



Springfield Public Schools

GOALS, VISION, AND WORK TOWARDS STUDENT SUCCESS



Vision & Mission

Vision:

*"Every Student a Graduate, Prepared for a
Bright and Successful Future"*

Mission:

"Every Student, Every Day"



Values

We Believe...

- ▶ Every student can and will learn;
- ▶ In eliminating inequities in student achievement;
- ▶ In fostering safe, healthy and engaging environments;
- ▶ In promoting an inclusive environment that draws on the assets of students, staff and community.



Goals

1. Promote growth and success for **every** student
2. Support Families so that **every** student is prepared to learn
3. Provide personalized learning opportunities for **every** student
4. Create safe and future ready facilities that inspire learning
5. Advocate for funding and policies that support education



Translating to Student Achievement

- ▶ Strategies in place for the past three years
- ▶ Intentional focus on specific high leverage practices that impact student achievement.
- ▶ Tough decisions, but ultimately moving the dial for our students.

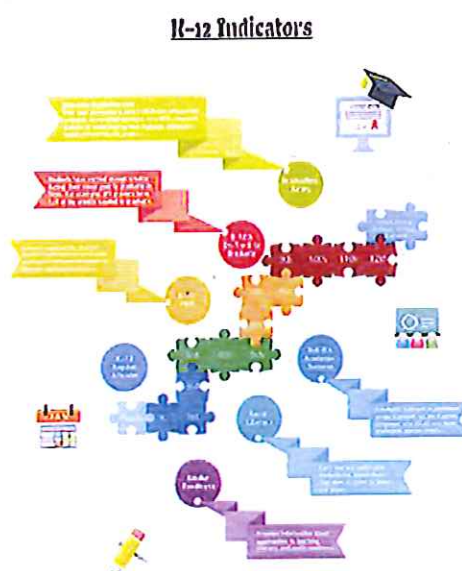
State Report Card

David Collins
Assistant Superintendent

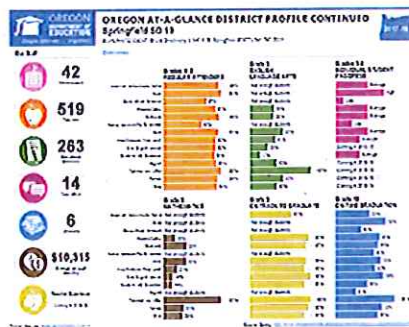
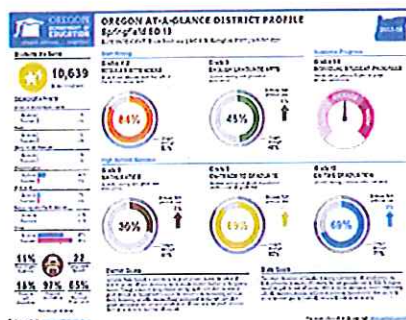
School Board Work Session
Springfield Public Schools
January 28th, 2019

Report Overview – Topics

- Priorities / Graduation Rate Handout
- K-12th Grade Indicator Handout
- 2017-18 District Report Card – Summary
 - District Report Card Handout
 - Indicator Handout
- Indicator - 9th Grade On-Track To Graduate/ On-Time Graduation
 - 9th Grade On Track to Graduate
 - 2016-17 Graduation Rate – Four Year
 - 2017-18 Graduation Rate – Four Year
- Indicator - State Assessments – English Language Arts/Math/Science
 - 3rd Grade English Language Arts
 - 3-8 Individual Student Progress
 - 8th Grade Mathematics
- Indicator - Regular Attenders
- Summary

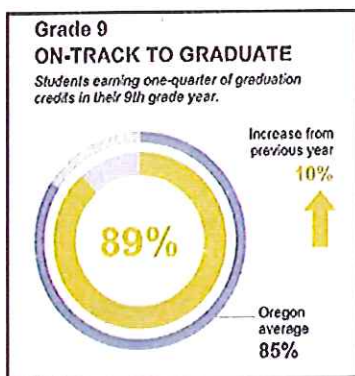


2017-18 District Report Card Handouts



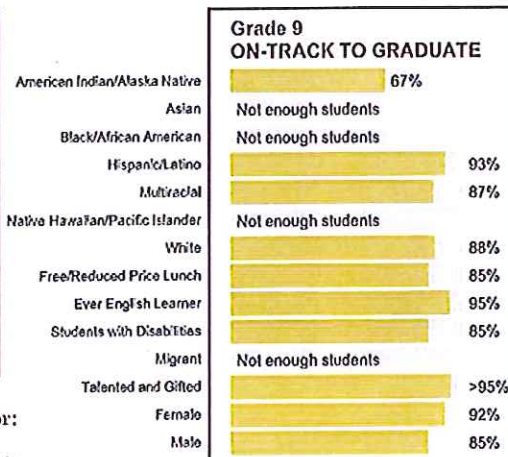
- 2017-18 District Report Card – Summary
 - Demographics
 - Indicators
 - Outcomes –for Indicators
 - Disaggregated Student Groups

9th Grade On-Track to Graduate

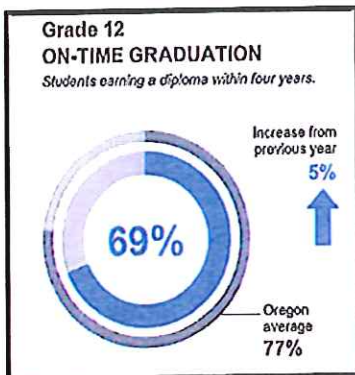


Strategic Action(s) supporting this indicator:

- Target investment – 9th Grade
- Online Instructional Support Programming
- Alternative Education Restructure
- Data Analytic - Systems & Trainings
- Program Staffing Allocation – Instructional Coaching Model
- Building - Promising Practices

