Highline Public Schools

Dr. Ivan Duran, Superintendent

June 5, 2025



Our Promise

Every student in Highline Public Schools is known by name, strength and need, and graduates prepared for the future they choose.



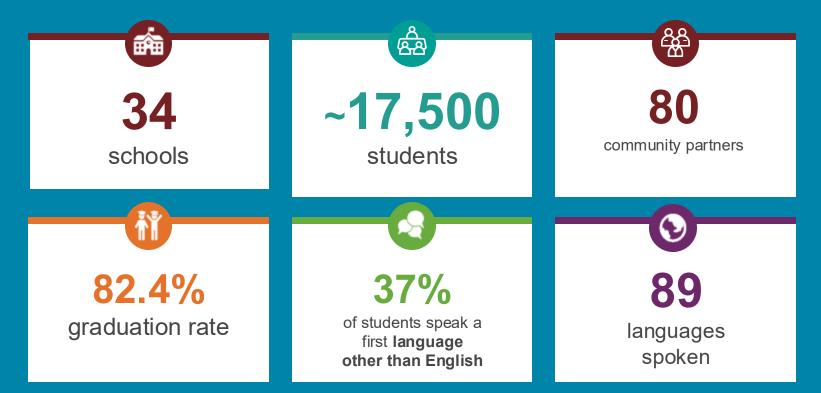


HIGHLINE



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More About Highline





CULTURE OF BELONGING A culture where all are

INNOVATIVE LEARNING

BILINGUAL & BILITERATE

enable students to live,

work, and communicate

across cultures.

welcome, valued, and safe

Academic experiences that engage, empower, and challenge every student.

Students explore possibilities and develop mindsets that prepare them for a changing future.

FUTURE

READY

Our Promise: Every student is known by **name**, **strength** and **need**, and graduates prepared for the **future they choose**.









Culture of Belonging

A culture where all are welcome, valued, and safe.

Strategies

- Recent systemwide communications reaffirming our commitment to support all staff, students and families
- Storytelling videos, board recognitions and billboards highlighting our rich diversity and staff efforts
- Living Our Promise pin recognition program
- Leadership Forum professional development focused on building a strong culture





Culture of Belonging

"My workplace has an explicit commitment to equity."

- 78% of district-based staff affirmed this statement (+ 2% from fall)
- 76% of school-based staff affirmed this statement

"I can bring my 'whole self' to work."

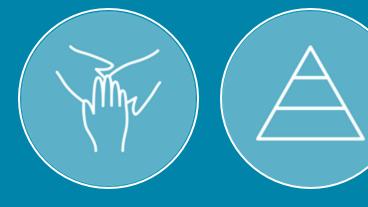
- 66% of district-based staff affirmed this statement (+4% from fall)
- 63% of school-based staff affirmed this statement

Questions About Belonging at Work

- 67% of district-based staff responded favorably (+5% from fall)
- 60% of school-based staff responded favorably



The Big Four Areas of Focus



Inclusionary Practices



Secondary Redesign Literacy & Language Development

Overview

Strengthening reading and writing skills across grade levels to ensure all students achieve literacy success.

Strategies

Districtwide focus on literacy development All teachers serve as reading teachers Intentional literacy instruction across content areas iReady assessment now implemented at the high school level Quarterly literacy and language retreats to monitor progress



4th and 5th Grades Show Strongest Growth

- 4th Grade: 100% median progress toward typical growth
- 5th Grade: 95% median progress toward typical growth

These students were impacted by early pandemic disruptions in Kindergarten and 1st Grade.

Median progress shows how close students are to expected yearly growth:

- 100% = on track
- More than 100% = ahead
- Less than 100% = behind



Note: Final numbers will shift as testing ends.







Note: Final numbers will shift as testing wraps up.

Growth Toward Typical Targets

- Kindergarten: Median progress 95%
- Grade 1: Median progress 88%
- Grades 2–5: Median progress >100%

Most students in upper grades are meeting or exceeding growth goals and earlier grades are close, with room to grow!

Performance Levels

68% of students are **performing at early/on grade level** (up 5% from Spring 2024)

Stretch Growth

• 27% of students met stretch growth targets







Growth Toward Typical Targets

- 51% of students met typical growth targets
- Kinder, 4th, and 5th grades exceeded 100% median progress

Performance Levels

48% of students are performing at **early/on grade level** (up 6% from Spring 2024)

Stretch Growth

• 26% of students met stretch growth targets



Beverly Park





Growth Toward Typical Targets

- 7th Grade: 127% median progress
- 8th Grade: **131%** median progress

Typical Growth Targets

Over 50% of students met or exceeded typical growth targets

Performance Levels

•30% of students are performing at early/on grade level (up 4% from Spring 2024)







State Budget Brings Small Gains, Big Gaps Remain

While the new state budget includes some increased investments in areas like special education and operational costs, we *continue to face substantial funding gaps from the state* that impact our ability to fully support all students.





Special Education

- Highline faces a \$14 million shortfall in special education funding, with only \$2.5 million added in the new state budget.
- A new state rule blocks the use of local levies to fill the gap.
- Basic education funds must now cover special education—impacting other critical needs.





Materials, Supplies & Operating Costs (MSOC)

- Highline received \$1 million in additional MSOC funding—still below inflation.
- Rising costs outpace funding: insurance and utilities increased significantly.
- Operational pressures continue despite modest state investments.





Transportation

- No additional funding
- Statewide underfunding continues, despite strong advocacy.





Next Steps

We will continue to advocate the state to fully fund public education, particularly special education, MSOC and transportation so we can further invest in our goals and priorities.



