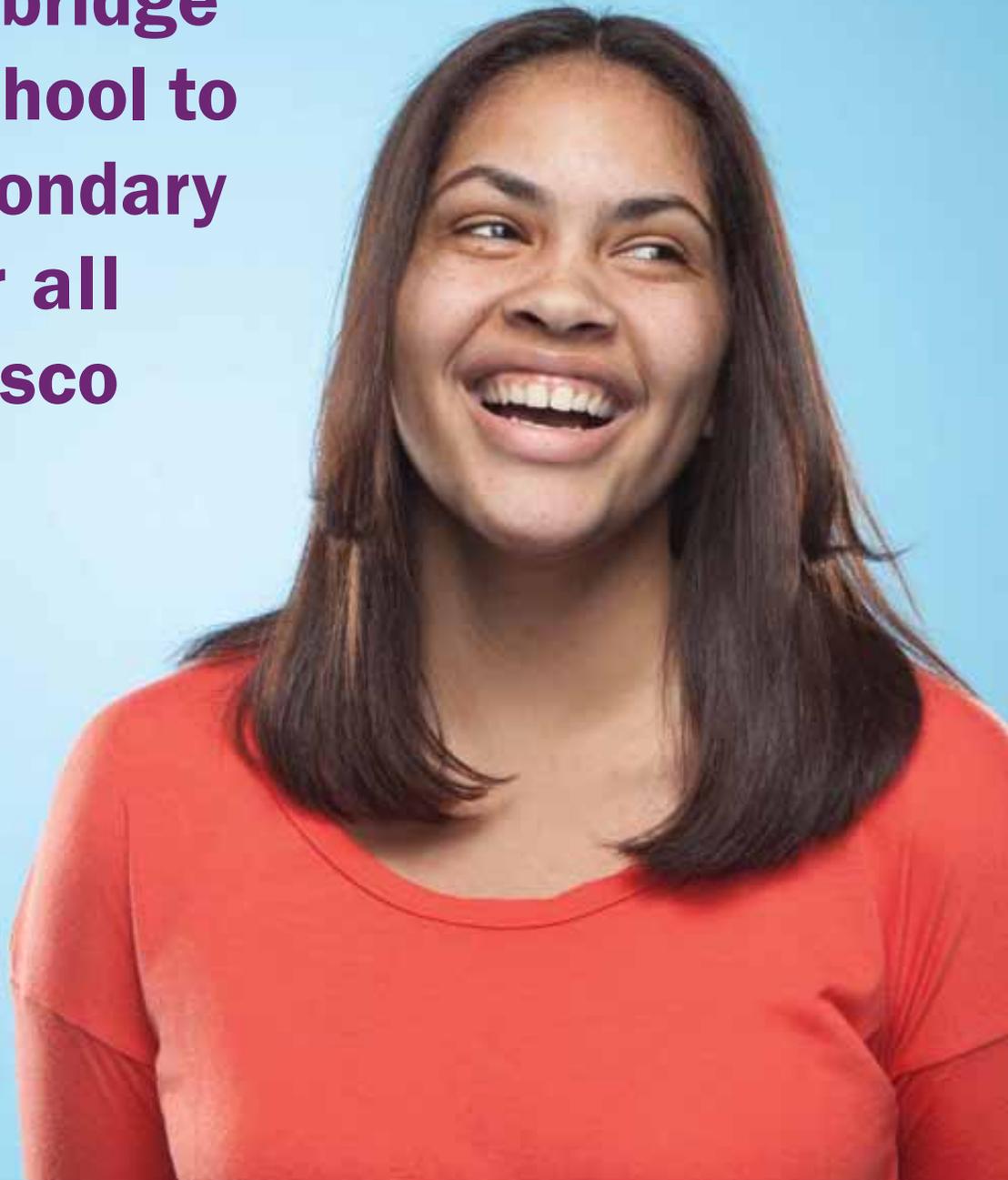
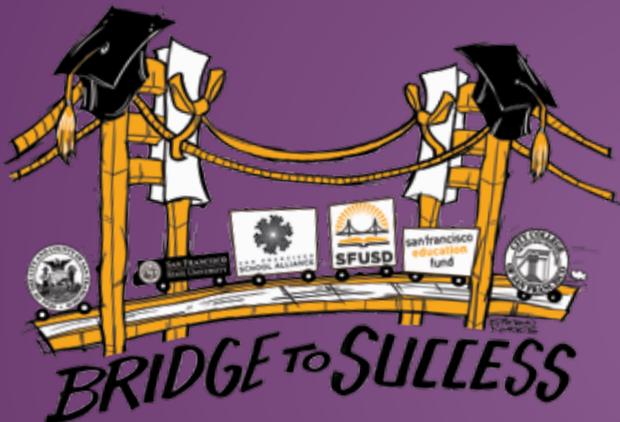


