

# Pittsburgh Millions Update

**Anthony Anderson**  
**Deputy Superintendent**

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May 14, 2019

Expect great things. 

# Pittsburgh Millionaires 6-12

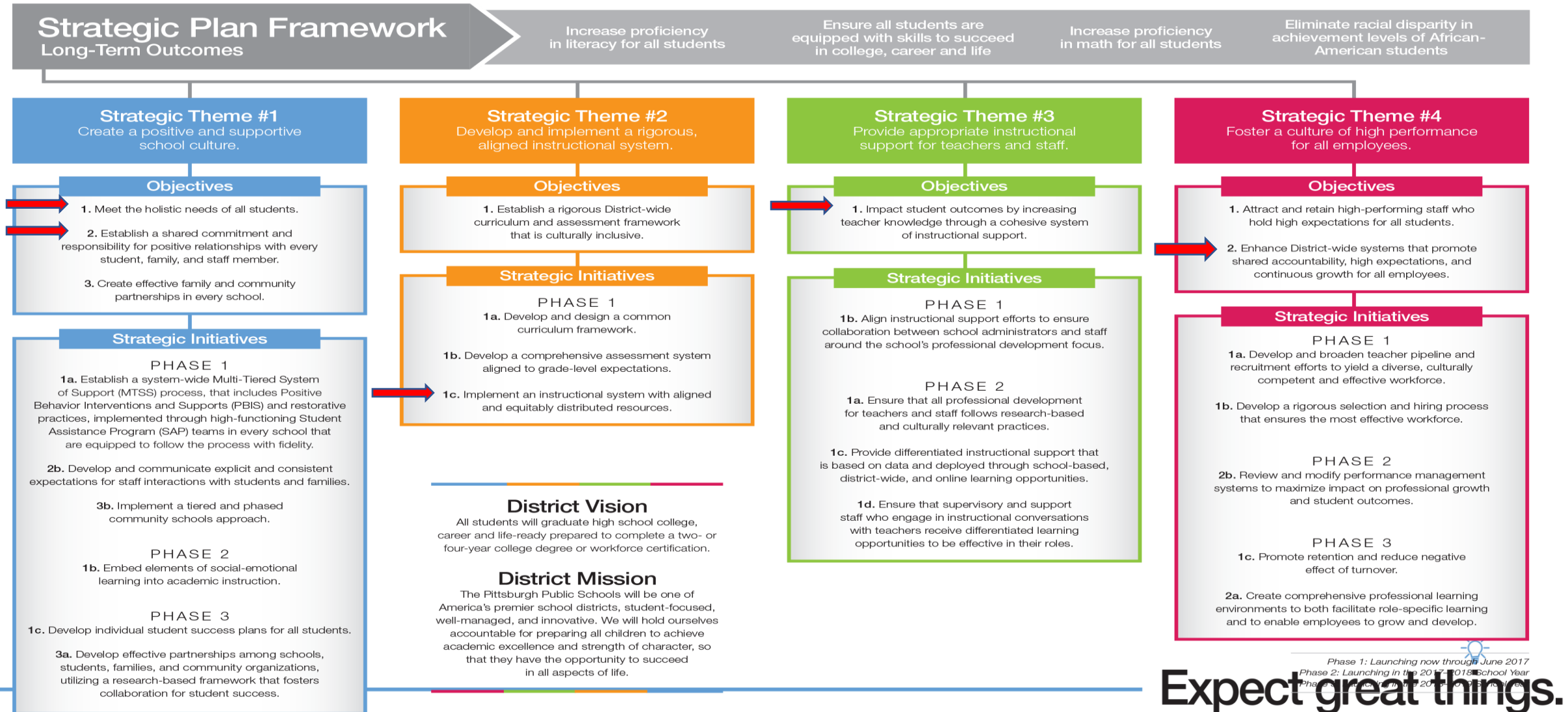
## Situation:

- Pittsburgh Millionaires 6-12, commonly known as U-Prep, opened as the District's College Preparatory School in 2008.
- The school was designed to create a college going culture in a newly renovated (\$15 million) facility.
- The school has had four different principals with multiple leadership teams.
- Academic progress has remained persistently stubborn at the school, particularly in the middle grades where only 16.7% of students in grades 6-8 performed Proficient or Advanced on the Reading PSSA and no students tested proficient on the Mathematics exam in 2018.
- The school is annually identified as a hard to staff school by Human Resources.



Expect great things.

# Our Strategic Plan: *Expect Great Things*



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# Proposed Recommendation

- Relocate students from grades sixth through eighth to Pittsburgh Arsenal 6-8
- Narrow the focus at UPrep to grades 9-12





# Arsenal Middle School

- Arsenal has achieved STAR school status for past five years
- Arsenal is outperforming PPS grades 6-8 African-American students in ELA by 10.9%
- Arsenal is outperforming PPS grades 6-8 All students in mathematics by 8.3%

*Good middle schools help students develop their emotional intelligence and their intrapersonal and interpersonal intelligence (Gardner, 1993; Goleman, 1997). They use cooperative learning as a key to fostering positive social relationships.*