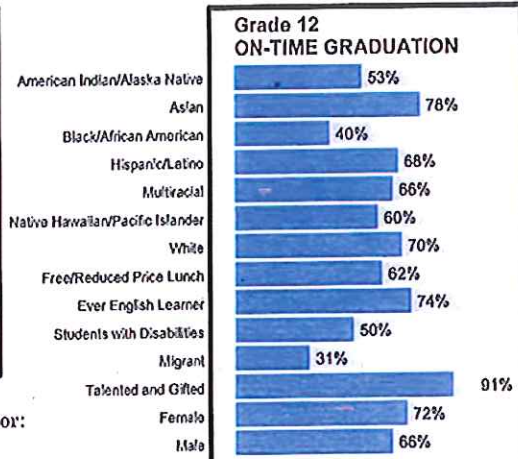


On Time Graduation

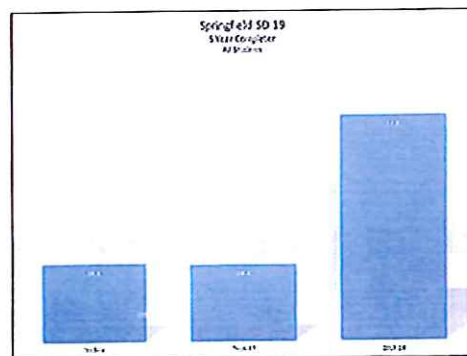
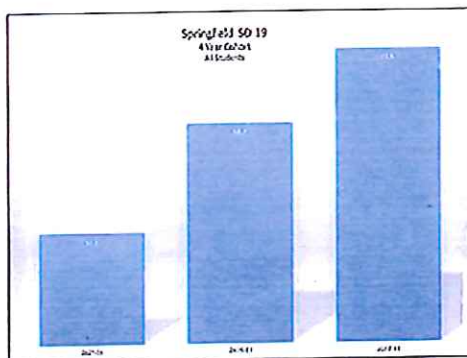


Strategic Action(s) supporting this indicator:

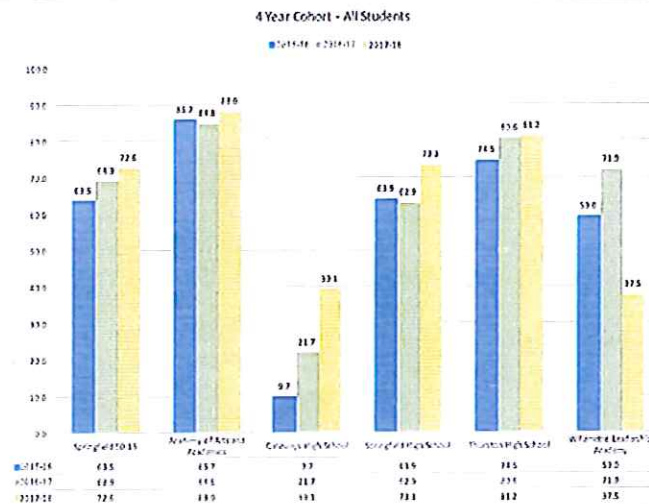
- Target investment
- Credit Recovery/Expanded Options
- Alternative Education Restructure
- Data Analytic - Systems & Trainings
- Program of Study/Pathway/CTE Efforts



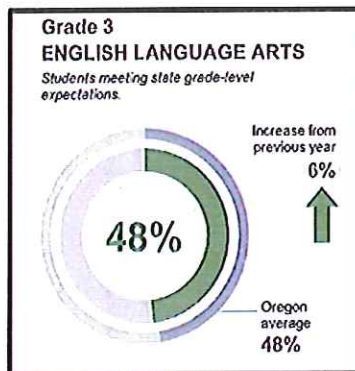
Graduation Rates – 2017-18



Graduation Rates – 2017-18

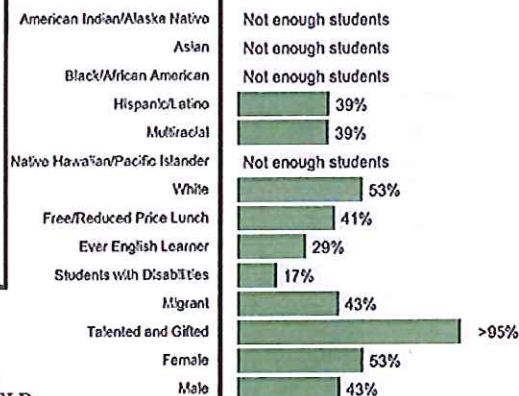


State Assessments – English Language Arts

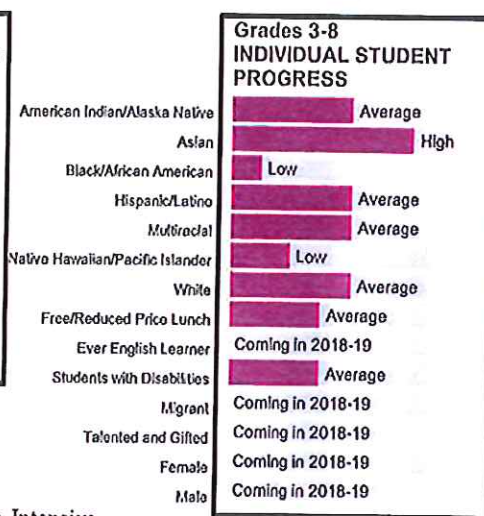
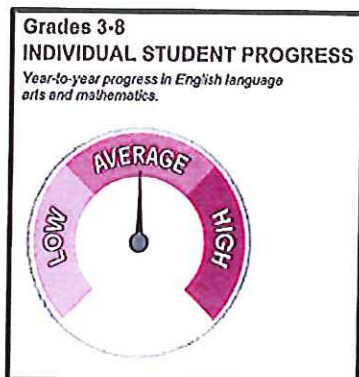


Strategic Action(s) supporting this indicator:

- Re-Investment – ELA Material Renewal, ELD
- Professional Development – Enhancement, Core
- Multi-Tiered System of Support - District Literacy Team
- Full Day Kindergarten – Impacts on literacy services



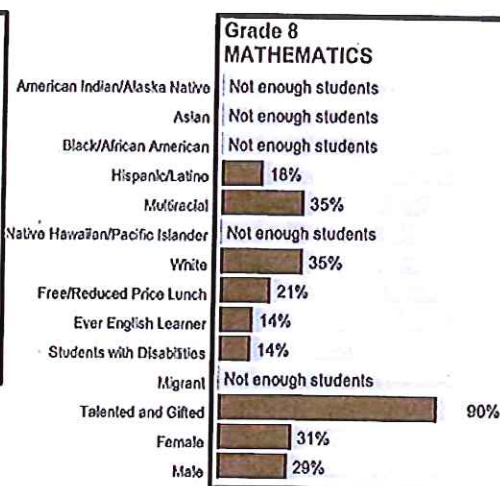
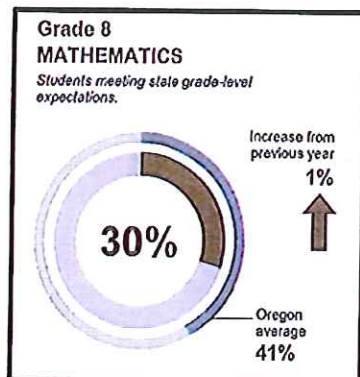
State Assessments – Individual Student Progress



Strategic Action(s) supporting this indicator:

