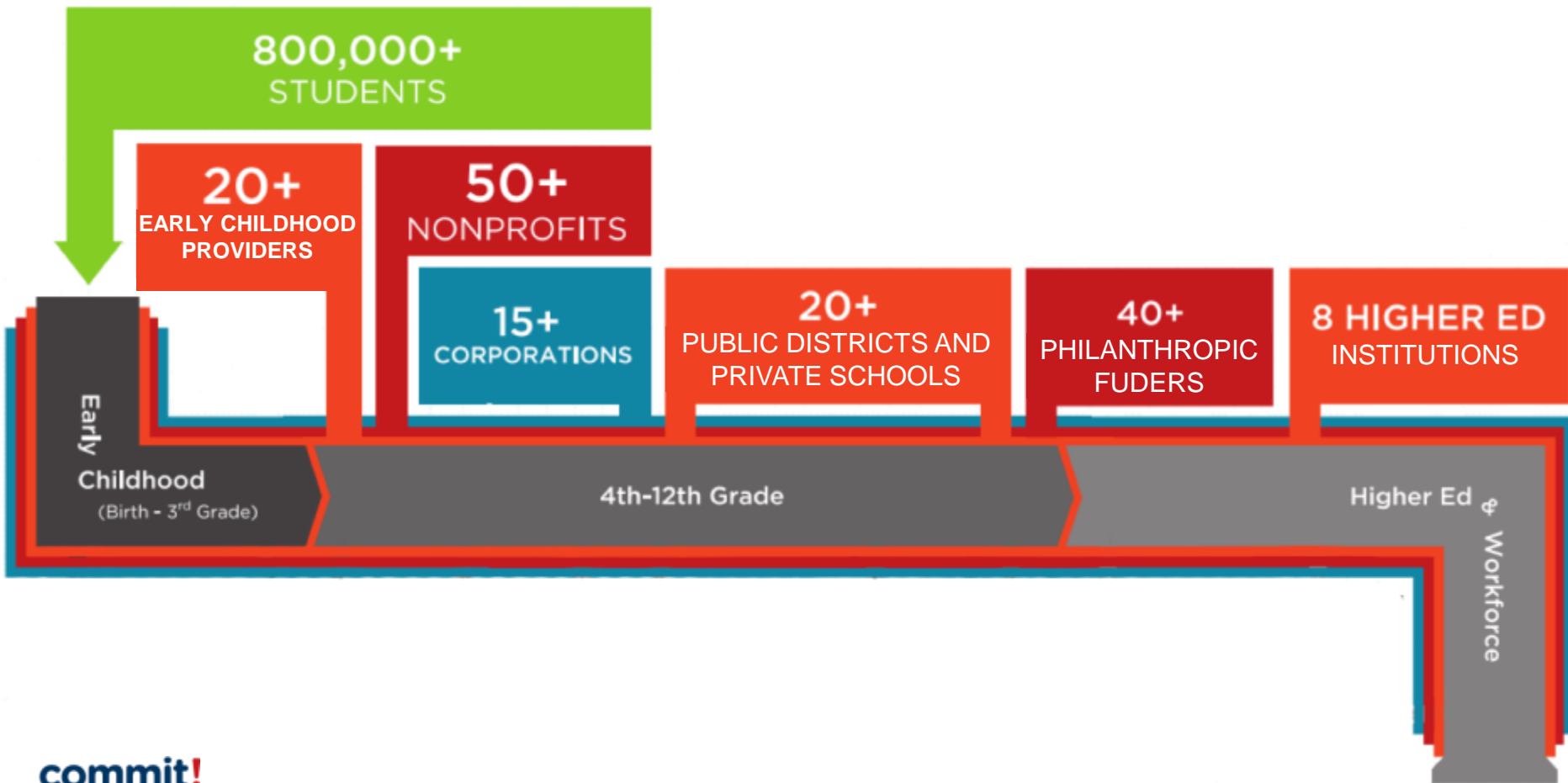
The Commit! Partnership helps drive student achievement throughout Dallas County from cradle to career by leveraging data, community expertise and collaboration to:

-  **Measure** what matters
-  **Identify** effective practices
-  **Align** community resources to spread what works

2013 in Review!

Built a cross-sector partnership involving entities throughout our educational pipeline

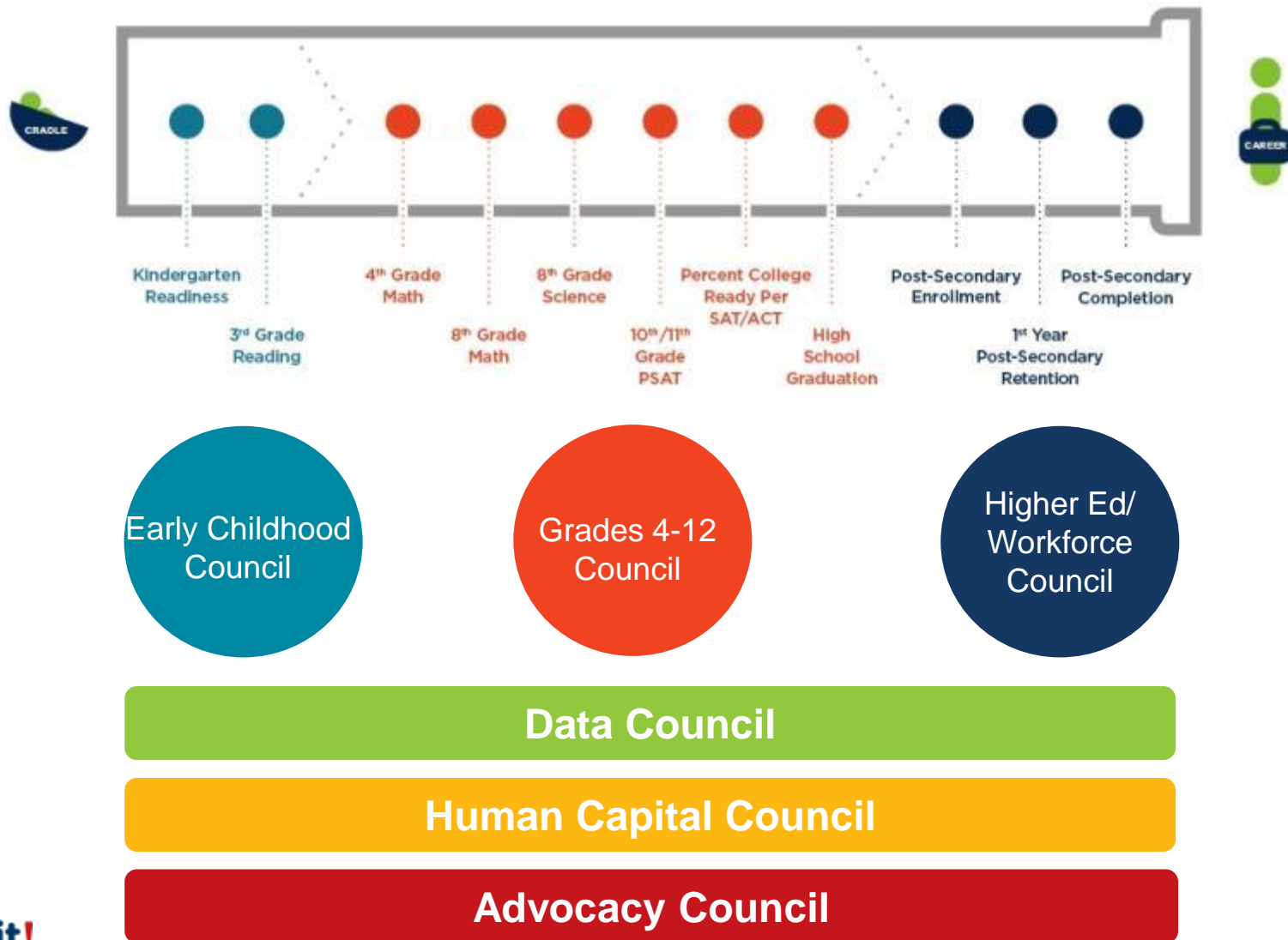
Partnership now includes over 110 community institutions committing to data-driven decision making while sharing expertise and best practices