# PVAAS Data - ELA

<b>D</b> <b>B</b>	Significant evidence that the school exceeded growth standard
<b>L</b> <b>B</b>	Moderate evidence that the school exceeded growth standard
<b>G</b>	Evidence that the school met growth standard
<b>Y</b>	Moderate evidence that the school did not meet growth standard
<b>R</b>	Significant evidence that the school did not meet growth standard

PVAAS ELA		Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	
<b>UPrep</b>					
<b>2018</b>		-5.9	-0.8	-0.1	-2.2
<b>3-Year Average</b>		-5.7	1.2	1.0	-1.2
<b>Arsenal</b>					
<b>2018</b>		4.7	7.5	0.0	4.1
<b>3-Year Average</b>		5.1	5.3	-0.8	3.2



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# PVAAS Data - Math

D B	Significant evidence that the school exceeded growth standard
L B	Moderate evidence that the school exceeded growth standard
G	Evidence that the school met growth standard
Y	Moderate evidence that the school did not meet growth standard
R	Significant evidence that the school did not meet growth standard

PVAAS Math		Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	
UPrep					
2018		-10.7	-6.2	-4.3	-7.1
3-Year Average		-6.0	2.3	-3.1	-3.8
Arsenal					
2018		8.7	-0.3	4.3	4.3
3-Year Average		6.9	-0.5	6.3	4.3



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# Keystone Data – Algebra 1

D	Significant evidence that the school exceeded growth standard
L	Moderate evidence that the school exceeded growth standard
G	Evidence that the school met growth standard
Y	Moderate evidence that the school did not meet growth standard
R	Significant evidence that the school did not meet growth standard

	2016	2017	2018	3-Year Average
<b>UPrep</b>				
<b>Algebra 1</b>	-6.5	1.1	-7.6	-4.3
<b>ARSENAL</b>				
<b>Algebra 1</b>	15.7	12.0	11.4	13.0

