

Summer Blast

We often hear about bridging the achievement gap—but what if we shifted our focus to the root cause? Many students' reading comprehension is affected by experience gaps—content and concepts discussed in school are hard to relate to for some children—creating an experience gap. By creating more equitable access to learning opportunities outside of school, children will have a better chance of succeeding in school.

In 3rd grade, 38%, or about 70 of Red Wing students were proficient on the state reading test—while 114 children were off track from succeeding.

One solution to shrink the experience gap in Red Wing is a program called Summer Blast. Each weekday, 15-20 students meet at Pepin Woods mobile home community for activities as well as free breakfast and lunch. Most of the students are entering grades 1-4, so it is especially important to encourage them to stay active when they are out of school. To successfully provide academic enrichment, Blast staff have recognized the need to focus on building youth assets, such as positive relationships and social skills.

Summer Blast is a joint program effort with Red Wing YMCA, Red Wing Public Schools, Red Wing Public Library, ArtReach, 4-H, Hispanic Outreach, Red Wing Police Department, and Universal Music Center—all connected through Every Hand Joined.

Now in its second year, this summer's activities have included building and maintaining a garden, drumming, or riding in a SWAT truck with the Sheriff (a great relationship builder!). According to Kayla Bell, student support coordinator at Burnside Elementary School, "More than anything, Summer Blast emphasizes both the influence that the community has on our students' lives and how we are each capable and responsible for fostering their success."



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What we do

By using shared accountability and common information to focus on improving school, family and community systems, we bring together the right partners to remove the barriers to a child's success.

Why

We all share responsibility for the success of Red Wing's kids, and believe that we ensure the long term success of Red Wing when we invest in them.

Who we are

Every Hand Joined is a partnership of businesses, nonprofits, city and county government, schools, foundations, and parents in Red Wing, Minnesota, working to ensure young people can succeed in the 21st century economy.

Our role

Large-scale community change requires a strong backbone team to support the work.

EJH provides dedicated support to improving outcomes for our kids.

- We build and support a culture of addressing the root cause of complex problems.

- We concentrate on systems changes.

- We collect and share data to learn and focus on what's working.



Red Wing Community Members

We all have a stake in keeping Red Wing a special place to grow up, live and raise families. Yet, too many children do not have the support they need to reach their full potential. Without that support academic success, employment opportunities and ultimately the long-term viability of Red Wing is at risk.

At Every Hand Joined, we set out to improve the lives and educational outcomes for every kid in Red Wing. Through listening, convening and reviewing data with our partners, we came to important conclusions about this important information.

We concluded that we are all doing good work independently, from mentoring and tutoring programs to after school and summer programs to classroom instruction and more. But despite these many important efforts, educational disparities for Red Wing youth are at unacceptable levels, especially among low-income and children of color. Too many kids, OUR KIDS, live in our community without the supports they need.

We've also concluded that there are several other factors impacting our youth today, due in large part to the fact that more than two-thirds of the experiences and learning opportunities that shape a child's life occur outside of school! While we continue to support our schools and educational outcomes, we understand the need to consider outside factors including: parent engagement, social-emotional well-being, and mental well-being. These factors are what many of our educators and community partners recognize as standing in the way of improving educational outcomes.

We hope this report will inform you about the current progress and challenges of Every Hand Joined and our partners. We also hope that you'll look at this data and what it says about how Red Wing is supporting our kids and future workforce, and be concerned—concerned enough to join us as we work to improve the results for our kids and our community.

Todd Jasin
Executive Director

Ross Lexvold
Chair, Partner Table

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Todd Jasin
Executive Director
tjasin@everyhandjoined.org
651.388.9840
419 Bush St. Red Wing 55066