Created an educational infrastructure for impact



Organized Support Councils to Focus on Outcomes and Span Natural Breaks in System



Leveraged 500+ hours of local expertise

Council:	No. of Meetings:	Members:	Hours Contributed:
Early Childhood Council	8	24	107
Grades 4-12 Council	6	14	82
Higher Ed/Workforce Council	5	22	106
Data Council	4	12	54
Human Capital Council	6	14	66
Advocacy Council	2	12	87
Total:	31	98	505

Engaged thousands in-person and online



100,000+ unique website visits



3,200 Member database



2,000+ Twitter followers



700+ Facebook fans



600+ community members convened

Launched ReimaginEDallas



REIMAGINEDALLAS

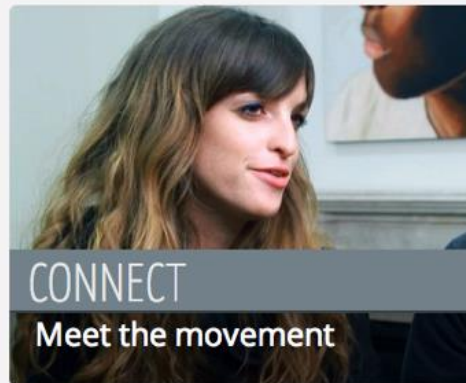
Powered by  commit!

WORK

CONNECT

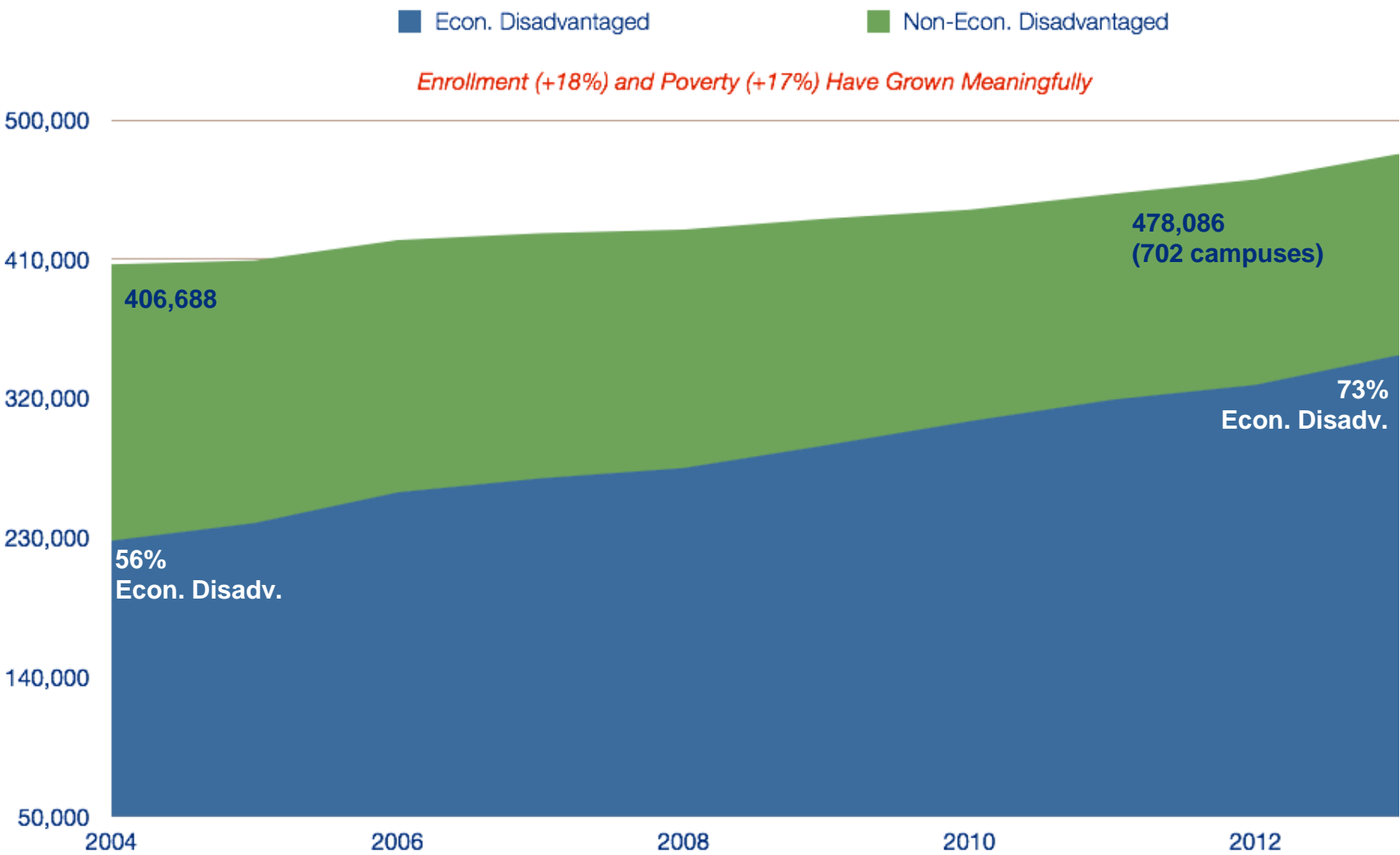
LIVE

JOIN the ED movement in Dallas.
800,000 students need YOU here.
JOIN US »