- Re-Investment – Material Adoptions
- Professional Development – Core, Strategic, Intensive
- Program Staffing – Instructional Coaching Model
- Data Analysis Support – I-Ready, EasyCBM

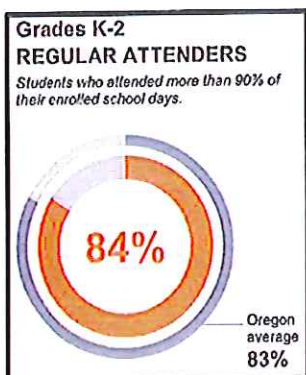
State Assessments – 8th Grade Mathematics



Strategic Action(s) supporting this indicator:

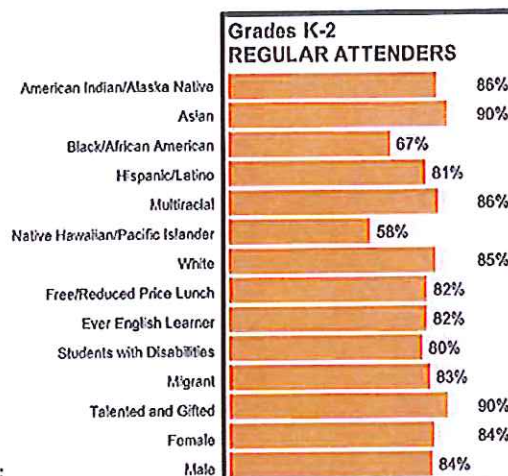
- Re-Investment – Material Adoptions
- Vertical/Horizontal instructional alignment
- Professional Development – Core, Strategic, Intensive
- Advisory team - acceleration/intervention
- Data Analysis Support – I-Ready

State Assessments – K-2 Regular Attenders



Strategic Action(s) supporting this indicator:

- Intentional Investment – Attendance Support
- Springfield Justice Partnerships – Parent Training
- Data Analysis Support
- Family Support Strategies



Summary

- Priorities / Graduation Rate Handout
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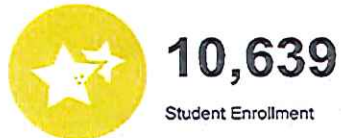
OREGON AT-A-GLANCE DISTRICT PROFILE

Springfield SD 19

SUPERINTENDENT: Bruce Smolnisky | 640 A St, Springfield 97477 | 541-747-3331

2017-18

Students We Serve



DEMOGRAPHICS

American Indian/Alaska Native	
Students	1%
Teachers	2%
Asian	
Students	1%
Teachers	2%
Black/African American	
Students	1%
Teachers	1%
Hispanic/Latino	
Students	22%
Teachers	4%
Multiracial	
Students	7%
Teachers	4%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	
Students	<1%
Teachers	<1%
White	
Students	67%
Teachers	89%

11%

Ever English Learners



22

Languages Spoken

18%

Students with Disabilities

97%

Required Vaccinations

65%

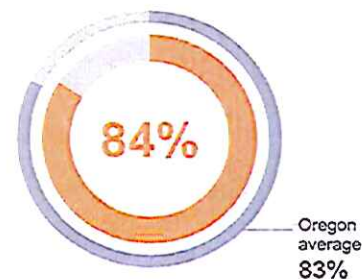
Free/Reduced Price Lunch

*Not enough students

Start Strong

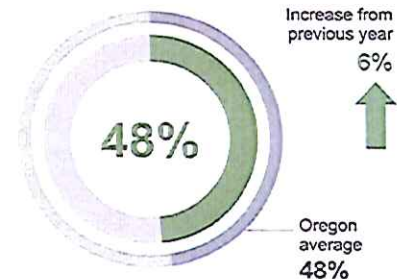
Grades K-2 REGULAR ATTENDERS

Students who attended more than 90% of their enrolled school days.



Grade 3 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

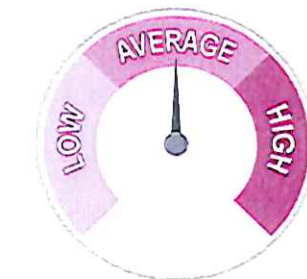
Students meeting state grade-level expectations.



Academic Progress

Grades 3-8 INDIVIDUAL STUDENT PROGRESS

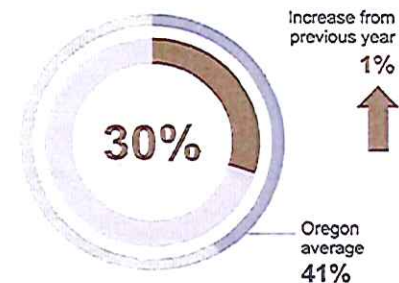
Year-to-year progress in English language arts and mathematics.



High School Success

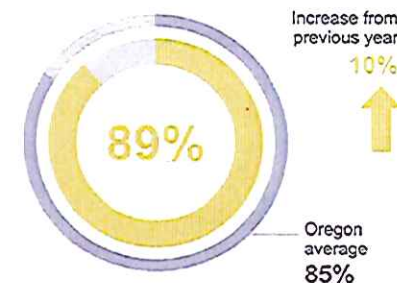
Grade 8 MATHEMATICS

Students meeting state grade-level expectations.



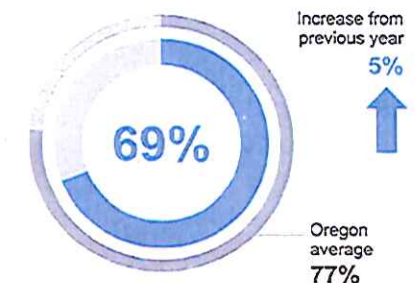
Grade 9 ON-TRACK TO GRADUATE

Students earning one-quarter of graduation credits in their 9th grade year.



Grade 12 ON-TIME GRADUATION

Students earning a diploma within four years.



District Goals

Springfield Public Schools is committed to the growth of every student. We believe all students can and will learn. Summative reports provide important feedback on the system's success. Through a focus on strong practices and high quality curriculum, our areas of growth reinforce our focused work to support the practice of the hard-working staff in our district. Supporting our skilled teachers through professional development, curriculum updates and targeted reinvestments we believe we will continue to see growth across our district as our students reach their full potential.

State Goals

The Oregon Department of Education is working in partnership with school districts and local communities to ensure a 90% on-time, four year graduation rate by 2025. To progress toward this goal, the state will prioritize efforts to improve attendance, invest in implementing culturally responsive practices, and promote continuous improvement to close opportunity and achievement gaps for historically and currently underserved students.



OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

Oregon achieves... together!