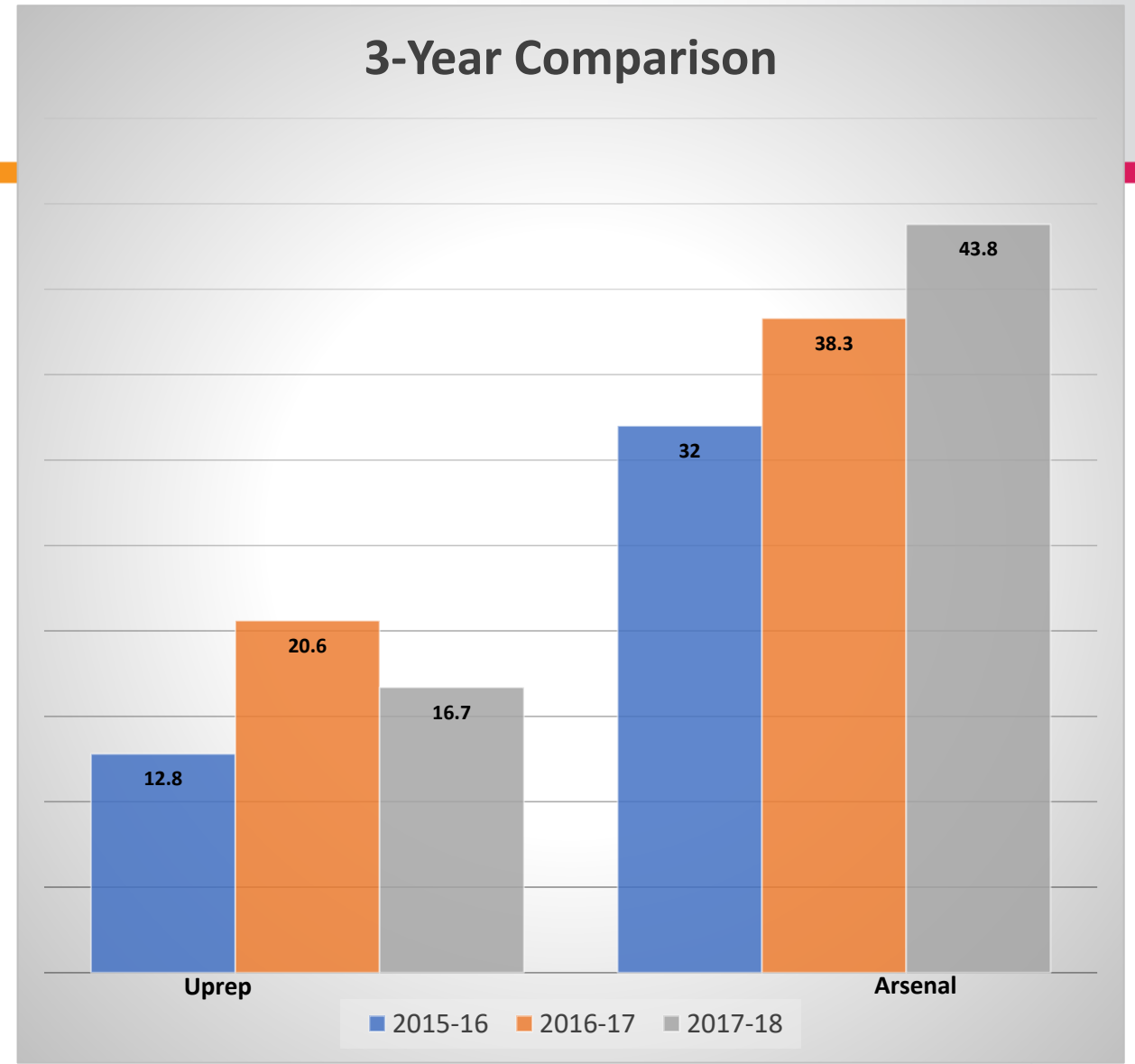


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# PSSA Results

UPrep 6-8/  
Arsenal 6-8

**ELA  
Overall**

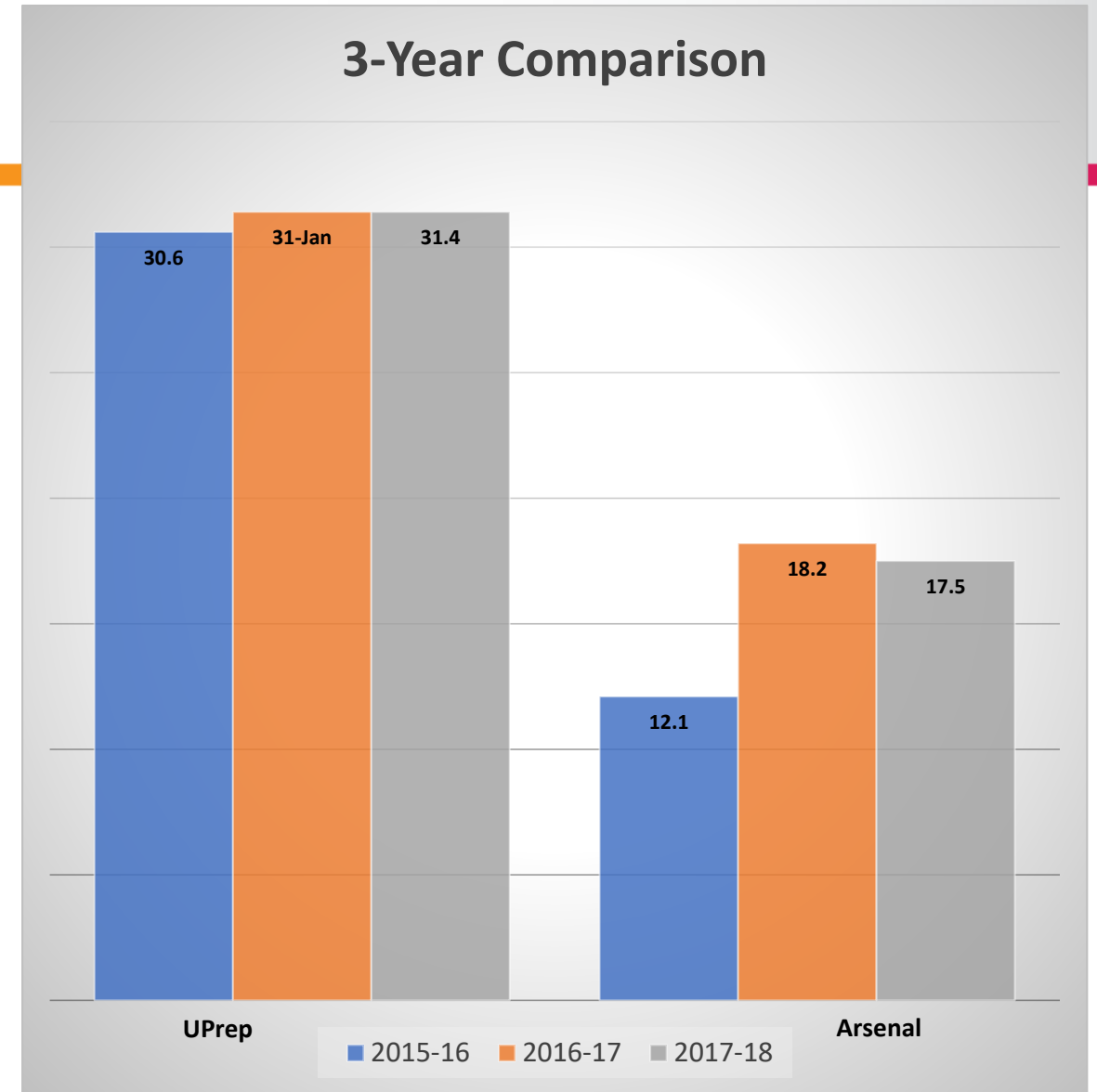


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# PSSA Results

UPrep 6-8  
Arsenal 6-8

**ELA**  
**African-American**

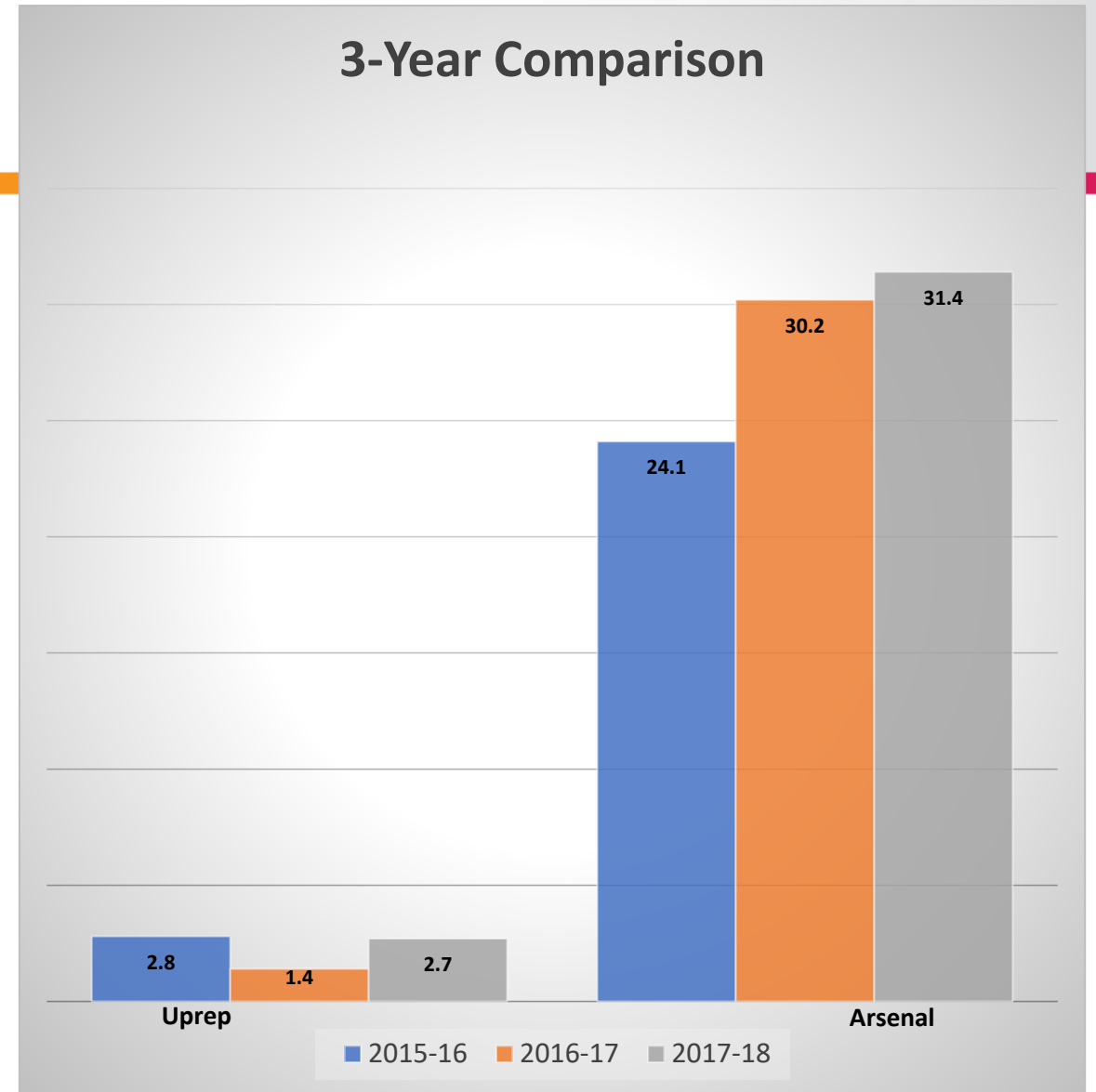


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# PSSA Results

UPrep 6-8  
Arsenal 6-8

Mathematics  
Overall

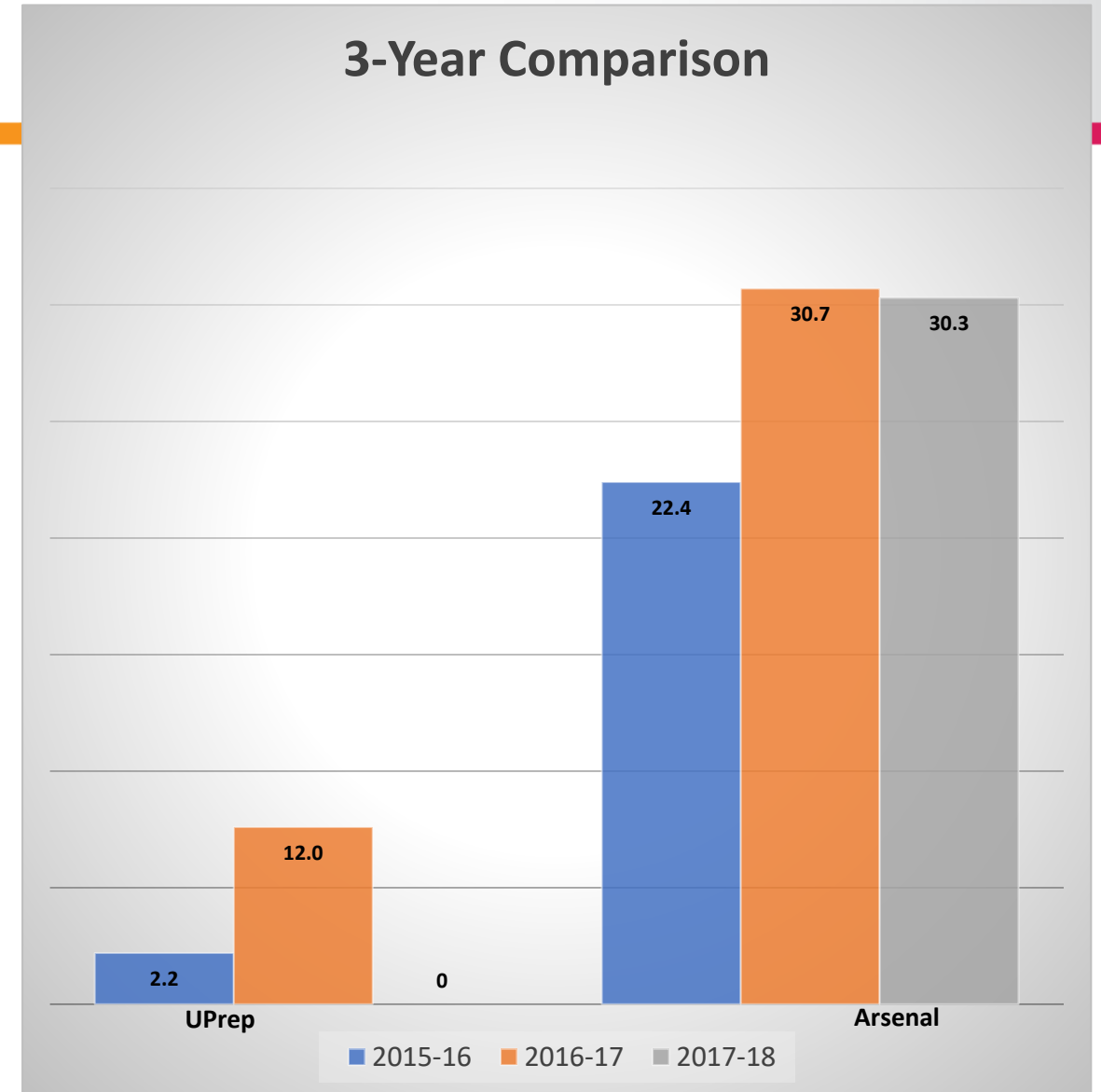


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# PSSA Results

UPrep 6-8  
Arsenal 6-8

Mathematics  
African-American



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# Arsenal / UPrep Demographics

## **ARSENAL** (2019-20 Projection – 161 students)

2018-19

161 Students

(Female-70 / Male-91)

African-American - 63.22%

Asian - 4.97%

Hispanic - 8.70%

Multi-Racial - 8.70%

White - 11.80%

## **UPREP** (2019-20 Projection – 99 students)

2018-19

82 Students

(Female-37 / Male-45)

African-American - 93.90%

Asian - 4.97%

Hispanic – 1.22%

Multi-Racial - 3.66%

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander – 1.22%

# Arsenal's Proposed Demographics

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**ARSENAL** (2019-20 Projection – 245 students)

2019-2020

245 Students

(Female-107 / Male-136)



# Benefits of a Strong Middle School Program

## 1. Supports Strong Academics

Beyond simply supporting strong academics, this also helps students develop important skills that will help them succeed throughout the rest of their lives: time management, the ability to plan ahead, self-advocacy, and the ability to ask for help when it is needed.