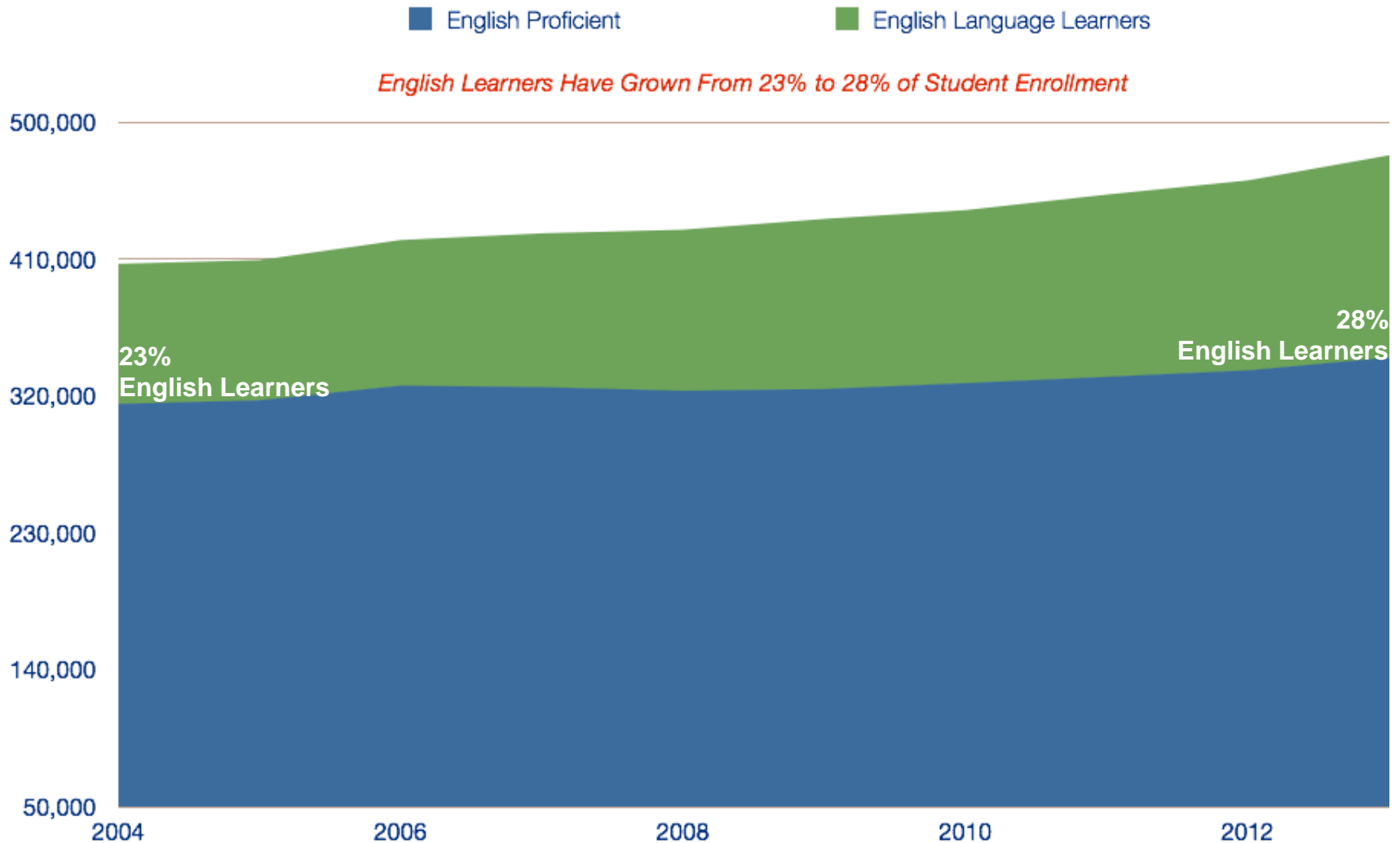
Annual Community Achievement Scorecard (Using Data to Drive our Focus)

Almost 3 in 4 Dallas County Public School Students Now Qualify as Economically Disadvantaged

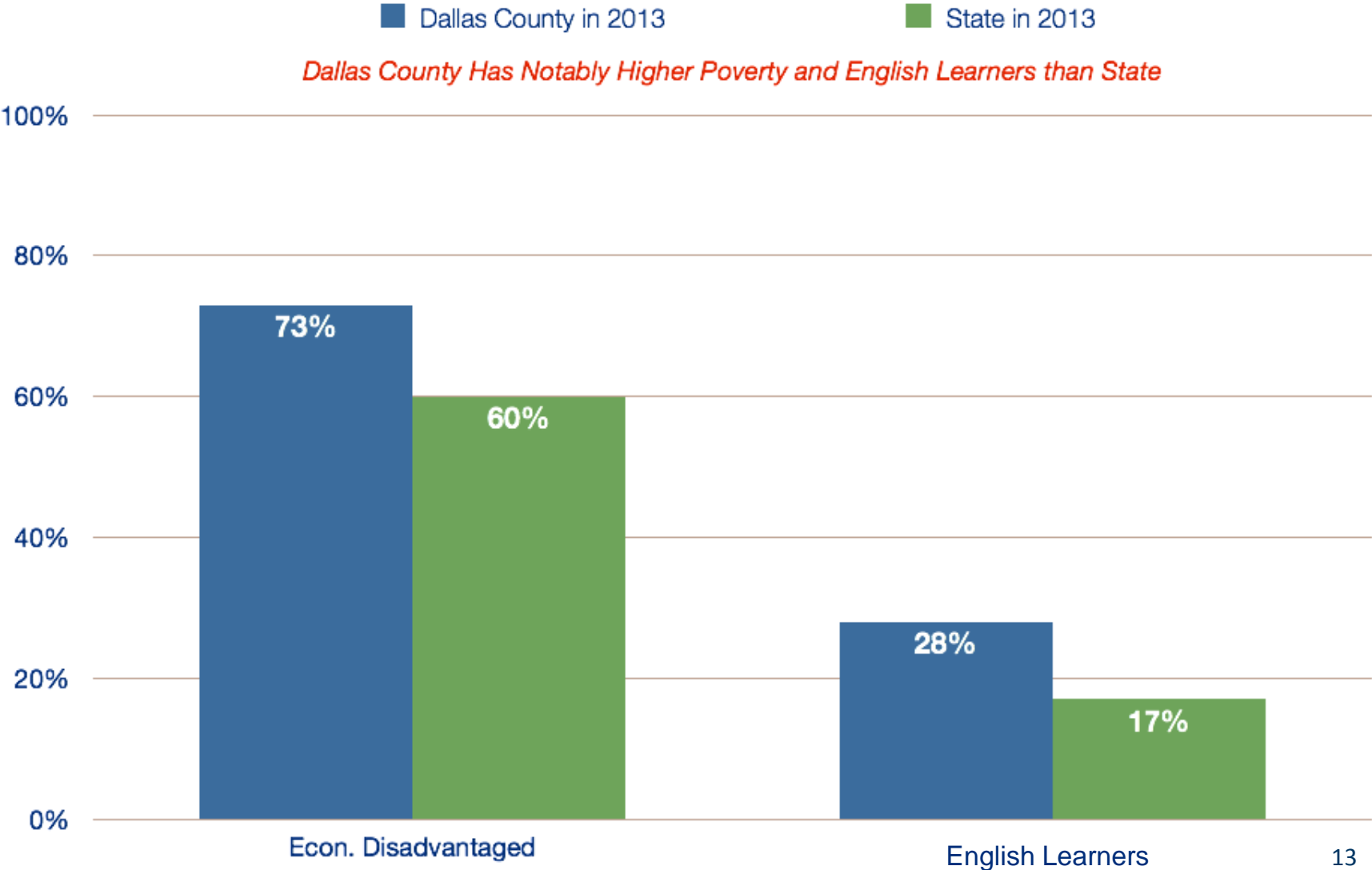


Source: Texas Education Agency (Academic Excellence Indicator System and TAPR) for all Dallas County public schools

Continued Increases in Students with Limited English Proficiency, Starting at 41% in 3rd Grade



County Has Notably Higher (and Growing) Poverty and English Learners vs. the State of Texas

