United for Youth Network

March 23, 2021

THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE



United for Youth Network

- Tonight we will preview presentation of Asheville-Buncombe United for Youth Network
- At a future Council meeting, we will ask Council to consider a vote to join the community partnership.

THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

United for Youth Network

Multigenerational, cross-sector, cradle to career partnership built on the foundational principle that equity and educational excellence are inseparable.

- **Vision:** All children and youth learn, grow and thrive in a vibrant, healthy and connected community

- **Mission:** To actively identify and remove barriers to opportunity and co-create solutions that support student success

THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

United for Youth Network

Goals:

- Increase kindergarten readiness
- Increase third grade literacy rates especially among underperforming students
- Improve college and career readiness

THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

United for Youth Network

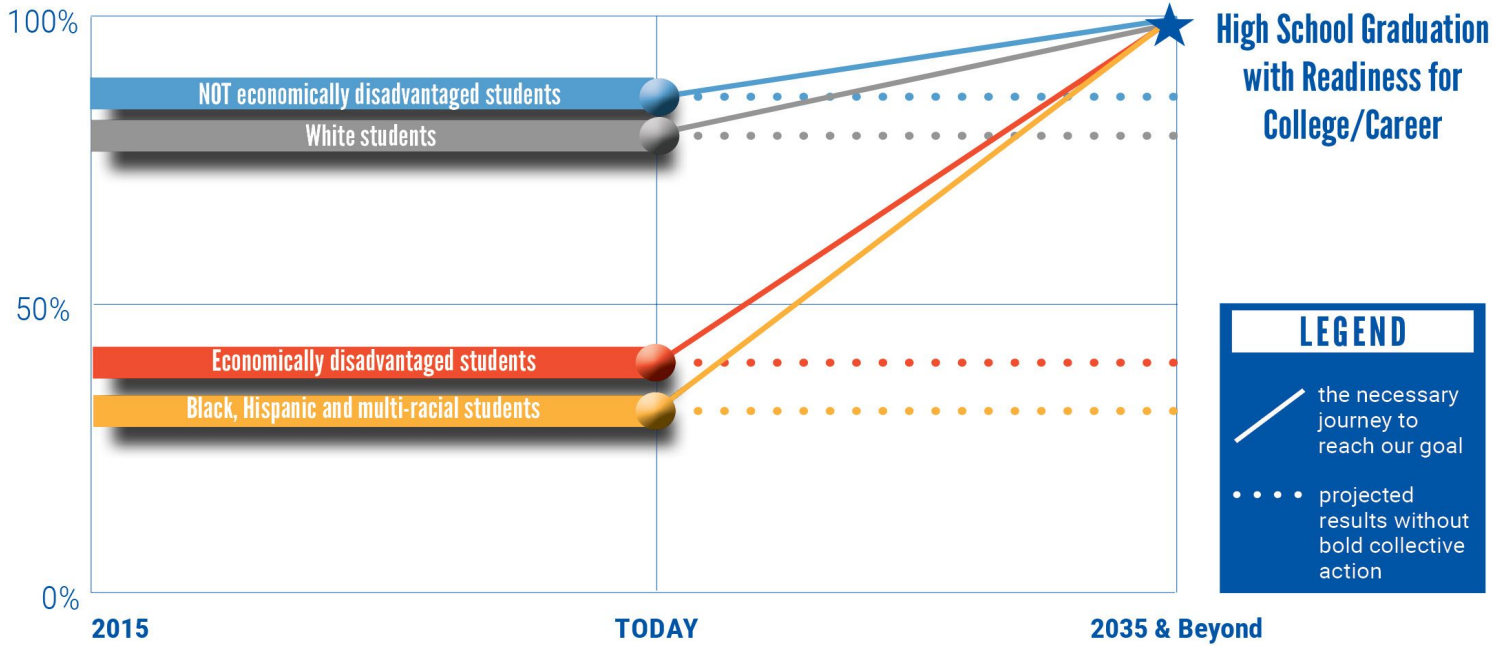
Theory of Action & Change:

- By committing to working more boldly as individual organizations and by aligning and leveraging community resources as a network, we will improve systems for equitable student learning and educational excellence.
- By committing to a results-based accountability framework, we will support one another and hold one another accountable through continuous learning and course corrections along our path towards our shared vision, mission and bold community goal.

THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

Community Goal

By 2035, all Asheville City and Buncombe County students graduate from high school ready and fully prepared to pursue their goals and dreams.



Network Partners to date

Network Partners • Lead organization: United Way of Asheville and Buncombe County (convene/facilitate/coordinate)

- **Partners:** AB Tech - Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce - Asheville City Schools - Asheville City Schools Foundation - Big Brothers Big Sisters - Buncombe County Schools - Buncombe Partnership for Children - Children First / Communities in Schools - City of Asheville - My Daddy Taught Me That - MAHEC - Mountain Child Advocacy Center - Our VOICE - United Way ABC - UNC Asheville - Western Carolina Rescue Mission - YMCA - YWCA

THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

Partner Commitments

- Youth, partner, family, and community leadership
- High-quality, student-centered, rigorous learning and teaching experiences
- Shared learning & professional development
- Results-Based Accountability data/evaluation practices
- Integrated student supports

Evidence-Based Practices

Integrated student supports	Authentic & active family and community engagement	Expanded & enriched learning opportunities	Collaborative cross sector leadership
• School Based Health Centers • Mental and behavioral health counseling	• Homework diners • Parent leadership program	• Mentoring, tutoring & work experiences • Out-of-school time programming	• School based resource teams • Youth and family leadership

Example of Possible City Commitments

- Continue to provide community learning centers or Positive Opportunities to Develop Success (PODS) at our recreation centers. The program is designed to provide safe in-person learning opportunities for small groups of school-age children while social distancing.

- Continue to improve transit access to those who rely on it most.

- Continue providing quality programs in a safe environment through use of Parks and Recreation

- Consider the expansion of programs Parks and Recreation already in place.

THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

Example of Possible City Commitments cont.

- Enhance and grow workforce development, and continue to grow the City of Asheville Youth Leadership Academy (CAYLA).
- Consider reimagining role of school resource officers and officers assigned to public housing communities as we reimagine policing
- Continue using strategic initiatives funds to address achievement gap for Asheville City Schools students
- Continue addressing affordable housing needs

THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

Discussion

Next Steps

- Staff will respond to any issues or concerns and draft formal partnership agreement.

- Council action to consider joining the partnership in April.