OREGON AT-A-GLANCE DISTRICT PROFILE CONTINUED

Springfield SD 19

SUPERINTENDENT: Bruce Smolnisky | 640 A St, Springfield 97477 | 541-747-3331

2017-18

Our Staff



42

Administrators



519

Teachers



263

Educational assistants



14

Counselors



6

Librarians



\$10,315

Average per pupil spending

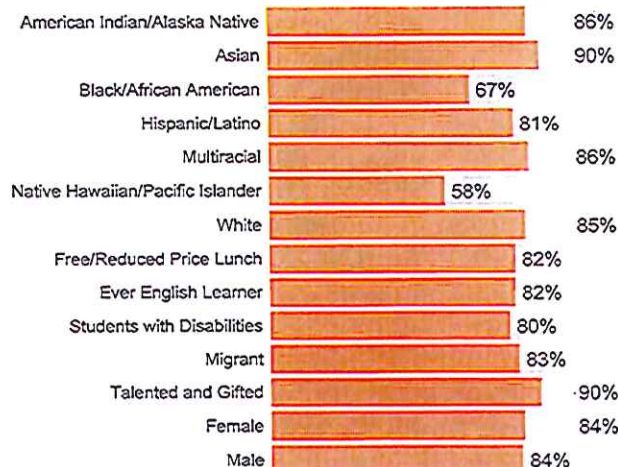


Teacher Experience

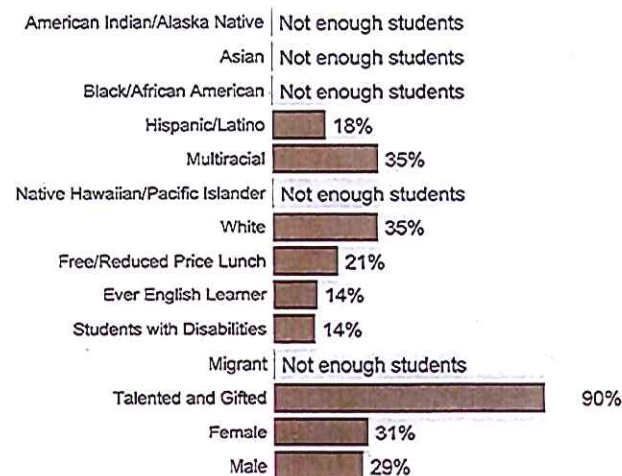
Coming in 2018-19

Outcomes

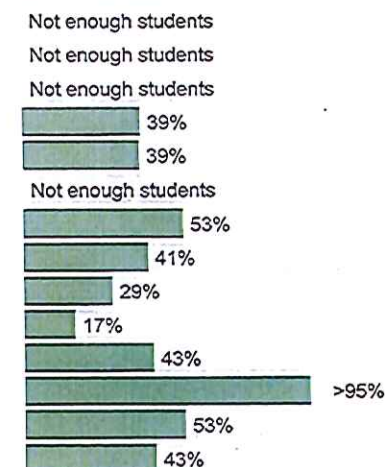
Grades K-2 REGULAR ATTENDERS



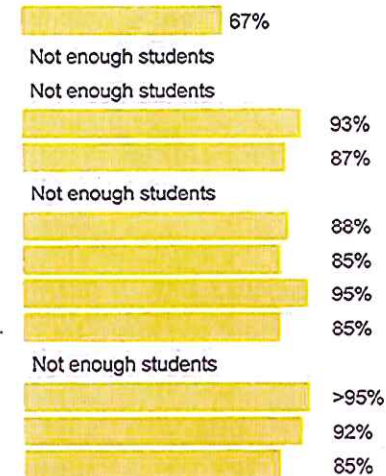
Grade 8 MATHEMATICS



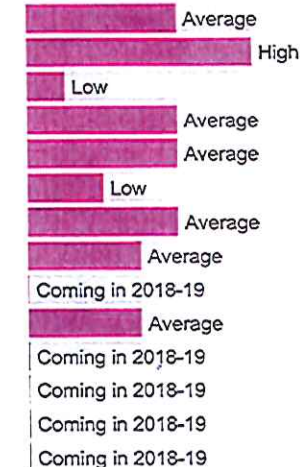
Grade 3 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS



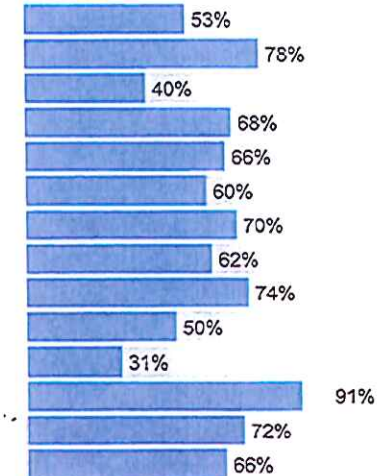
Grade 9 ON-TRACK TO GRADUATE



Grades 3-8 INDIVIDUAL STUDENT PROGRESS



Grade 12 ON-TIME GRADUATION



4 Year Cohort - All Students

2015-16 2016-17 2017-18

100.0

90.0

80.0

70.0

60.0

50.0

40.0

30.0

20.0

10.0

0.0

Springfield SD 19

Academy of Arts and
Academics

Gateways High School

Springfield High School

Thurston High School

Willamette Leadership
Academy

2015-16
2016-17
2017-18

63.5
68.9
72.6

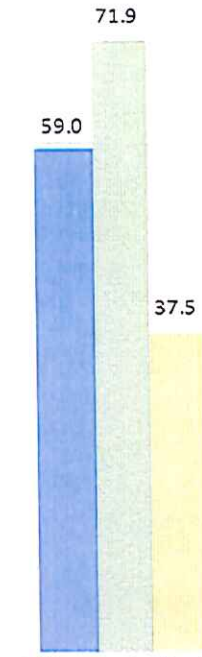
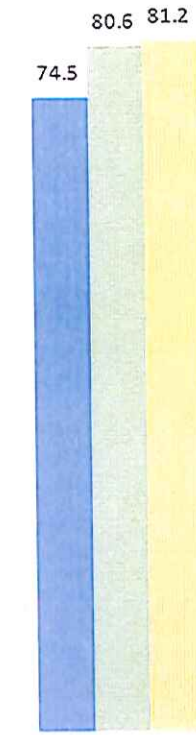
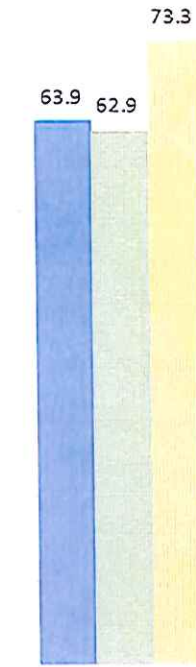
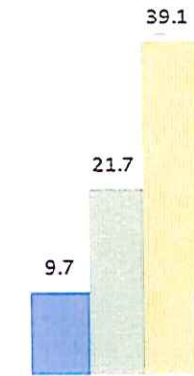
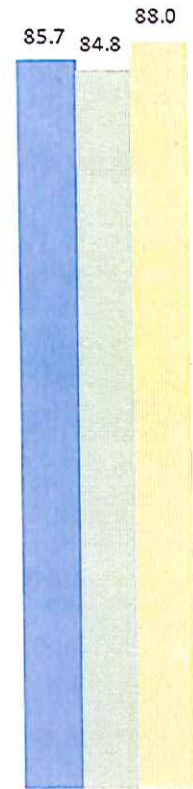
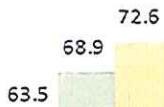
85.7
84.8
88.0