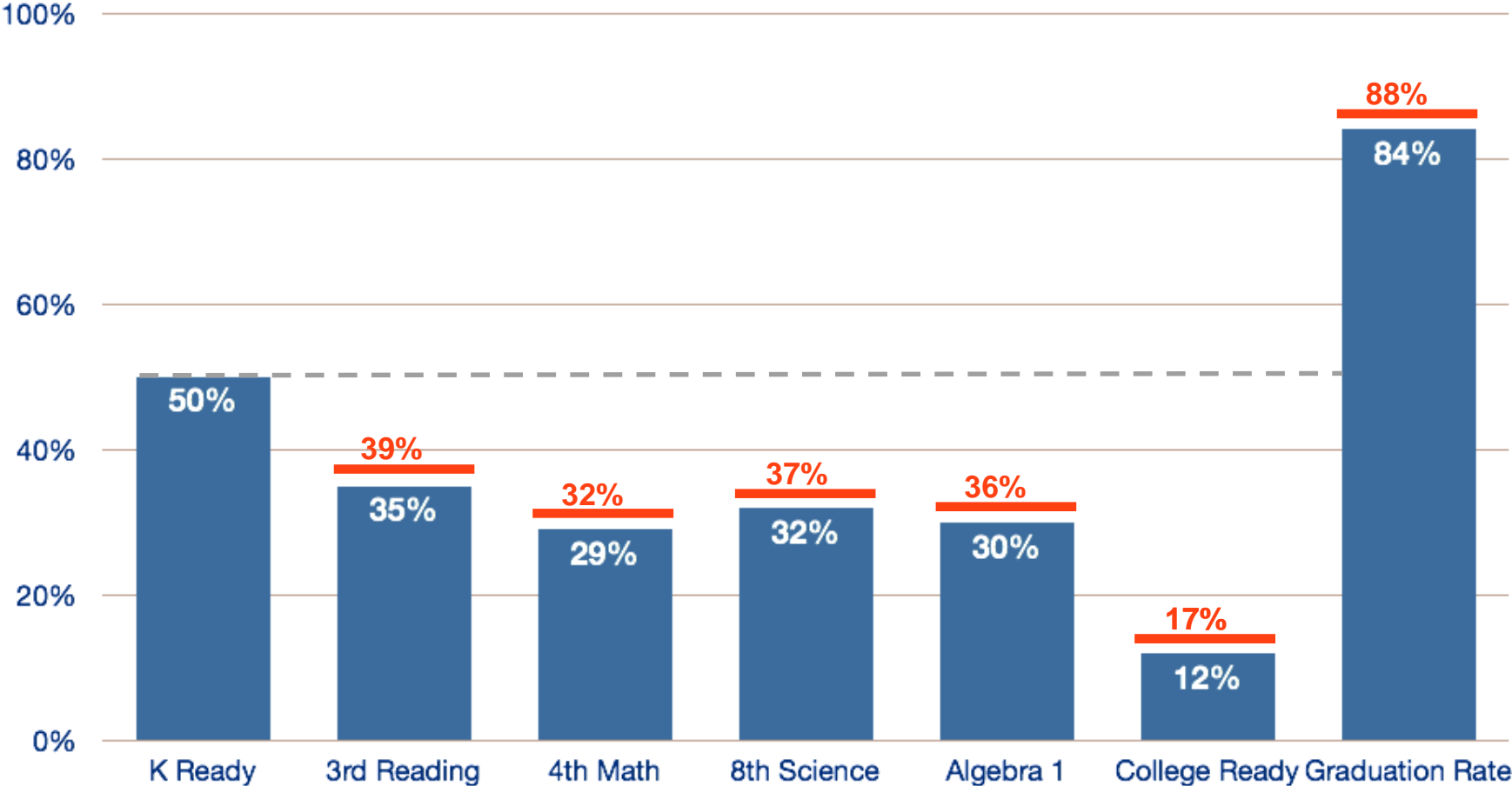


Source: Texas Education Agency (Academic Excellence Indicator System and TAPR) for all Dallas County public schools

Achievement Challenges Begin with K Readiness; Gaps with State Remain

■ Pct. Achieving Level 2 Recommended

2013 Data for Dallas County Public Schools (Red Line Indicates Overall Achievement at State Level)

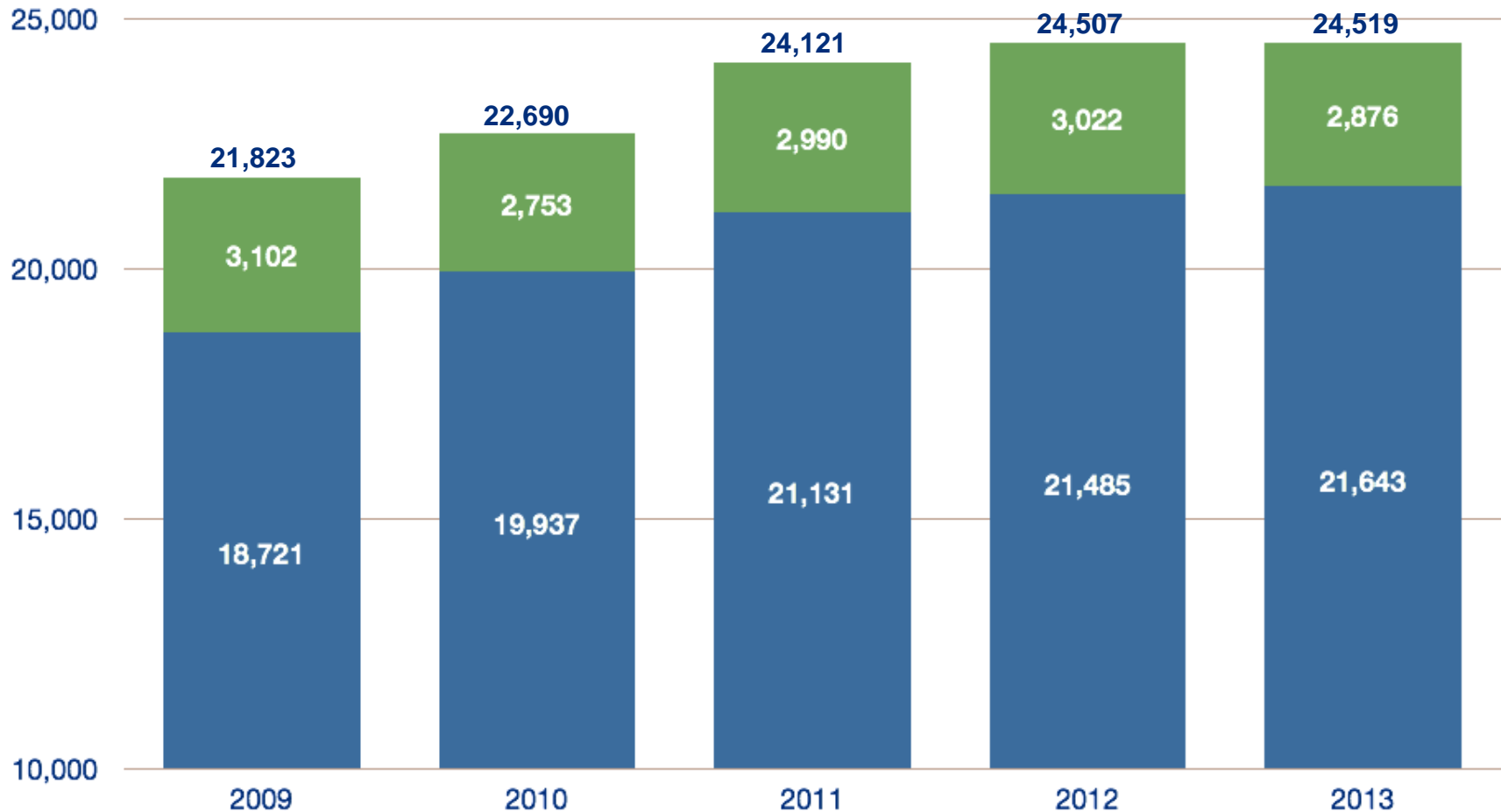


Source: Texas Education Agency (TAPR) and Commit! Partner Districts (Kindergarten Readiness districts include: Coppell ISD, Dallas ISD, Grand Prairie ISD, Highland Park ISD, Irving ISD, Lancaster ISD, Richardson ISD, and Uplift Ed).

