WHY DOES EDUCATION MATTER?

Higher income  Better job opportunities  Improved health  More civic involvement  Lower public assistance

WHAT IS YOUR COMMUNITY’S STORY?

Every community has a unique story to tell. Many things contribute to the success of a community, but research shows that the key is a high-quality education system. This Community Profile shares data about how students in your community are progressing along their educational path. The full story of your community cannot be told by numbers alone - it must also be told through the stories and experiences of all the people who live there. This profile is meant to be a guide to help you and your neighbors explore how to pave the path to a larger life through education.

The power to transform your community is in your hands. All it takes is one. One person to begin the conversation. One person stepping forward to change the future of a community.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

BE THE ONE TO START A CONVERSATION ABOUT THE FUTURE OF YOUR COMMUNITY.

1 Start by using this Community Profile to identify areas of your community’s education performance you want to change. Share with a neighbor and ask questions like:

- What surprises you most? Why?
- What thrills you?
- Do these numbers reflect your experience?
- What disappoints you?

2 Find one thing you want to change and start digging deeper. Ask questions like:

- What is needed to see positive change?
- Which students are at risk of falling off the path to success?
- Who can tell us more about why this is happening?
- What resources are available in the community to help?
- What other information do we need to understand this issue?

3 Seek out people in your community to find answers. Bring others into the conversation. Push your friends and neighbors to think differently about how education works, and then take action together.
How Are Students Doing on the Path to a Successful Life?

- **Preschool Enrollment**: District - 51%, State - 42%
- **Kindergarten Readiness**: District - 39%, State - 51%
- **3rd Grade Proficiency**: District - N/A, State - 52%

Preschool Enrollment

- Over 85% of brain development occurs before age 5. The return on investment for preschool is $5 for every $1 invested.

Kindergarten Readiness

- Kids who start kindergarten behind are less likely to do well in later school years.

8th Grade Proficiency

- Achievement in 8th grade is a critical indicator of whether a student is prepared for the increased academic challenges of high school.
- At this point, students increasingly need to "read to learn," not just "learn to read," so proficiency is critical.

Graduation Rate

- High school graduation is a minimum and necessary step in the transition to college and a career.

Postsecondary Enrollment

- Not only will more jobs in the future require some postsecondary education, but earnings for those with bachelor's degrees are 50% higher than those without a degree.
Gaps are already visible early in the education pipeline. Most gaps persist from kindergarten to graduation, confirming that improvement is needed at all grade levels.

**NOTE:** If a data point on a line is missing or part of group’s line does not appear, data for that student group is unavailable. This may be due to concerns for student privacy, typically due to small sample size or results for students being similar enough that individual students may be identifiable.
Education Transforms Quality of Life

**Economic Outcomes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Median Household Income</td>
<td>$56,772</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment Rate</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Living Below 200% Poverty</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Health Outcomes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low Birthweight</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor or Fair Health</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen Births (Per 1,000 Females Age 15-19)</td>
<td>27.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Obesity</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Smoking</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premature Death (Years of Life Lost Per 100,000 People)</td>
<td>7,459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overdose Deaths (Per 100,000 People)</td>
<td>30+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**What Else Do We Know About Our School Community?**

- **163 Students**
  - African American: 1%
  - Asian: 0%
  - Hispanic: 3%
  - 2 or More Races: 2%
  - White: 94%

- **79%** Students who qualify for free/reduced meals

- **18%** Students with identified disabilities

- **0.6%** English Learners

**Expenditures Per Pupil**

- District: $16,899
- State Avg.: $11,517

**16 Teachers**

**SOURCES:**

Find more information at prichardcommittee.org