2020 Vision for Berkeley's Children and Youth

2020 Vision is a citywide movement to ensure academic success and well-being for all children and youth growing up in Berkeley. Our goal is to close the achievement gap in Berkeley's public schools by the year 2020 by working with the schools, city departments, community organizations and families.

Eight indicators were selected to measure our progress toward closing the achievement gap. Three indicators were chosen as a priority for the 2011-2012 school year: Kindergarten Readiness, Proficiency in Reading by the Third Grade, and Improved Attendance. For the 2012-2013 we will add as priorities: College and Career Readiness and Successful Completion of Algebra or Integrated Math 2 by the Ninth Grade.

GOAL 1 Every child will be READY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Why is this important? During the first few years of life a child's brain develops dramatically and early childhood experiences can significantly impact how children learn, think and behave as they get older.

What is the 2020 Vision Team doing? Pre-K Power Play is a free program designed to develop self-regulation and pre-literacy skills for young children ages 3-5 years old.

What can parents do to help? Read with your child daily. This helps your child to prepare for reading on their own and listening to stories at school. Even a few minutes of reading every day can improve your child's readiness for kindergarten.

How is this measured? This will be measured by the BUSD Universal Screening Form, report cards and pre-K admission information. Baseline data will be collected September 2012.

GOAL 2 Every child will READ PROFICIENTLY by the third grade

Why is this important? According to one national study, high school students who did not read proficiently by 3rd grade are four times more likely to drop out than students who demonstrated 3rd grade reading proficiency. Third grade also marks an important transition point for students as they shift from learning how to read, to needing to know how to read in order to learn additional subjects in school.

What is the 2020 Vision Team doing? BUILD: Equity through Literacy is a partnership between UC Berkeley's Cal Corps Public Service Center, the City, School District and Berkeley Alliance. The program matches Cal student literacy tutors with emerging readers at elementary schools and community centers. BUILD tutors work in our afterschool programs.

What can parents do to help? Take control of the TV. TV and video games eat up valuable reading time. Encourage reading as a free-time activity.

How is this measured? Reading proficiency is measured by the District Reading Assessment and the California Standards Tests in English Language Arts. The number of third graders reading at proficient levels increased from 60% in 2011 to 68% in 2012.

Percent of Third Graders Scoring Proficient or Above on District Reading Assessment, Spring 2012
Source: Berkeley Evaluation & Assessment, BUSD

African American

Hispanic / Latino

White

All

GOAL 3 All students ATTEND SCHOOL REGULARLY

Why is this important? Generally speaking, students who attend school have higher grades and test scores while those who miss a lot of school risk dropping out of school and engaging in more risky behaviors.

What is the 2020 Vision Team doing? A multi-agency team canvas area surrounding Berkeley High School and B-Tech during school hours to identify students who should be in class. Parents and guardians are notified and students are sent back to class.

What can you do? Develop a back-up plan to get your child to school in case something urgent comes up, like your car breaking down or another child getting sick.

How is this measured? This indicator is measured by the percentage of students who are chronically absent. Chronic absenteeism is defined when the number of absences is 10% or more of the number of school days (about 20 days). The number of high school students that were chronically absent decreased from 27% in 2011 to 21% in 2012.

Percent of High School Students that are Absent 20 or more Days (Approximately 10%) of the School Year. Source: Berkeley Unified School District

African American

Hispanic / Latino

White

All

To learn about other 2020 Vision programs or for more information:
Phone: 981-6705 | Email: tmoore@cityofberkeley.info | Website: www.cityofberkeley.info/2020Vision