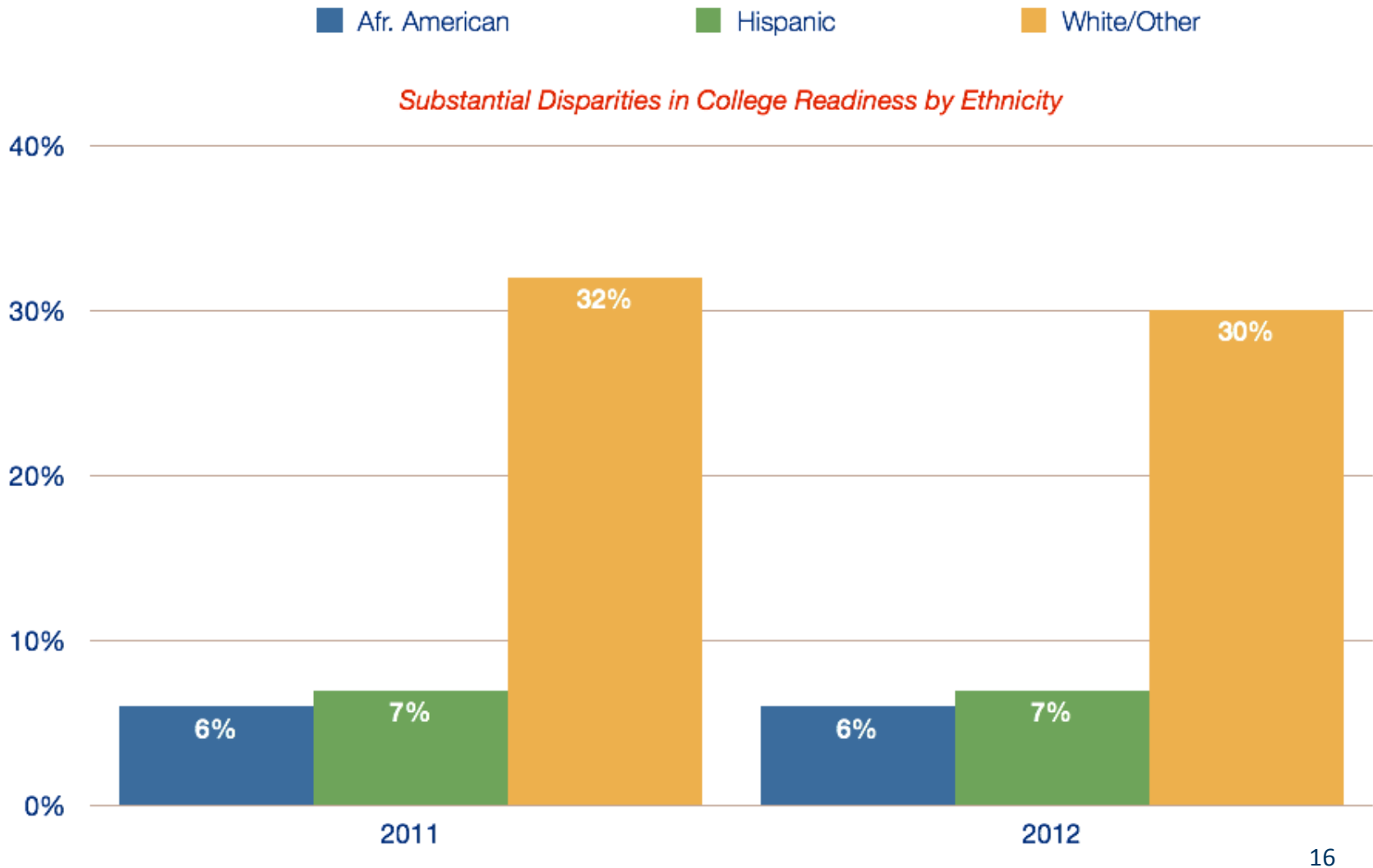
Stagnating Number of High School Graduates Despite Growing Area Enrollment

■ Grads Not Ready ■ College Ready Grads

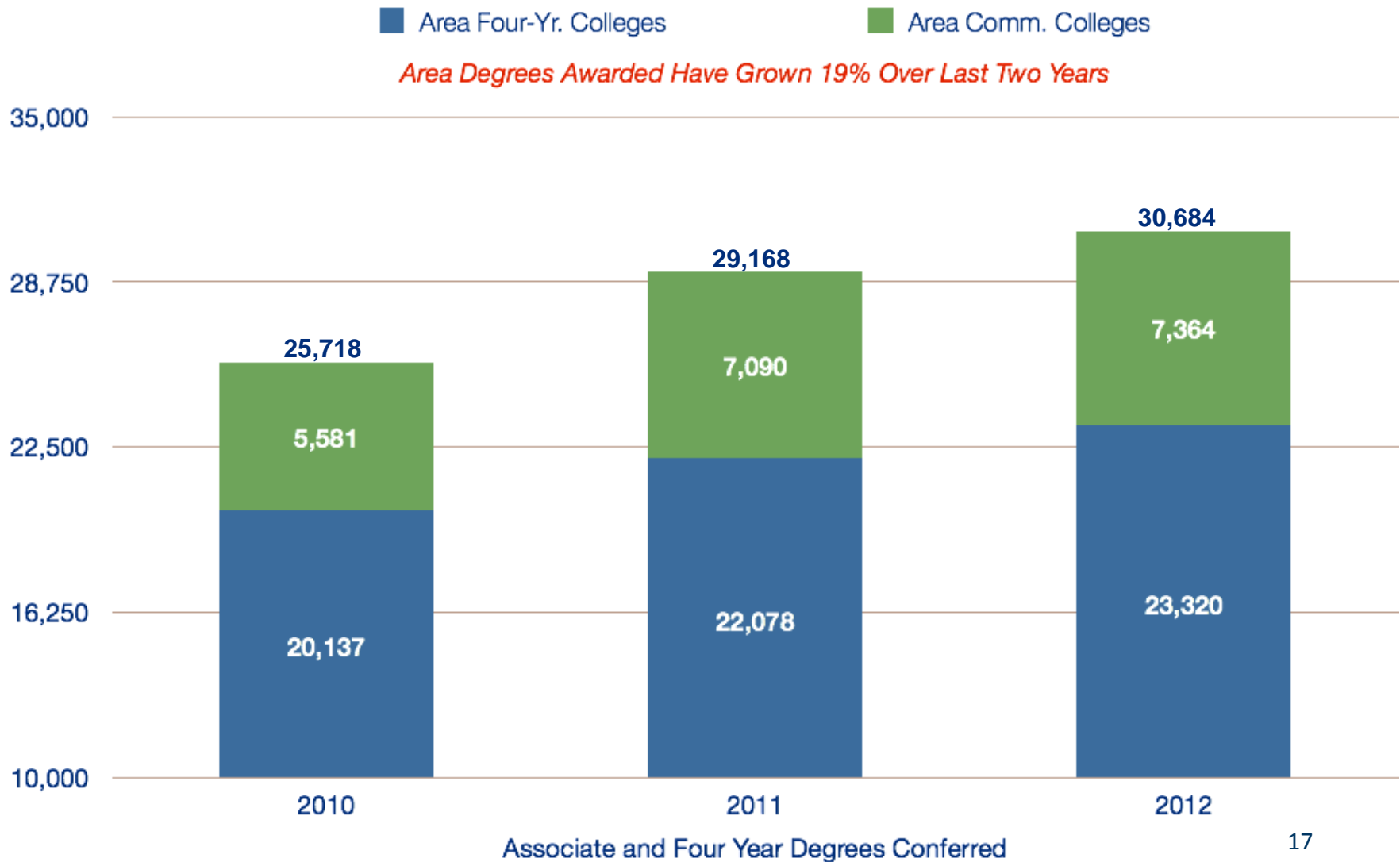
Both H.S. Graduates (and College Ready H.S. Grads) Remained Flat



Substantial Disparities in College Readiness Across Ethnicities and Varying Socio-Economic Levels



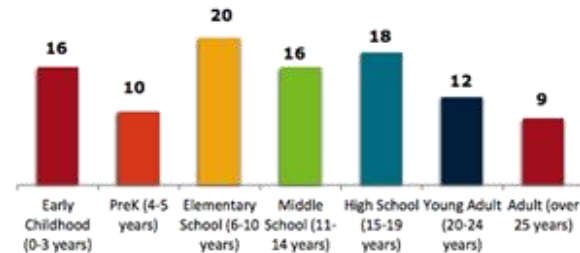
Notable Growth in Degrees Among Area Four Year Institutions and Community Colleges