9.7
21.7
39.1

63.9
62.9
73.3

74.5
80.6
81.2

59.0
71.9
37.5



District Priorities/Graduation Rates



2011 - Priority/Actions

Arts Matter
Embedded Collaboration
Middle School Schedule
Quality Instruction Strategies
Grant Funds/Initiatives

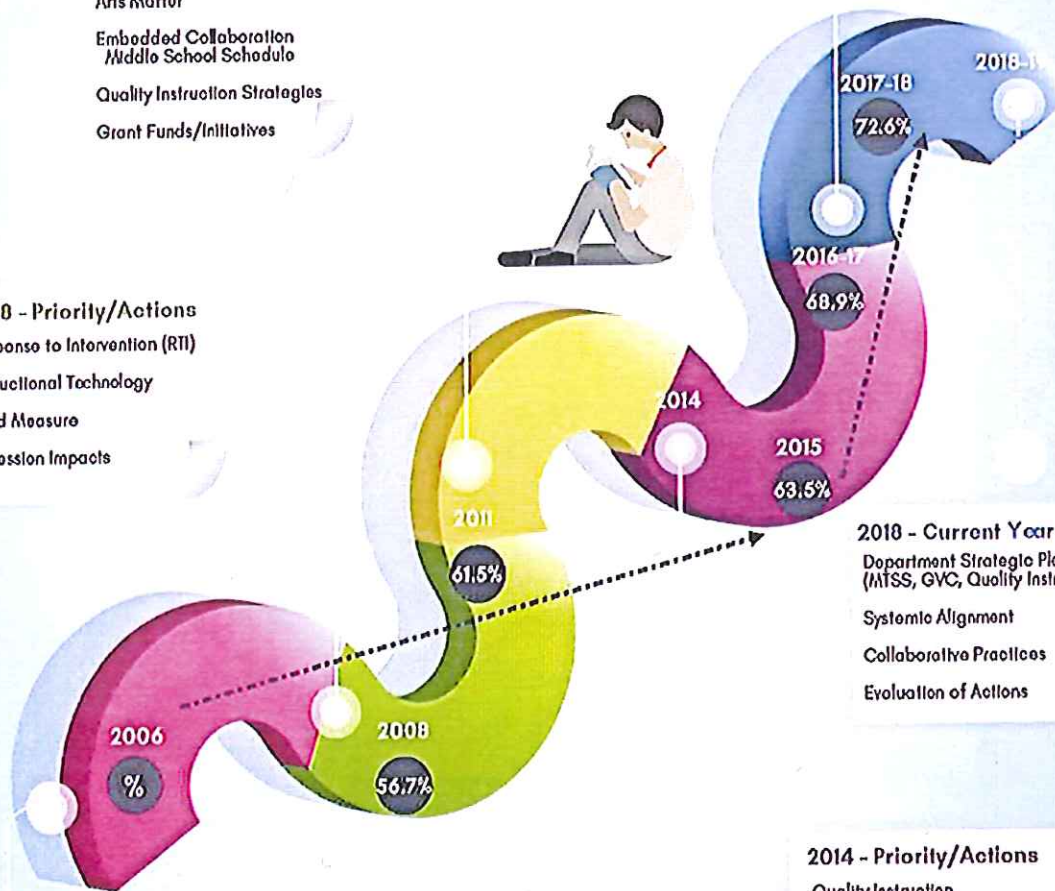
2016 - Priority/Actions

Intentional Investment
Alignment of Goals/Vision
Measurable Outcomes
Systemic Integration



2008 - Priority/Actions

Response to Intervention (RTI)
Instructional Technology
Bond Measure
Recession Impacts



2018 - Current Year

Department Strategic Plans
(MTSS, GVC, Quality Instruction)
Systemic Alignment
Collaborative Practices
Evaluation of Actions

2006 - Priority Actions

Expanded Delivery Models
Positive Behavior Intervention
and Supports
Workforce Readiness
K-5 Literacy Task Force