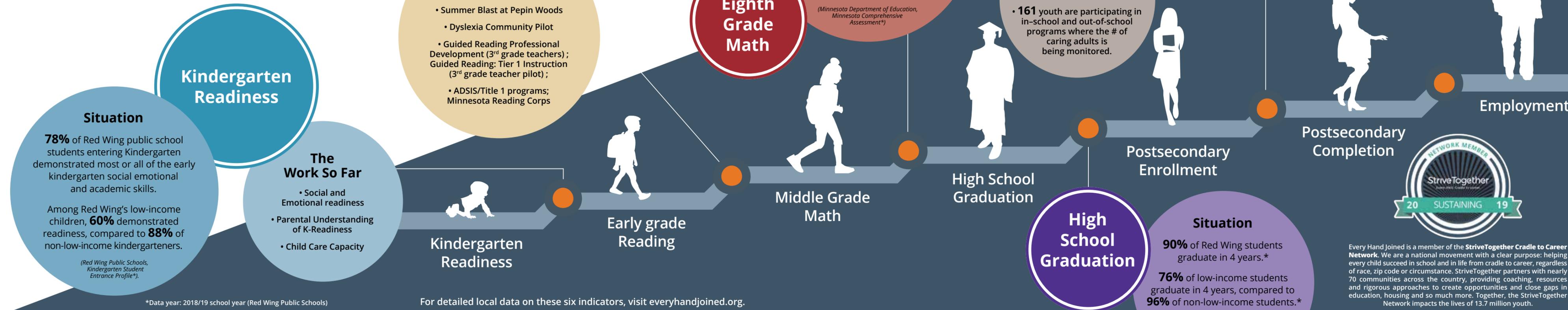
FALL 2019
Report to the Community

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Roadmap to Success

As a StriveTogether Cradle to Career Network member, Every Hand Joined **commits to getting better results for major milestones in every child's life.** The cradle-to-career continuum runs from kindergarten to employment, with a focus on improving economic mobility — truly a roadmap to success.



Kindergarten Readiness

Situation
78% of Red Wing public school students entering Kindergarten demonstrated most or all of the early kindergarten social emotional and academic skills.
 Among Red Wing's low-income children, **60%** demonstrated readiness, compared to **88%** of non-low-income kindergarteners.
(Red Wing Public Schools, Kindergarten Student Entrance Profile*)

The Work So Far

- Social and Emotional readiness
- Parental Understanding of K-Readiness
- Child Care Capacity

Third Grade Reading

Situation
38% of Red Wing 3rd graders scored at or above proficiency levels in reading
 Among low income Red Wing 3rd graders, **28%** scored at or above proficiency levels in reading, compared to **44%** of non-low-income 3rd graders.
(Minnesota Department of Education, Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment*)

The Work So Far

- Summer Blast at Pepin Woods
- Dyslexia Community Pilot
- Guided Reading Professional Development (3rd grade teachers); Guided Reading: Tier 1 Instruction (3rd grade teacher pilot);
- ADSIS/Title 1 programs; Minnesota Reading Corps

Eighth Grade Math

Situation
47% of all Red Wing 8th graders scored at or above proficiency levels in math
 Among low-income Red Wing 8th graders, **30%** scored at or above proficiency levels in math, compared to **56%** of non-low-income 8th graders.
(Minnesota Department of Education, Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment*)

Social and Emotional Well-Being

Situation
31% of Red Wing students say they have strong relationships with adults, according to the REACH Survey's District Social Emotional Score.
Search Institute, 2018 RWPS REACH survey

The Work So Far

- Adding caring adults in a youth's life.
- **161** youth are participating in in-school and out-of-school programs where the # of caring adults is being monitored.

College and Career Readiness

Situation
 Among 2018 Red Wing High School Graduates, **64%** enrolled in some type of post secondary education.
 Among those graduates who enrolled in some post secondary, **50%** completed their post secondary education within 6 years.
National Student Clearinghouse, NSC graduate file

High School Graduation

Situation
90% of Red Wing students graduate in 4 years.*
76% of low-income students graduate in 4 years, compared to **96%** of non-low-income students.*



Every Hand Joined is a member of the **StriveTogether Cradle to Career Network**. We are a national movement with a clear purpose: helping every child succeed in school and in life from cradle to career, regardless of race, zip code or circumstance. StriveTogether partners with nearly 70 communities across the country, providing coaching, resources and rigorous approaches to create opportunities and close gaps in education, housing and so much more. Together, the StriveTogether Network impacts the lives of 13.7 million youth.

*Data year: 2018/19 school year (Red Wing Public Schools)

For detailed local data on these six indicators, visit everyhandjoined.org.