Aurora Public Schools’ Strategic Plan
**APS 2020 & Planning for 2025**

Christie Imholt, District Policy Director
Tanoya Barnes, Project Manager, APS 2020
Recent Highlights

- Closing the Graduation Gap
- Improvements on School Performance Frameworks
- Implementation of the 2018 Mill:
  - Expanding After-School Programming
  - Increased Mental Health Training and Staffing
- Young Men of Color Collective Impact Initiative
Strategic Plan

- **Vision:** Every student shapes a successful future.

- **Mission:** In partnership with our community, we accelerate learning for all students to develop the knowledge, skills and character necessary to shape successful futures.

Every APS Student Will Have:

- **Goal 1:** A Plan for His or Her Future
- **Goal 2:** A Set of Skills to Implement His or Her Plan
- **Goal 3:** Credentials that Open Doors
Core Beliefs

- Every student has unique abilities that we must recognize and engage.
- A district with students at its center provides an adaptable and responsible foundation for learning.
- Student and staff safety is essential to our vision and mission.
- Students, families, staff and community members share the responsibility for student achievement.
- Student achievement and growth are driven by a highly-effective and respected staff working as a team.
Core Beliefs

- Students take an active and ongoing responsibility for their learning.
- Families are our partners in education.
- Community partnerships provide vital resources and opportunities for students and families.
- All students must have equitable access to learning opportunities, technology and environments that support them in reaching their full potential.
- Diversity is a strength in our community.
When students:

- have plans for their futures
- develop the skills they need to implement their plans
- earn the credentials that open doors

then, they will better access higher levels of engagement and achievement, being empowered to shape successful futures.
Every Student Shapes a Successful Future

Goals and Long-Term Outcomes

Goal 1: A Plan for the Future
- Increased Graduation Rates
- Higher ACT/SAT Scores

Goal 2: A Set of Skills to Implement Their Plan
- Increased CMAS Proficiency
- Improved CMAS Growth
- Improved ELL Growth

Goal 3: Credentials that Open Doors
- Increased Matriculation
- Decreased Remediation

Every Student Shapes a Successful Future
Goal 1: Plans

- **Pre APS 2020:** Only students in grades 6-12 created Individual Career and Academic Plans (ICAPs)

- **Post APS 2020:** All students in grades 1-12 create Individual Career and Academic Plans (ICAPs)
Goal 2: Skills

- **Pre APS 2020**: Curriculum and professional development for teachers to deliver rigorous instruction varied.

- **Post APS 2020**: APS has a districtwide system for curriculum, data-driven instruction and collaboration to support teachers and leaders.
Goal 3: Credentials

- **Pre APS 2020**: APS did not have a system for students to earn and track credentials
- **Post APS 2020**: APS is a national leader in digital badging (microcredentials) and more and more APS students are accessing credential opportunities (AP, IB, College-level classes, CTE, digital badges)
District of Momentum: Graduation Rates

4-year graduation rate
2013: 52%
2018: 76.5%
District of Momentum: Closing the Graduation Gap

APS Graduation Rates by Race/Ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>60.70%</td>
<td>62.20%</td>
<td>67.60%</td>
<td>69.50%</td>
<td>76.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>51.40%</td>
<td>54.70%</td>
<td>62.30%</td>
<td>65.50%</td>
<td>76.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>64.50%</td>
<td>68.10%</td>
<td>72.30%</td>
<td>69.80%</td>
<td>76.50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
District of Momentum: Dropout Rates

![Graph showing APS Dropout Rate % from 2009-10 to 2017-18]

Dropout Rate
2013: 4.8%
2018: 2.6%
Potential Priorities for the Next Strategic Plan: 2020-2025
Potential Opportunities for 2025 Strategic Plan

- **Strengthening family engagement** to support student development of plans, skills and earning credentials

- **Enhance community connections** for student plans, skill development, and credential opportunities

- Ensure that **plans, skills, and credentials build year over year** throughout a student’s K-12 experience

- **Emphasize the whole child** through plans, skill development, and earning credentials

- **Further enhance student ownership** of developing plans and acquiring skills and credentials

- **Support further development of teachers in connecting** plans, having the tools to teach skills, and support students in accessing credentials
Discussion & Questions
Thank You!