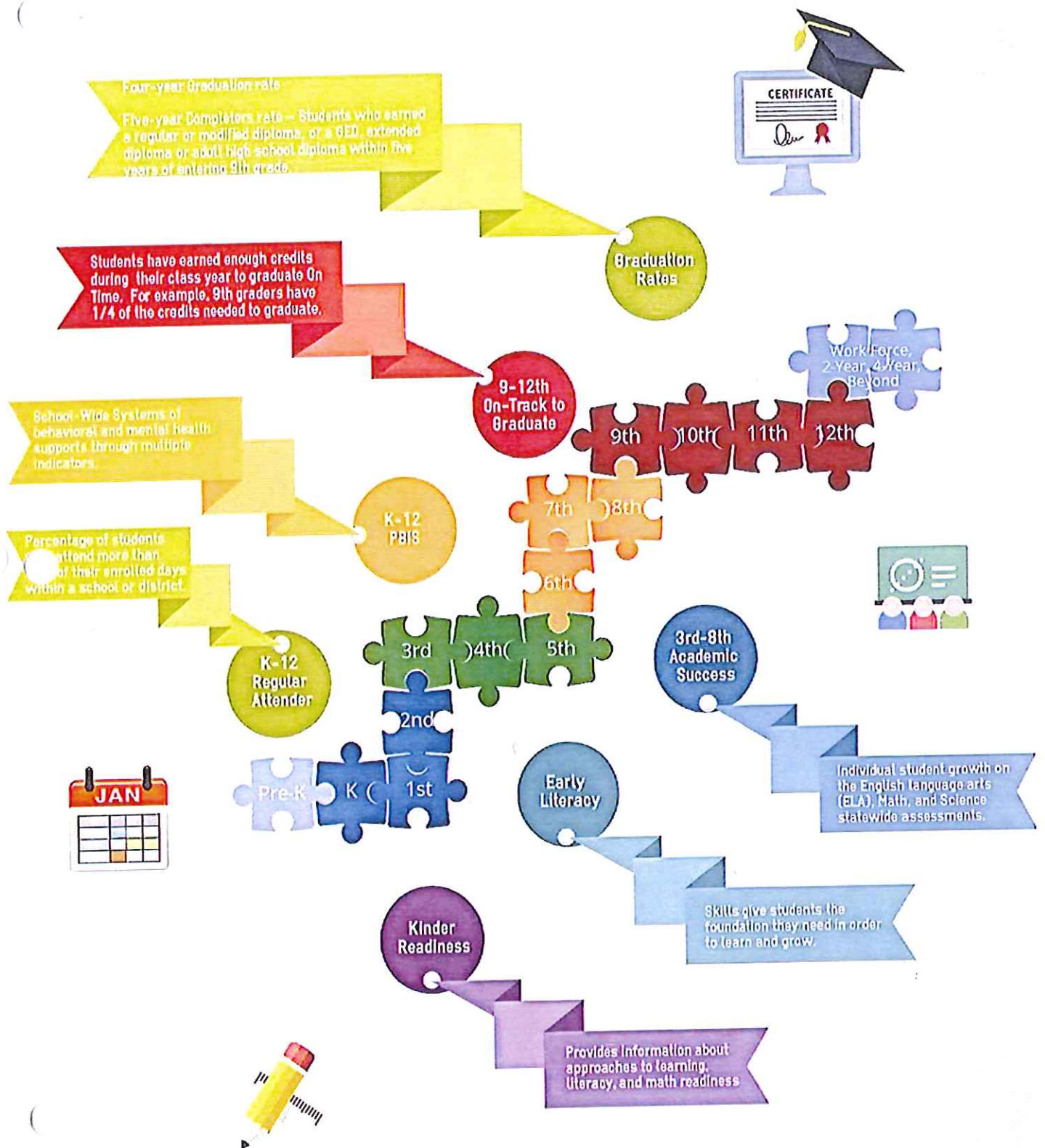


2014 - Priority/Actions

Quality Instruction
Full Day Kindergarten Task Force
Teacher Growth/Pathways
Bond Measure