# Building a bridge from preschool to a post-secondary degree for all San Francisco youth



*"After I graduated from high school, I did not get accepted into a university but I found my second chance at City College of San Francisco. I just completed my Associates Degree and I am transferring to San Francisco State University."*

- Theresa, SFUSD and City College graduate



[www.sfbridgetosuccess.org](http://www.sfbridgetosuccess.org)

Bridge to Success is a partnership between the City and County of San Francisco, San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD), City College of San Francisco, San Francisco State University and our community to double the number of youth who achieve college credentials. Bridge to Success focuses on changing policies and practices to ensure that more San Francisco youth – especially those with barriers – achieve post-secondary success.

While most jobs in San Francisco require some post-secondary training, only about 27% of SFUSD 9th graders earned a college degree by age 23. The rates were even lower for African American (8%) and Latino (9%) students who started as SFUSD high school freshman in 2001.

**Together, we must change this trajectory for ALL of our students if we want San Francisco to remain a well-educated, diverse, and vibrant city.**



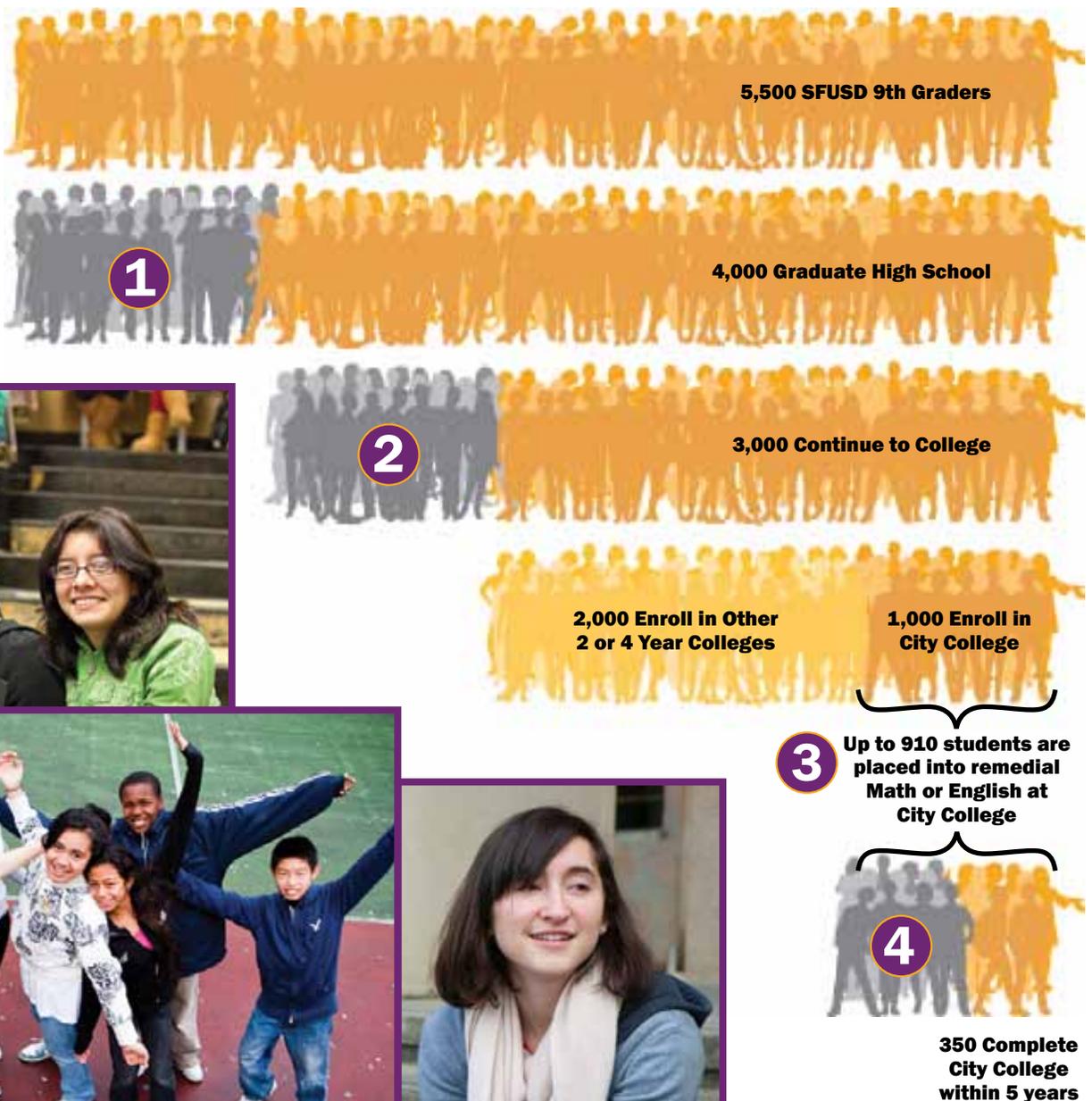
# We can't lose any more students

While most jobs in San Francisco require some post-secondary training, we know that far too many of our public school students are falling through the cracks and not completing a post-secondary degree. Bridge to Success' data analysis shows that we are losing students at four major points in their trajectory:

