



SEATTLE
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SCHOOLS

The Southeast Education Initiative and Progress on School Improvement

Superintendent Update

October 15, 2008

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Every student achieving, everyone accountable.

Southeast Education Initiative Update Agenda



- Overview of Southeast Education Initiative
- Components of Southeast Education Initiative as District's emerging approach to school improvement
- Progress and early results
- Next steps

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Overview of Southeast Education Initiative



- In Spring 2007, the SPS school board, within the student assignment policy, passed Component E the Southeast Education Initiative.
- The Initiative ensures that local secondary schools are the “schools of choice” for residents of southeast Seattle by providing targeted and sustained resources that will enable each school, Aki Kurose Middle School, Rainier Beach and Cleveland High Schools, to develop and implement a comprehensive plan for school transformation (C-SIP).
 - Increased rigor in core academic subject areas
 - Expansion of academic and elective offerings
 - Development of a research-based signature program

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Overview of Southeast Education Initiative (continued)



- The Initiative also establishes a rigorous accountability process with school-specific program goals for Fall 2010. Meeting program goals is established as being within 10% of the goal.
 - Enrollment Growth
 - Percent of First Choice
 - Increased Academic Achievement
 - Student and Teacher Climate Survey Results
 - Attendance

- The accountability component of the Initiative serves as a model of how Seattle Public Schools might consistently approach district intervention and provides a starting point for the development of the larger school performance framework. Targeted support to schools is a critical part of our strategic plan.

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Components of Southeast Education Initiative



School improvement elements

- Strengthened academics
 - Curriculum & content
 - Teacher training and support
 - Student supports
- Performance accountability
 - Clear performance targets
 - Frequent monitoring
 - Accountability for performance
- Improved school culture & outreach
 - Family engagement
 - School and family surveys
 - Keynote speaker Dr. Bireda

Unique supports

- Enrichment
 - Performing Arts & Technology
- Mitigation
 - Extra staffing
- Transportation
 - Expanded transportation zone
- Wrap-around services
 - Extra social workers at the high schools

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School Improvement Elements: Strengthened Academics



- **College Board Partnership** with EXCELeRator Schools and SpringBoard curriculum being implemented at all three schools increasing rigor and coherence across grades
- **Advanced Placement Courses** greatly expanded at both high schools
- **Early College Awareness** through CollegeEd curriculum for all seventh and ninth graders to help families focus on making the right course choices early
- **Writers Workshop** implementation at Aki Kurose and Cleveland
- **Additional planning time** for mathematics & language arts teachers to support targeted and job-embedded professional development
- **Extended Student Day** through two additional periods at Aki Kurose

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School Improvement Elements : Accountability, Outreach & School Culture



Accountability

- Performance targets
 - Academic and enrollment targets set
- Compacts
 - School staffs agreed to training, making adjustments to curriculum and instructional strategies, allocating and aligning building resources, and committing to meeting collaboratively set targets
 - Building administrators agreed to attending trainings, monitoring and supporting staff with adjustments to curriculum and instructional strategies, allocating and aligning resources, and committing to collaboratively setting and meeting targets
 - Central office agreed to supporting a three year implementation model, partnering to set goals and yearly benchmarks, supplementing the WSS, and working aggressively to secure additional resources

Outreach & School Culture

- Home visits
 - School staff are visiting homes and have responsibility for family outreach
- Family Engagement Action Teams
 - Sites are developing and implementing clear plans for engaging parents, staff and community to support school improvement.
- Surveys
 - School Climate Surveys completed by parents will track effectiveness of family outreach

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Unique Supports to Southeast Education Initiative Schools



□ **Enrichment**

- Signature programs
 - ◇ Performing Arts at Aki Kurose & Rainier Beach
 - ◇ Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics at Cleveland
 - ◇ Extended day at Aki Kurose

□ **Mitigation**

- Schools were funded at higher enrollment levels to allow for comprehensive course offerings
- School funding is tied to meeting performance targets

□ **Transportation**

- Smaller “walk zone” and additional yellow bus service in the neighborhoods surrounding SE Initiative schools

□ **Wraparound Services**

- Full-time social workers at each school

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Southeast Education Initiative Progress and Early Results



- Enrollment October 1, 2008 State Count
 - Aki Kurose 434 (projection 361)
 - Cleveland 711 (projection 736)
 - Rainier Beach 457 (projection 307)

- AP Course Offerings
 - Aki Kurose 6 honors classes (3 classes 2007-08)
 - Cleveland 7 AP classes (2 classes 2007-08)
 - Rainier Beach 9 AP classes (4 classes 2007-08)

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Southeast Education Initiative Update Progress and Early Results (continued)



- Community Partnerships
 - Performing Arts
 - ◇ Broadway Bound
 - ◇ Seattle Theatre Group
 - Technology
 - ◇ DigiPen
- Teacher Training and Support – June 2008 and October 2008
 - SpringBoard - 44 teachers grades 6-12
 - Curriculum coherence - 68 teachers grades 6-12

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Southeast Education Initiative Update

Next Steps



During the 2008-09 school year, the District will:

- Continue to support teachers and staff in these schools (through ongoing professional development – College Board, Columbia University, and University of Washington)
- Transition Southeast Education Initiative supervision/responsibilities to appropriate person/program/project within the system
- Refine overall approach to school improvement (including plans for subsequent support to Southeast schools)
- Develop a comprehensive school performance framework informed by the Southeast Initiative work (with major components identified by spring 2009)
- Monitor progress through looking at student performance, changes to instructional practice, and an increase in family engagement and community partnerships

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