Every Student, Every Day

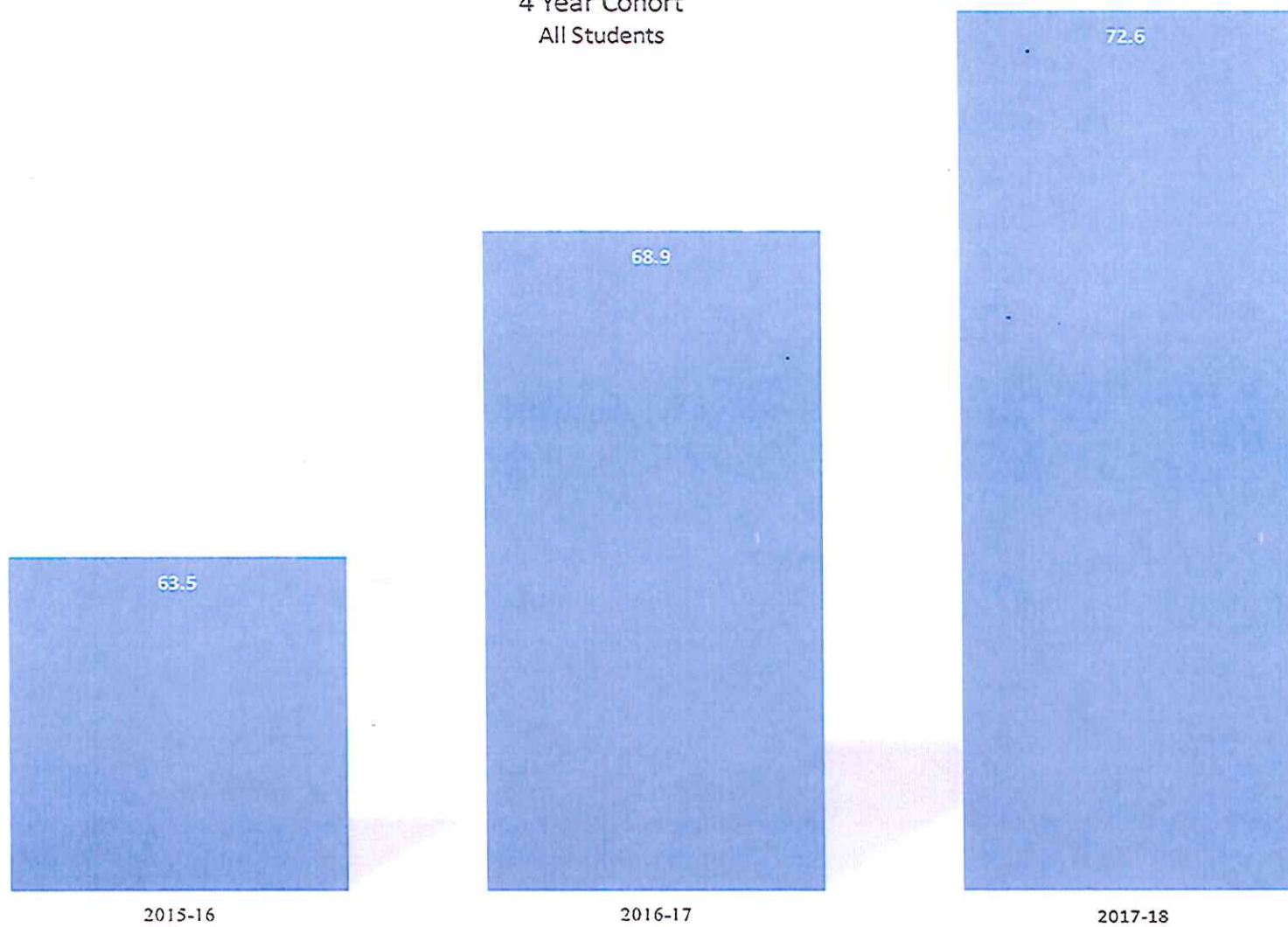
K-12 Indicators



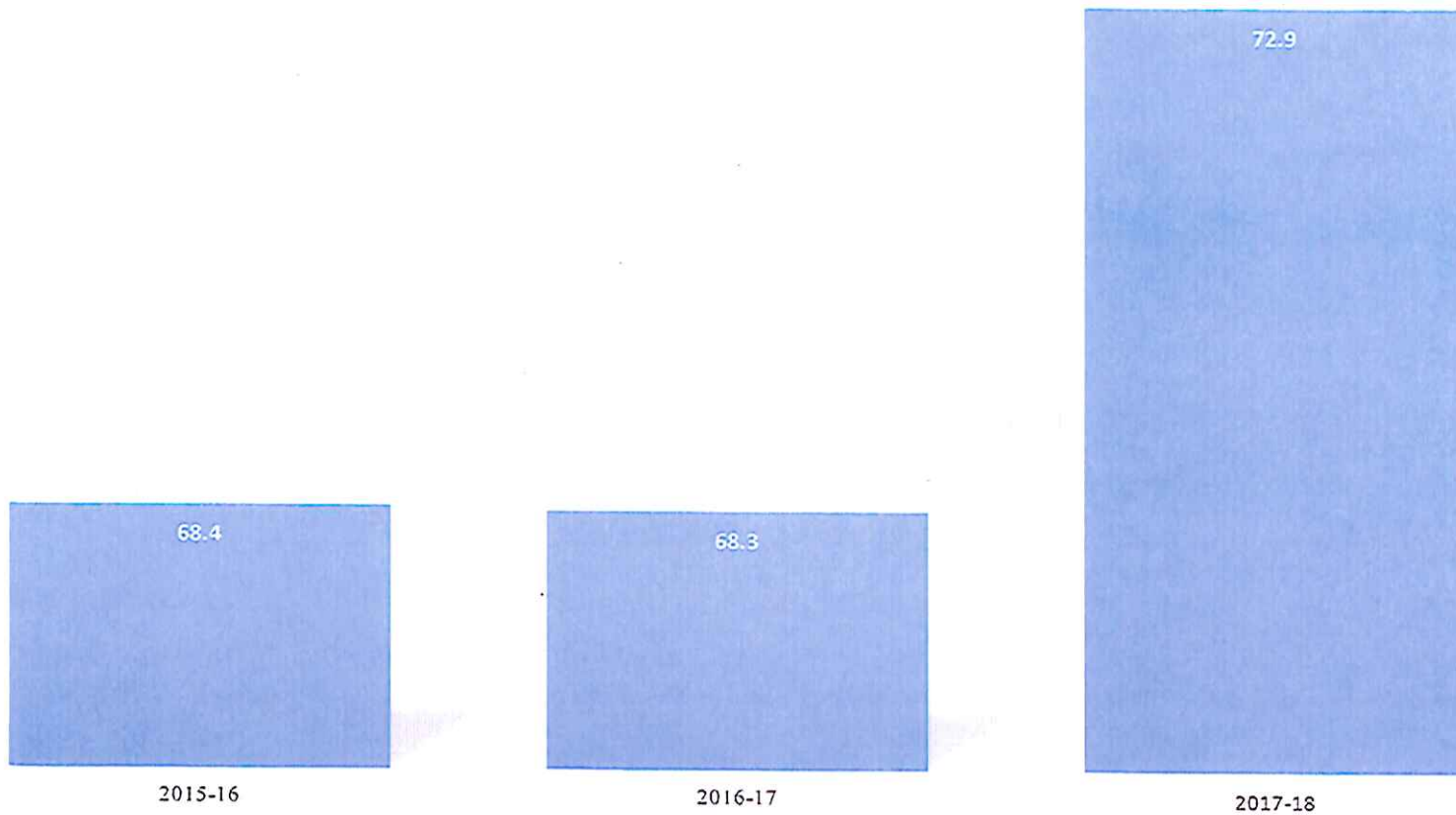
Springfield SD 19

4 Year Cohort

All Students



Springfield SD 19
5 Year Cohort
All Students



Timeline of Supt Hiring Process

Jan 23rd – Board recruits interested applications for interview groups **see application draft*

Jan 31th – Board selects interview panel participants

Feb 7th – Board Executive Session, review top applicants and screen videos

Feb 20th – Interview Day One – Panel Interviews:

Three interview panels meet with candidates:

- Instruction Focus
 - Community/Operational Focus
 - Cabinet/Executive Leadership Focus
-
- Instruction/Community groups facilitated by two principals – one from each level
 - Cabinet group facilitated by Superintendent Smolnisky
 - One board member observer in instruction focus group, one board member in community focus group, Supt. Smolnisky in Cabinet focus group
 - End of day groups guided through facilitated consensus building activity identifying:
 - o Recommend;
 - o Recommend with additional questions;
 - o Do not recommend for each candidate.
 - Information forwarded to the board. Recommended (possibly also recommended with questions), candidates move forward to day two activities.

Feb 21st – Interview Day Two - Board Interviews:

Top recommended (possibly recommended with questions) candidates invited to interview with the full board.

- Board interviews candidates
- Makes decision on top candidate(s) for site visits;

OR

- Invites top candidates back for second interviews with the board to clarify any outstanding questions.

Feb 22nd – Interview Day 3 (*if needed*) – Board Second Interviews, or Deliberation Day

Top 2 – 3 candidates interviewed by board

- Board interviews recommended (possibly recommended with questions) candidates
- Makes decision on top candidates for site visits

Feb 27th – Feb 28th – Site visits

- Vice Chair Michelle Webber, COO Brett Yancey, Special Programs Director Brian Megert travel to candidates' district

March 4 – Board enters into contract negotiations

Decision announced when board is ready. Additional announcement activities to be identified separately such as community meet and greets/ "a day in district."




Superintendent Search Interview Training

JANUARY 28, 2019

Learning Outcomes


- ☐ Overview of Nondiscrimination Laws
- ☐ Understanding Unconscious Bias
- ☐ Best Practices for Interviewing



Federal Nondiscrimination Laws

Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII)

- Prohibits not only intentional discrimination, but also practices that have the effect of discrimination against individuals because of their race, color, national origin, religion, or sex.
- It is illegal to discriminate in any aspect of employment, including decisions based on stereotypes or assumptions about the abilities, traits, or performance of individuals of a certain sex, race, age, religion, or ethnic group, or individuals with disabilities.



Federal Nondiscrimination Laws

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)

- Prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in all employment practices.
- Employer may not ask applicants about the existence, nature, or severity of a disability, but may ask about an applicant's ability to perform job functions.
- "Reasonable accommodation" includes modification or adjustments that enable disabled employees to perform essential job functions.



Federal Nondiscrimination Laws

Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA)

- Bans employers from treating someone (an applicant or employee) less favorably because of their age (40 or older).



Oregon Nondiscrimination Laws

Oregon Fair Employment Practice Act

- Prohibits employers from refusing to hire or otherwise discriminating against prospective employees based on the applicant's race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, marital status, age (18 or over), or disability.