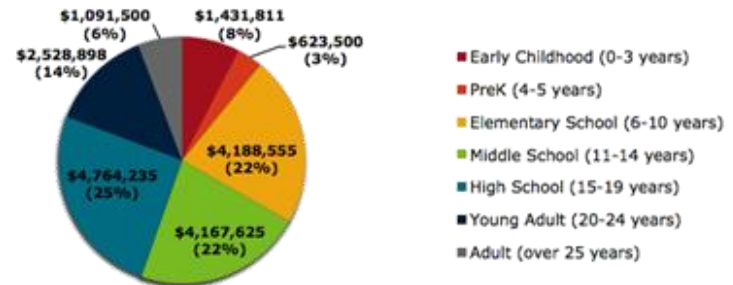
Released first-ever Giving Profile

Investing in Developmental Stages

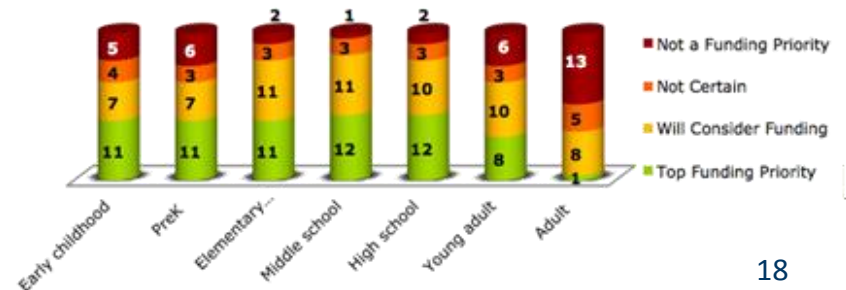
How many funders are investing in these developmental stages?



How many dollars are invested in these developmental stages?



How do funders plan to prioritize these developmental stages over the next five years?



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2012 Giving Profile

Philanthropic Support for Education
in Dallas County

Released Stories of Impact



Preparing and Supporting Students to Make College Dreams a Reality

Practitioner: Uplift Education



Improving Student Engagement and Academic Achievement through a Single-Gender Middle School Strategy

Practitioner: Grand Prairie ISD



Increasing Student Access to Quality Pre-K Services

Practitioner: Lancaster ISD



Uplift Education:
Postsecondary Enrollment

Grand Prairie ISD:
Single Gender Middle
Schools

Lancaster ISD:
Quality Pre-K Access

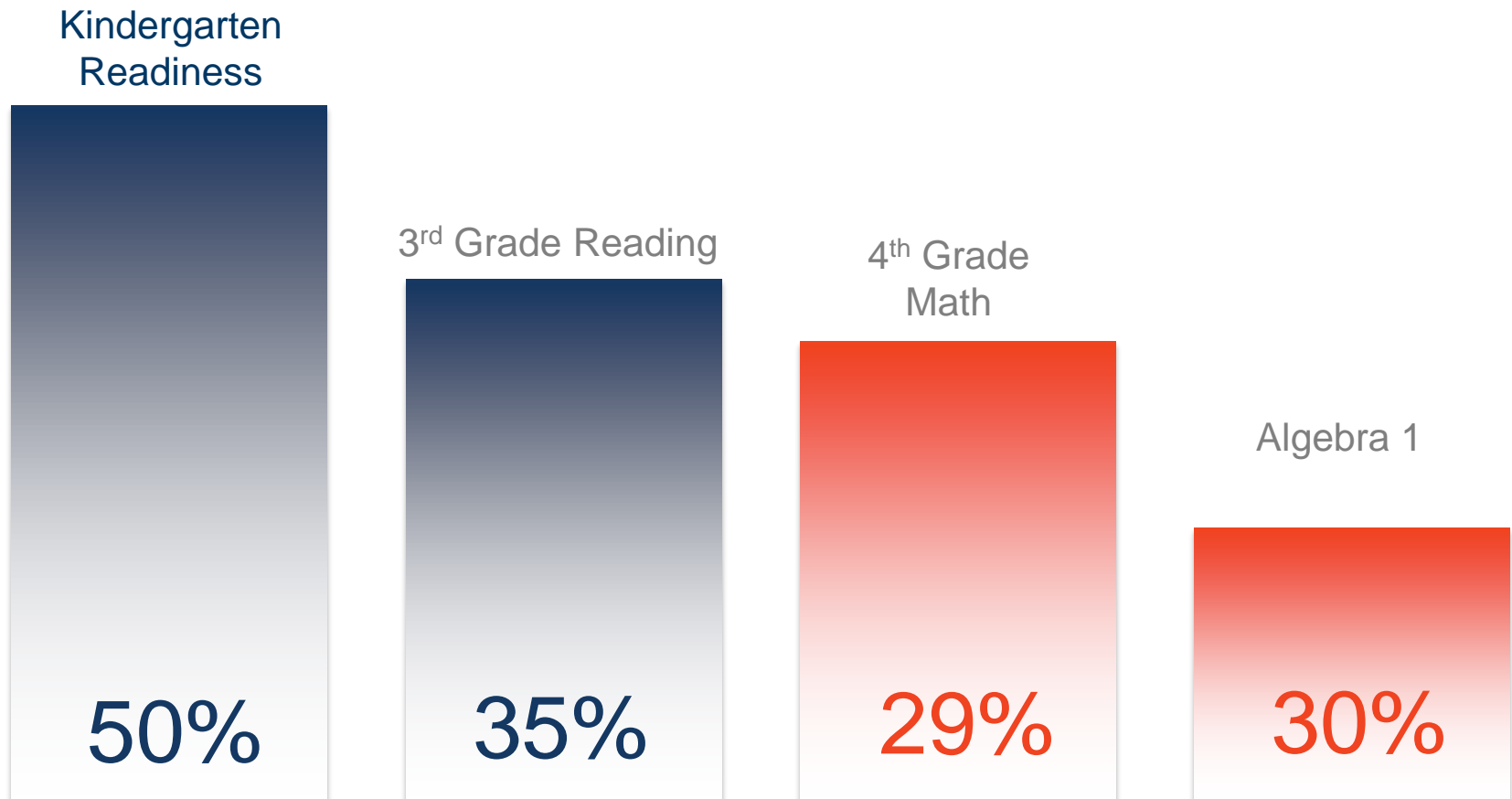
Lifting up impactful partner practices



To view the Commit! Partnership's Stories of Impact in their entirety, please visit <http://commit2dallas.org/stories-of-impact/>.

Starting early pays huge dividends by raising the early ceiling limiting future achievement

