



### Graduation rates

For the ninth straight year, we saw an increase in 4-year graduation rates. Our graduation rate of 79.6% remains above the statewide average and has risen more than 17 points since 2010. Graduation rates for our Black and African American students rose by nearly 6 percentage points in 2017-18. We must continue and strengthen our efforts to increase graduation rates, especially among our historically marginalized and underserved communities.



### Visioning

We reached and engaged thousands of students, parents, educators, administrators and community members to set a new “north star” for PPS. This initiative is a first for PPS and will demonstrate our collective aspirations for the graduate of the future, as well as the knowledge, skills and dispositions of our educators and the major system shifts we must make to turn these dreams into reality. The final Vision document will inform a new three-year strategic plan for the district.



### Racial Equity and Social Justice

We hired a special Racial Equity and Social Justice adviser as a cabinet level position. She is leading the district to develop and, most importantly, put to use an equity lens through which we will analyze our major decisions and initiatives. We continue to deploy RESJ work throughout the organization, rather than limit the expertise and work to a single functional group.



### Finances

Under our new and deeply experienced Deputy Superintendent for Business and Operations, we have made great strides in bringing order, accountability and transparency to our financial systems. This work resulted in a spotless annual audit of our books by an outside accounting firm. We published a budget that, for the first time, gives the public a school-by-school breakdown of district spending.



### Leadership

We solidified a national caliber leadership team, bringing much needed stability and expertise to central administration. We brought in leaders from large districts around the country as well as hired some of the best local talent to fill these critical positions. The team has brought a new sense of mission and structure to the district and to our schools.



### Middle school openings

Despite considerable time and resource restraints, we opened two new middle schools at Harriet Tubman and Roseway Heights, bringing comprehensive middle grades educational opportunities to historically underserved communities. Later this spring we will break ground on a new Kellogg Middle School, continuing our work to improve our middle grade program and prepare students to be ready for high school and beyond.



### Academic investments

We established the foundation for standards-based core curriculum throughout the district. This step, along with increased attention to professional development among our teachers and administrators, is key to the transformation of PPS. It represents a critical first step as we build capacity in our schools to allow all students access to rich, rigorous academic opportunities, regardless of background, zip code or other social determinants.



### Social-emotional learning investments

We understand we must support the whole child if we want our students to be successful. We developed a new model of tiered supports, based on national best practices, to provide interventions and support at all levels. Our new REAHL (Recovery Education and Action for Healthy Living) provides a continuum of care for students challenged by addiction and mental health issues. We created a Rapid Response Team to provide triage-level support as needed in schools.



### Elevated student voice

We began the school year with a student panel that addressed our principals and central administrators so we could hear a ground-level view of their aspirations and concerns. Since then we have scheduled student engagement sessions at every high school to talk about safety and security. We included students and student voices in our Guiding Coalition for Visioning.



### Student safety and security

We began implementing recommendations from the Whitehurst investigation, including implementation of Sexual Incident Response Training and processes, expansion of training modules, new incident reporting and tracking software and other initiatives. We developed and funded plans to improve main entry security at all schools, with work to begin this summer.



### School modernization

Thanks to the generosity of Portland voters, we have made improvements throughout the district. We have replaced drinking water fixtures, seismically reinforced some schools, completed ADA access projects and mitigated lead paint, asbestos, and radon. Re-opening of a modernized Grant High School is set for August. Master planning has been completed on Kellogg, Madison, Lincoln and Benson, with groundbreaking on Kellogg and Madison set for late spring.



### State and national recognition

We are building our reputation, both in Oregon and nationally, as a district. Whitman teacher Janet Do was awarded the prestigious Milken Award. Superintendent Guerrero was chosen for the Council of the Great City Schools executive board. Teacher Matt Bacon-Brenes, Oregon teacher of the year for 2017-18, won a national Horace Mann Award. Benson Principal Curtis Wilson was named Oregon Principal of the Year.