Oregon Nondiscrimination Laws

Oregon Fair Employment Practice Act

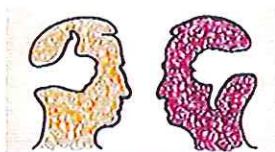
- Employers are also prohibited from discriminating against an applicant because of his or her military status (OR Rev. Stat. Sec. 659A.082), origin, race, sex, and sexual orientation.



Unconscious Bias

"We all have unconscious bias; it doesn't make us bad, it makes us human."

Bob Dodge, Sr. Finance & Compliance, FBC



Neuroscience of Bias

- The brain receives 11 million bits of information every second.
- However, the brain can only consciously process 40 bits per second.



Neuroscience of Bias

- Our brains have to create systems (mental shortcuts) to help us process all of that data (unconsciously).
- The unconscious mind deletes (ignores some information), distorts (emphasize or fade other information), and generalizes (that switch looks just like the switch I used to turn on the lights in the other room—so it too is a light switch).



"According to a research at Cambridge University, it doesn't matter in what order the letters in a word are, the only important thing is that the first and last letter be in the right place. The rest can be a total mess and you can still read it without a problem. This is because the human mind does not read every letter by itself, but the word as a whole."



Mental sorting

- The way our brain sorts things into categories has been taught to us from many different sources over a lifetime (teachers, parents, media, etc.).
- These sorting systems are deeply ingrained and automatic.



Mental sorting

- We also have sorting systems related to class, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, age, etc.
- An ever-present lens through which we view the world based on our experiences, media influences, parents, peers, and teachers.
- It automatically filters how we take in and act on information.



Efficient but Prone to Error

- Well-intentioned individuals can act in ways that produce inequitable outcomes for different groups.
- Research suggests that our automatic unconscious associations may not match our explicit thoughts or beliefs.
- We can have implicit biases about identity groups we belong to.
- People tend to rely more on mental shortcuts when they are tired, stressed, or rushed (Devine 2002).



Examples of Unconscious Bias

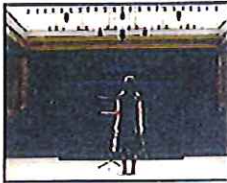
- In a randomized, double-blind study, science faculty at 6 major institutions evaluated applications for a lab manager position.

Applications randomly assigned a male name were rated as significantly more competent and hireable and offered a higher starting salary, compared to identical applications assigned female names.

Yale University, 2012



Examples of Unconscious Bias



When candidates for orchestra auditions are behind a screen it makes it 50% more likely a woman will advance to the finals and 25% more likely to be hired.

Goldin & Rouse, 1997



Examples of Unconscious Bias

Bias is typically justified post-hoc:

In this study, if the male applicant for police chief had more street smarts and the female applicant had more formal education, evaluators decided that street smarts were the most important trait, and when the names were reversed, evaluators decided that formal education was the most important.

Yale University, 2005



Examples of Unconscious Bias

Researchers sent out 5,000 resumes and half of the applicants were assigned "remarkably common" names in black populations such as Lakisha Washington, the other half were given white sounding names such as Emily Walsh.

Results: Job applicants with white names needed to send about 10 resumes to get one callback; those with African-American names needed to send around 15 resumes to get one callback.

White names yield as many more callbacks as an additional eight years of experience.

National Bureau of Economic Research



Examples of Unconscious Bias

One study found that letters of recommendation for female faculty applicants were shorter, provided "minimal assurance" rather than solid recommendation, raised more doubts, portrayed women as students and teachers while portraying men as researchers and professionals, and more frequently mentioned women's personal lives (Trix and Psenka).

Numerous studies have found that women and minority faculty are often penalized by students on end-of-semester evaluations.

National Bureau of Economic Research



Adapting to Decrease Bias

Exposing people to systematic, well-designed research that documents the existence of bias processes has been shown to significantly reduce cognitive biases (McCracken 2000; Rudman et al. 2001).

Exposure to counter-typical examples can act as "de-biasing agents."

Social contact with diverse social groups has a positive effect.

Training will not be effective if individuals are not motivated to decrease bias.



Common Interview Biases

Confirmation Bias—A tendency for humans to seek out information that supports a pre-conceived belief about the applicant that has been formed prior to the interview. (Phillips and Dwyer, 1999).

Affective Heuristics—This is where interviewers' decisions are influenced by superficial factors such as attractiveness, tattoos, attire, etc. One study found that applicants' beauty actually accounted for 35% of the variance in hiring decisions. (Tosun and others, 2007).

Halo and Horn Effect—The Halo Effect is when the interviewer lets one positive fact about the candidate overshadow everything else they say or do. The Horn Effect is the opposite and allows a weak fact to influence everything else.

Contrast Effect—When a stronger candidate interviews after a weaker candidate, they may appear more qualified than they are because of the contrast between the two.

"Similar to Me" Effect—Thinking highly of someone who has a similar mind set or personality to the interviewer.



Screening Applications

- You may be asked to describe the criteria you used in making hiring decisions. When individuals know they will be required to justify their decisions, they tend to engage in more complex thought processes when making evaluations (Valian 1999; Tetlock 1983).
- Be vigilant to the possibility that their criteria could shift as they evaluate different types of applicants. For example, women are more likely to be evaluated on their performance, men on their potential (Hesse-Biber 2000).
- Allow adequate time when reviewing materials and making decisions. If pressured with making complex decisions in a short timeframe, individuals often unwittingly rely on mental shortcuts such as stereotypes to make decisions (Valian 1999).



Developing Interview Questions

- There are many types of interview questions that can be used. How and when to use each type varies based on what information we are looking for from the candidates.
- Behavioral-based questions vs. Theoretical questions
- Open-ended questions vs. Yes/No questions.
- Follow-up questions.



Examples – Interview Questions

- Behavioral-based vs. Theoretical

Behavioral-based: Please tell us what you know about the demographic/cultural makeup of our student body. What experiences do you have that would demonstrate your ability to effectively work with a diverse student body?

Theoretical: This position is required to interact from students from multiple ethnic groups as well as socio-economic backgrounds, including those with different language barriers. If you are the successful candidate, how would you plan to work with diverse groups such as these?



Guidelines for Interviewing Candidates

- Prior to the first interview, take some time to reaffirm the importance of a fair and equitable hiring process.
- Remind committee members about implicit bias.
- Listen for inappropriate questions or comments.
- Be encouraging and receptive to all candidates.
- Limit discussion between interviews.



Guidelines for Interviewing Candidates

- Once interviews are complete, participate in the decision-making process by facilitating conversations centered around the qualifications of each candidate as they relate to the job announcement.
- Be mindful of comments about "best fit" or "gut" reactions.
 - Emphasize job description/expectations.
- Importance of confidentiality.



Questions?