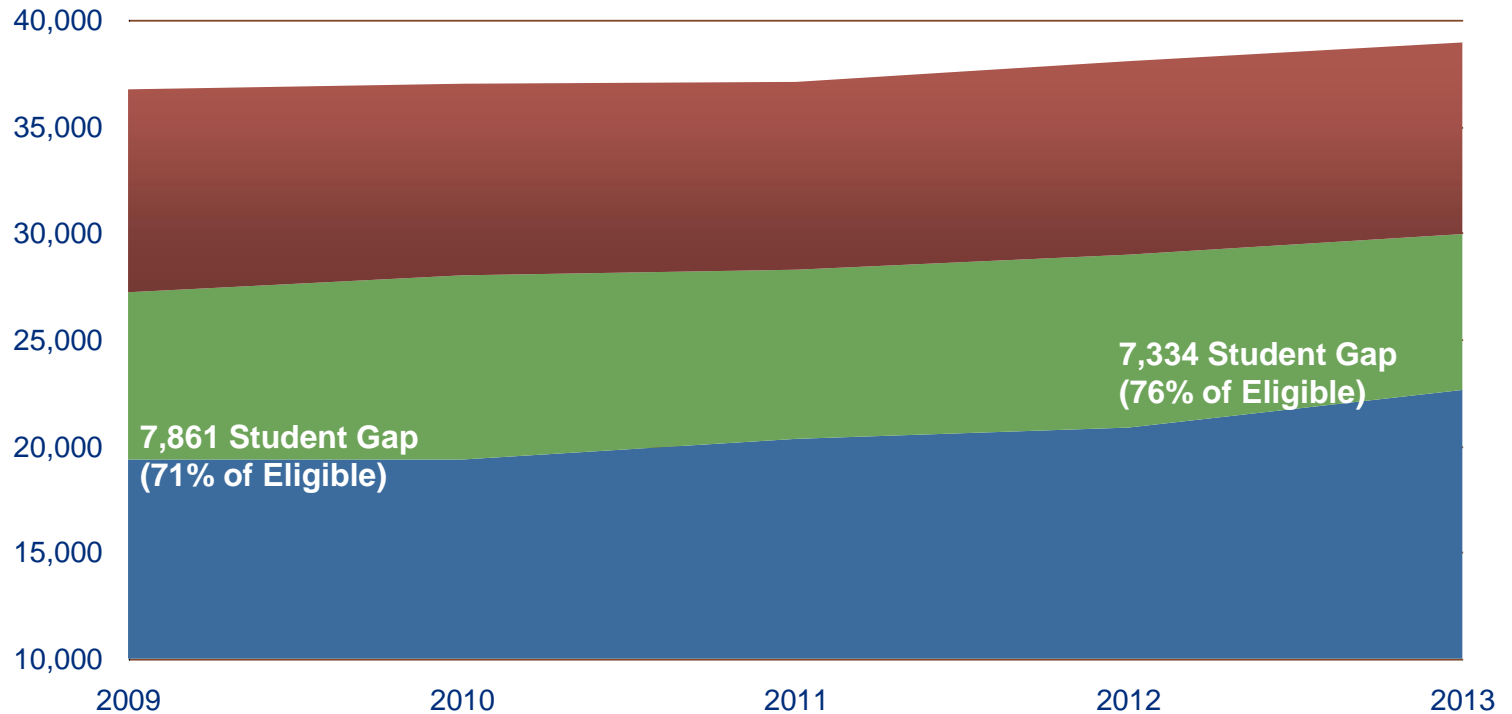
We cannot strengthen the education pipeline without preparing our youngest students before they fall further behind



Continued Gaps on Both Ends of Spectrum - PreK Access and College Readiness

■ Actual PreK Students ■ Eligible PreK Students Not Enrolled ■ Non Eligible PreK

Slightly Shrinking District PreK Enrollment Gap as a %

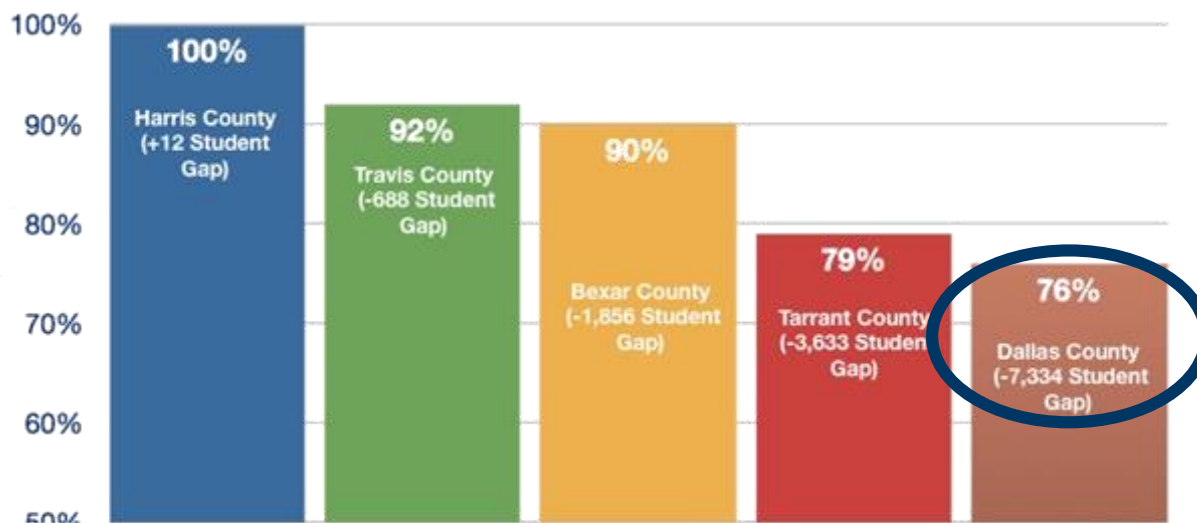


Thousands of young children are not accessing quality early education essential to success

Actual vs. Estimated Eligible PreK Enrollment Across Major Texas Counties
Dallas Trails All Major Counties by Pct.; Student Gap Twice as Large

■ Harris County ■ Travis County ■ Bexar County
■ Tarrant County ■ Dallas County

Public Pre-K
Enrollment as a Pct.
Of Eligible Students



Source: Texas Academic Performance Reporting system for 2013. Actual PreK enrollment for four-year olds compared to estimate of eligible students calculated by multiplying first grade enrollment by free and reduced student population percentage for each campus in the respective county.

Pre-K Enrollment Campaign

Access to high quality early childhood education is necessary for school readiness and future academic success

Short Term Goals

- Inform the community importance of early education
- Substantially increase the number of parents who enroll their 4-year-olds in free public pre-K

Strategies

Consistent and widespread messaging on:

- The importance of an early childhood education
- Availability of free public 3 and 4-year-old pre-K
- Eligibility criteria for free public pre-K
- Enrollment periods for free public pre-K

Key Messages for Pre-K Enrollment

WHO

Families with eligible 4-year-olds (on or before Sept. 1, 2014).
(free/reduced lunch, English as a Second Language, military, foster care or homeless).

WHEN

Starting April 7, 2014

WHERE

Any nearby elementary school

WHAT TO BRING

Birth certificate, SS card, immunization records, proof of residency, proof of income, photo ID, military documentation, etc.

WHY

Put your child on track for a bright future.