## 2. Mental Health During the Teen Years

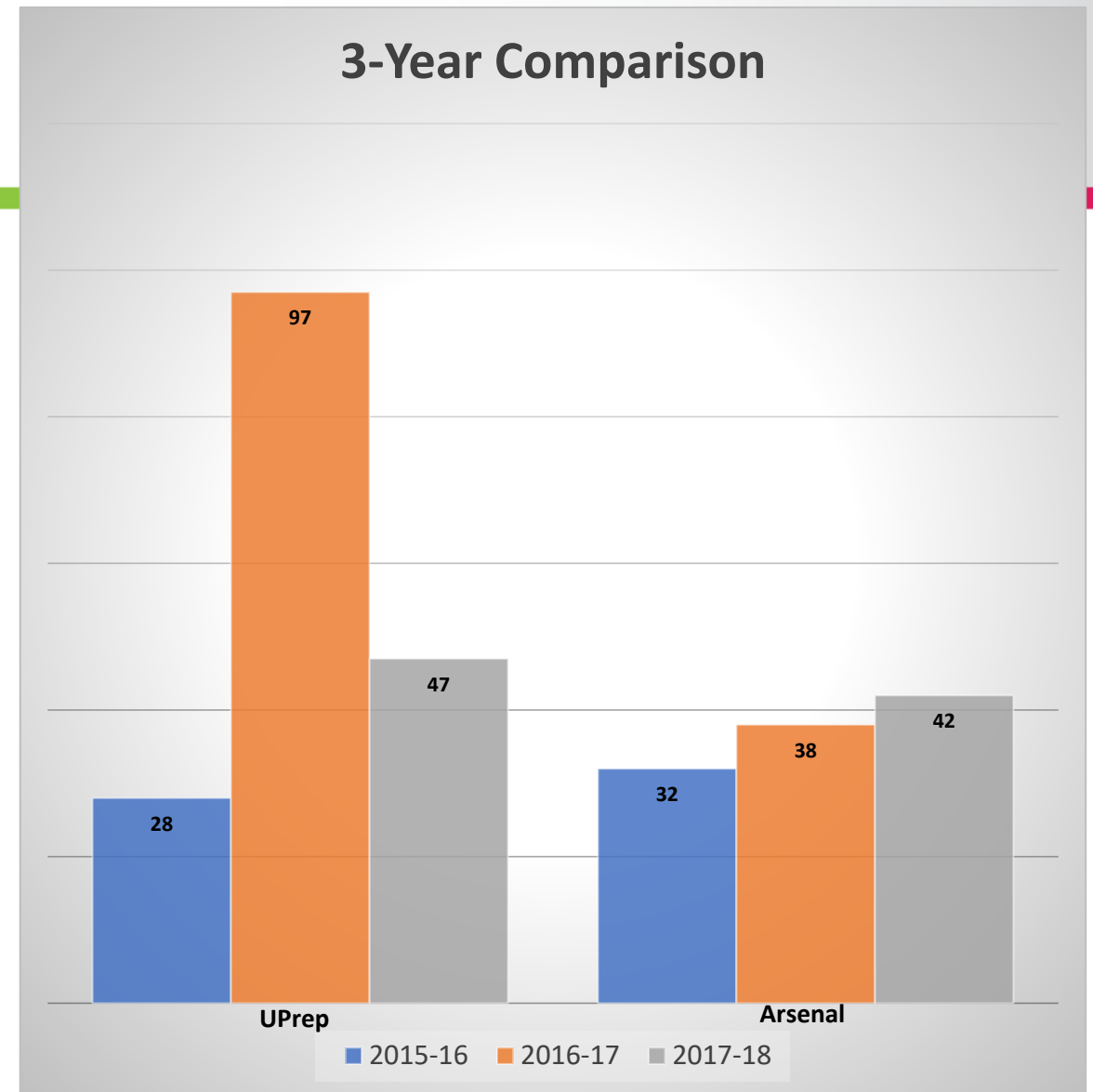
Many of the mental health issues people confront as adults begin to manifest in adolescence. On the flip side, teens can struggle with anxiety, depression, or other forms of distress that are developmentally appropriate but will not necessarily endure. Schools can help by learning how to identify worrying signs and taking a balanced approach to dealing with increasingly independent young people.

(Quinn, 2018)

