ON TRACK TO GRADUATE

Seeking GREAT Students

September 5, 2017
Creating the conditions for success

What does it mean to have a high school diploma?
• Average of $10,000 more in annual earnings
• Expanded job opportunities
• Ability to go to college

In Tulsa, a 13% increase in the graduation rate would lead to:

• $34 million in increased earnings
• $26 million in increased spending
• $44 million increase in home sales
• $43 million increase in the gross regional product
• $2.6 million increase in local and state tax revenue
Creating the conditions for success

What barriers do students face to staying in school and staying on track to graduate?

- Student is the primary care-taker for the family.
- Student needs to work to support the family.
- Student lacks access to transportation.
- Student needs specialized supports and does not know how or where to seek assistance.
Creating the conditions for success

We are making progress...
• 5% increase in the 2015-2016 graduation rate
• Anticipated increase for 2016-2017
• Still going strong with 44 additional graduates between May and August

...but we have more work to do
• National high school graduation rate: 83.2% in 2015-2016
• Tulsa Public Schools graduation rate: 72% in 2015-2016
Year one: Keep Our Kids in School Week

440 “no-show” students

Coordinated site team effort

Phone calls, social media, talking to friends, visiting employers, home visits

440 “no-show” students

Knocked on 137 doors

Made contact with 230+ students

Confirmed the status of 180+ students

Re-enrolled 83 students (20 seniors) at Tulsa Public Schools

56 students remained enrolled all year

13 seniors earned high school diplomas
Year two: Seeking GREAT Students

Who are Tulsa’s GREAT students?

Students who need to Get Re-engaged in Education to Achieve and Thrive.

Incoming 9th, 10th, and 12th grade “no-show” students:

• Class of 2021: ensuring a strong start and setting good habits early
• Class of 2020: targeting for a second year to sustain and bolster student engagement
• Class of 2018: making sure students stay on track to graduate with their class
Year two: 
Seeking GREAT Students

School and district staff have been working diligently to get students enrolled.

August 2017
• Traditional outreach efforts include phone calls and home visits.
• Enrollment staff work to get all student records updated and accurate.

September 2017
• All hands on deck to find our students and bring them back!
Year two: Seeking GREAT Students

August 28th – Sept. 1st

Increased supports for schools as ten district office team members called more than 300 students.

- This means school teams will not lose time knocking on doors where students no longer live or calling inoperable or incorrect phone numbers.

- We made 12 referrals to our Office of Student and Family Support Services for additional supports needed to get students back in school.
Year two: Seeking GREAT Students

September 5\textsuperscript{th} – September 8\textsuperscript{th}

- School teams will make additional phone calls, use social media, and talk to other students to determine how and where to find GREAT Students.

September 11\textsuperscript{th} – September 15\textsuperscript{th}

- School leaders, teachers, and staff will hit the streets to knock on doors, find our GREAT Students and get them back in class and back on track to graduate.
Year two: Seeking GREAT Students

Who goes out on these home visits?

• School teams will identify who might be most successful in re-engaging each student and create a focus list of students for either following up on previous calls or for conducting a home visit.

• The home visits typically include a combination of the school leader, counselor, coaches, teachers, or other adults in the building who have a relationship with the student. When appropriate, the teams will include additional staff for translation or special education services.
Year two: Seeking GREAT Students

What resources are provided to students during home visits?

While each student may have specific needs, some common resources include:

- Giving them information about #TPSRides program that provides no-cost transportation;
- Enrolling them in alternative programs such as Tulsa Learning Academy;
- Providing referrals to social services and supports; and
- Working with them to develop an attendance and/or graduation plan.
Questions, suggestions, or feedback?