Reading now means reading later

Fewer than

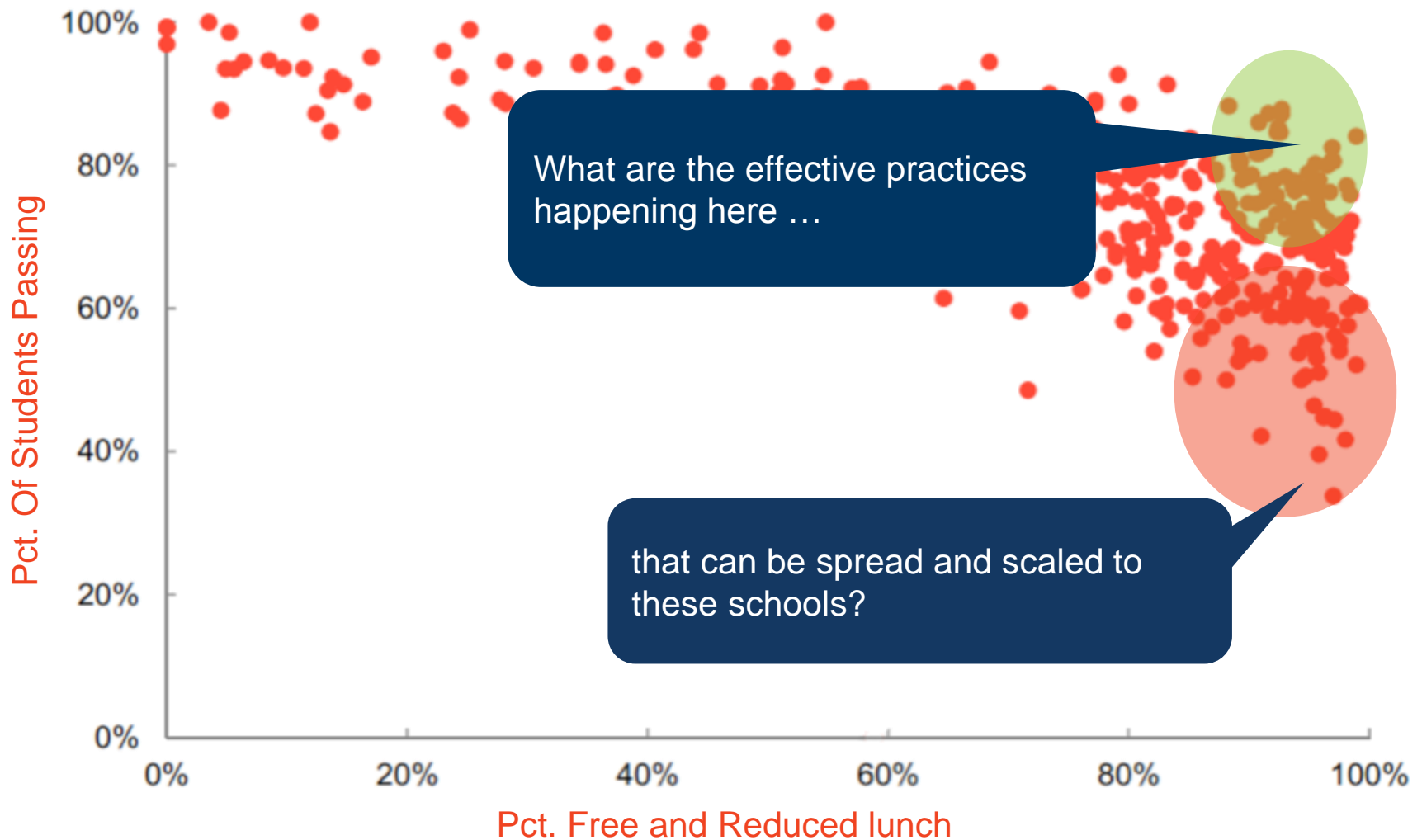
75%

of students who are poor readers in 3rd grade will remain so in high school

20%

of students below grade level in 3rd grade successfully complete some form of college

Go to where the data takes us and find out what's working



Launched early literacy networks

Why SOC and Molina?

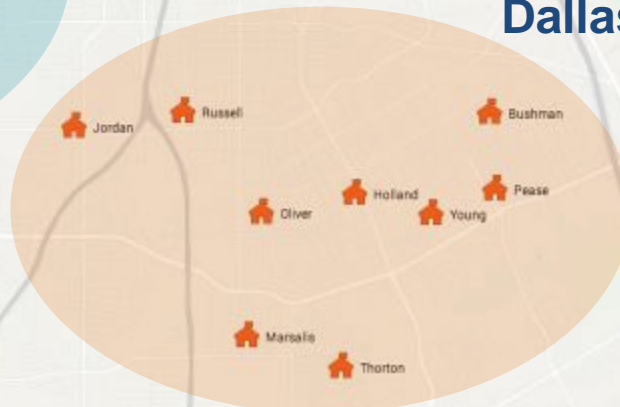
- 1) Achievement data indicated high need
- 2) Students reflect overall regional demographics
- 3) Willingness of local school leadership

Molina Feeder Pattern Dallas Independent School District



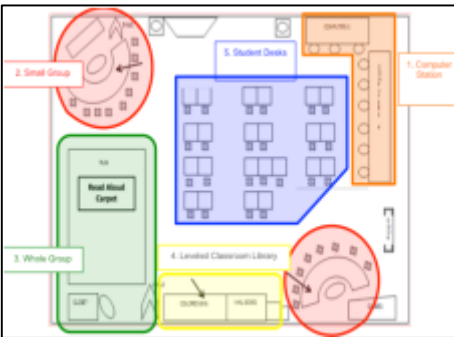
- 455 (40%) 3rd grade students failing minimal reading standards
- 8,400+ students
- 40% English Language Learner levels
- 95% poverty

South Oak Cliff Feeder Pattern Dallas Independent School District



Progress in our SOC and Molina Networks

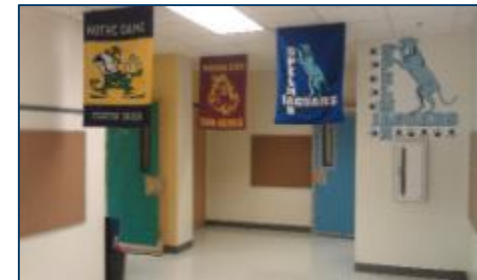
Balanced Literacy /
Teacher
Instructional
Support



Data-Driven
Decisions



School Culture



Connected communities to schools



Organized 200+ volunteers and raised \$150,000 to set up ~750 classroom entries (in SOC, Molina, TJ and White) with college décor and inspirational quotes

SOC/Molina accomplishments lend confidence we're on track for success

Recent successes

- **\$31,533 raised** towards DonorsChoose projects supporting literacy classrooms
- 1,638 additional students assessed in the Fall of 2013 vs. Fall 2012 (**70% increase**), likely due to greater focus on early literacy
- **14/14 schools have leveled libraries** (last year only 1) to support differentiated reading instruction

Plans ahead

- Documenting more data and effective practices to understand what's working and what needs improvement
- Working with districts to scale effective practices more broadly
- Expanding the collective impact model for more targeted support

A truly collaborative effort....



Dallas
Independent
School
District



GE Capital



BCG

TEACHFORAMERICA



commit!

P3 network deepening public & private school partnerships

- Partnership of 12 Dallas private schools with 18 schools in 2 feeder patterns (*TJ & White: 11,000 students w/ 372 (25%) 3rd grade failing minimal reading standards*)
- Focusing on activities that drive student achievement

Shared parent education



Book drives 2.0



Tutoring



2014 Look Ahead!

The Partnership	Growing the Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add remaining K-12 districts and Higher Ed institutions to the Partnership • Establish talent partnerships/fellowships to enhance network support capacity
	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase support for emerging and established collaborative efforts like Out-of-School Time Task Force and The School Zone • Publish Scorecard, Education Honor Roll and several additional Stories of Impact
Community Indicators	Early Childhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help close enrollment gap measurably for economically disadvantaged 4-year-olds • Help districts adopt a common Kindergarten Readiness tool for consistent data on quality • Help enable 2015 state legislative win to bring more \$ for Early Childhood in the county • Demonstrate measurable achievement gains in SOC/Molina linked to practices • Scale effective literacy supports and PD across multiple school districts
	Grades 4-12 / College Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use objective data and assessment of landscape to develop common community agenda and seed action networks addressing STEM college and career readiness • Demonstrate impact of TxCAN-NT and other efforts to increase postsecondary enrollment • Help increase capacity of districts and partners to better serve college-going students • Rally the Dallas County community around a common postsecondary agenda
	Higher Ed / Workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase resources for students with social/economic challenges to complete postsecondary education • Launch efforts to align higher education with workforce needs in 1 or more key industries
Supporting Infrastructure	Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help create legislative agenda for 2015 Session vetted by Advocacy Support Council and driven by action network needs
	Human Capital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete data compilation for recent teacher cohorts of partner districts • Develop teacher prep and district partnership strategy and pilot high-impact effort
	Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver data packs to each district to help benchmark/identify focus areas for impact • Complete data sharing agreements with more partners for strategic projects • Complete development of database and automate data aggregation