# Discipline Data

UPrep 6-8  
Arsenal 6-8

Incidents Resulting  
in Suspension  
Overall

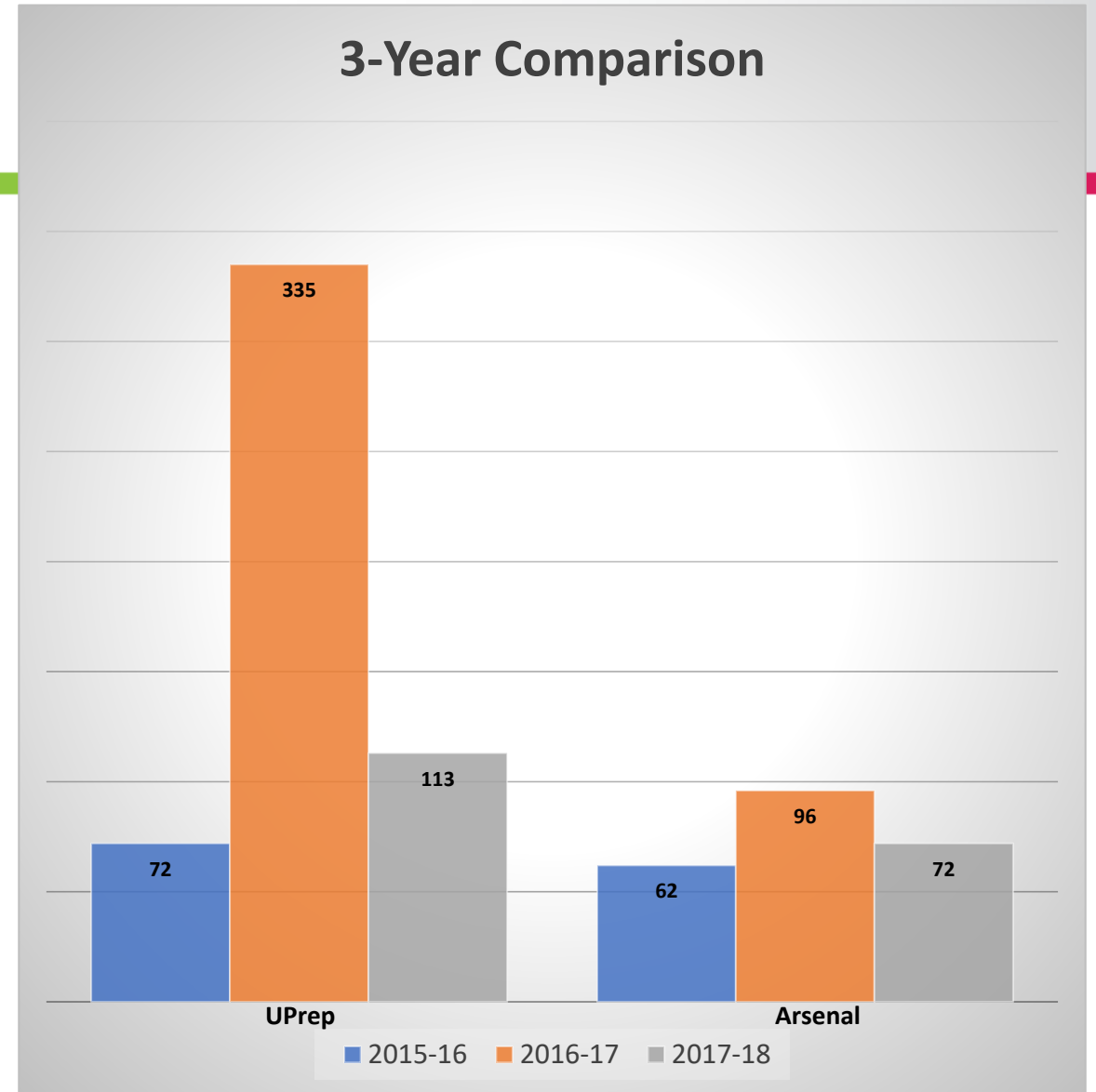


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# Discipline Data

UPrep 6-8  
Arsenal 6-8

**Total Days  
Resulting in  
Suspension  
Overall**

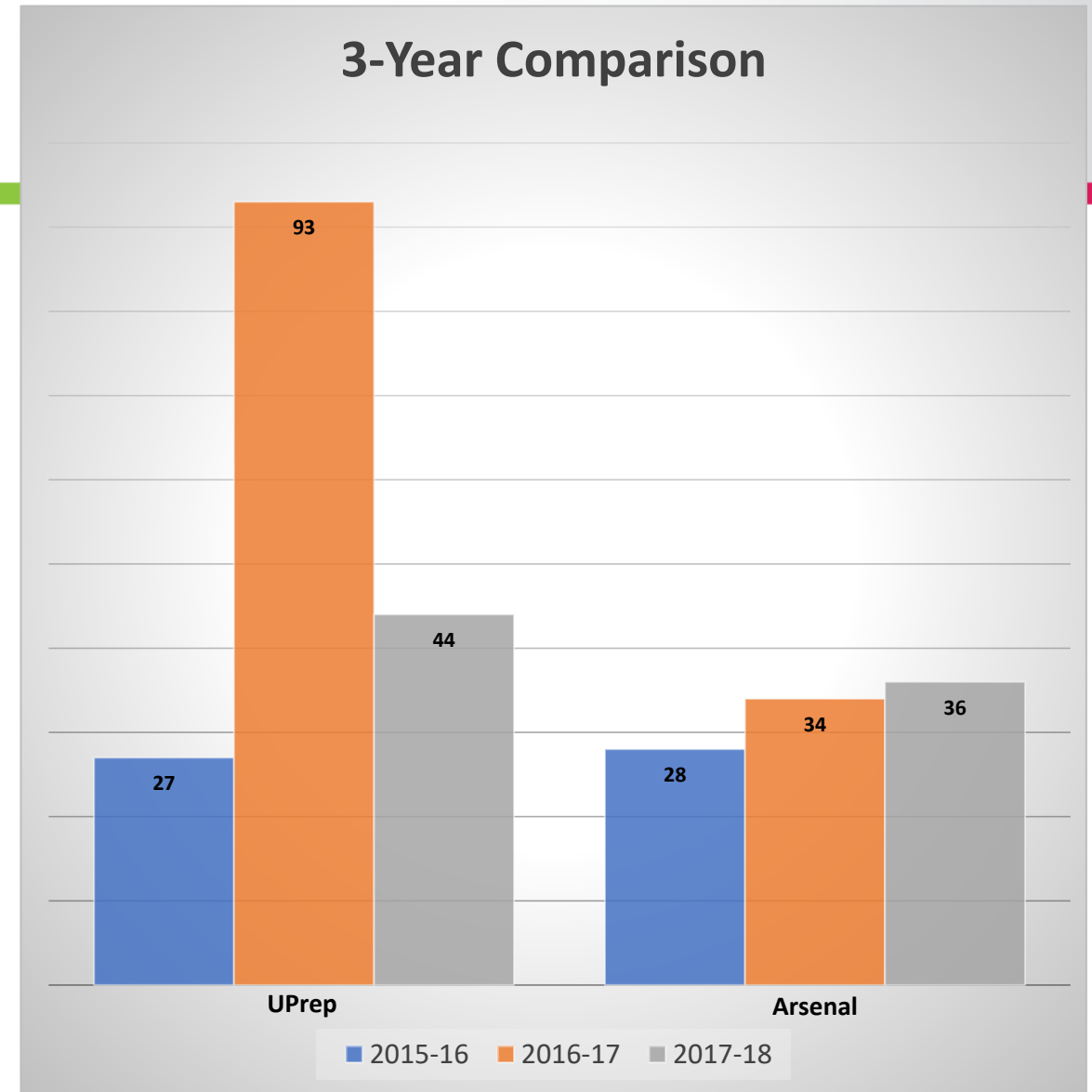


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# Discipline Data

UPrep 6-8  
Arsenal 6-8

**Incidents  
Resulting in  
Suspension  
African-American**

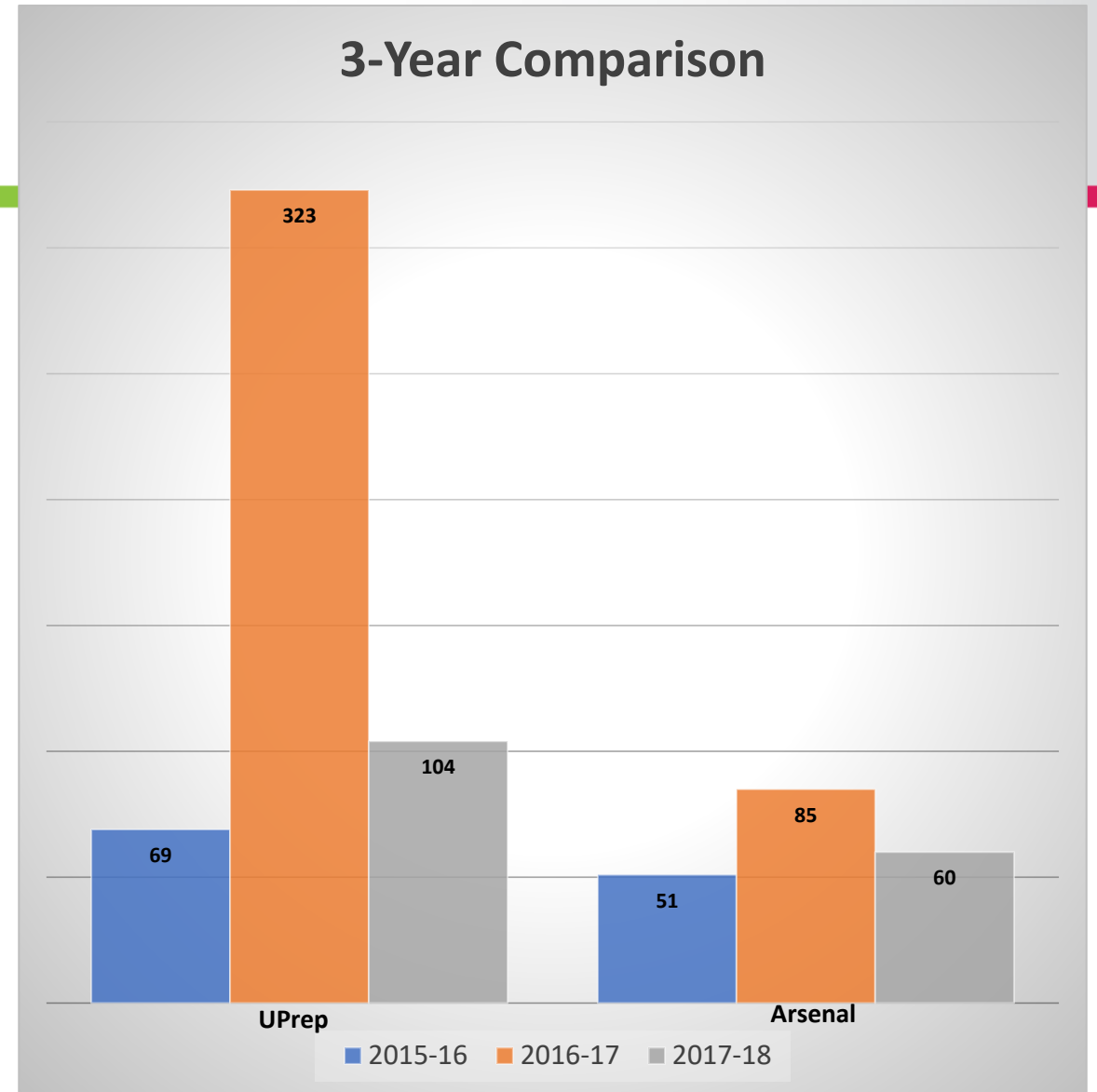


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# Discipline Data

UPrep 6-8  
Arsenal 6-8

**Total Days  
Resulting in  
Suspension  
African-American**



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# Immediate Benefits for Students at Arsenal

- Better alignment of resources to the unique needs of middle school students and preparing them for the transition to high school
- Improving the educational experience for students in both 6-8 and 9-12 with more focus on specific needs
- Better opportunities during the day that are geared toward middle level learners, such as grade-level floors/middle school teaming at each grade level – Focus on Whole Child
- Better exposure to after-school programming and sports (STEM Stars, Girl Scouts, Positive Spin, Tutoring, Warrior academic programming based on STEM, all sports)
- More focused opportunities for support during school day (POWER, Magee Healthy Relationships and Choices)

# Next Steps

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**Board Presentation and Discussion**

**5/14/19**

**Milliones & Arsenal Staff Meeting**

**5/15/19**

**Public Hearing**

**5/20/19**

**Pittsburgh Milliones Parent and Family Meeting**

**5/28/19**

**Pittsburgh Arsenal Parent and Family Meeting**

**6/4/19**

**Public Hearing**

**6/17/19**

**Proposed Board Vote**

**6/19/19**

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