- 1** Between 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade about 1,500 students leave or drop out of SFUSD
- 2** About 1,000 SFUSD graduates do not enroll in a post-secondary program
- 3** Up to 910 SFUSD graduates are placed in a remedial math or English course once they start at City College
- 4** About 650 SFUSD graduates at City College do not complete their chosen course of study within 5 years

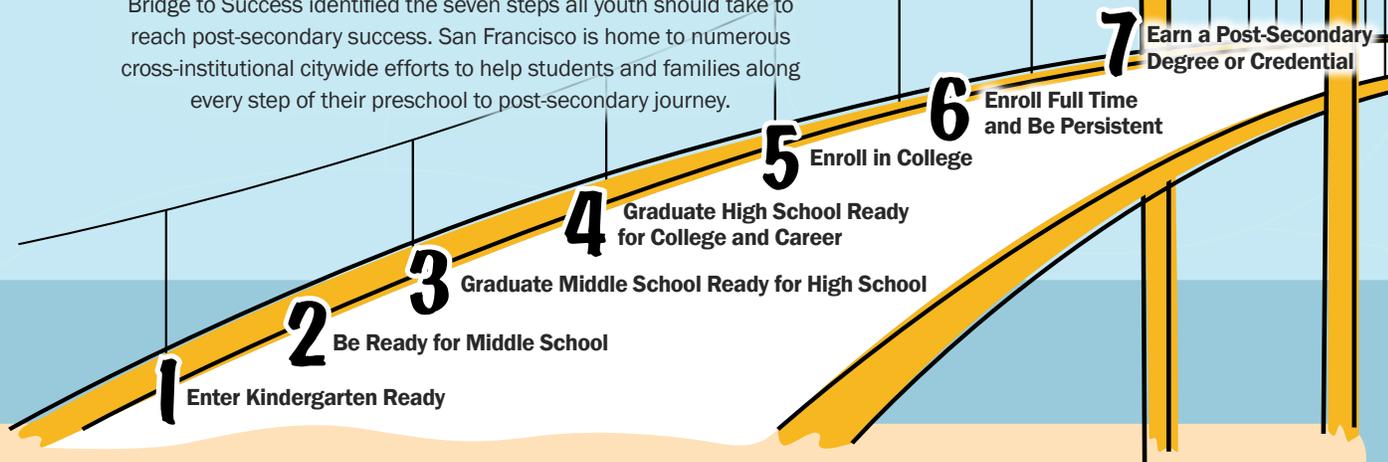
By building a bridge between high school and college, we can help leaders, educators and students prepare for better results. Together, we must change this trajectory for **ALL** of our students if we want San Francisco to remain a diverse, vibrant city.

## The four points where we lose students:



# We are all working together to double the number of African-American and Latino youth who complete a certificate, degree or transfer

Bridge to Success identified the seven steps all youth should take to reach post-secondary success. San Francisco is home to numerous cross-institutional citywide efforts to help students and families along every step of their preschool to post-secondary journey.



**Current Focus Areas & Accomplishments:** By bringing leaders and educators together across institutions and disciplines, Bridge to Success looks at the greatest barriers to student achievement and develops integrated solutions to overcome them.

With the support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Bridge to Success is currently focusing on increasing high school and college completion, with a specific focus on our local community college. The current four focus areas include:

## Completing High School:

Doubling the number of SFUSD under-represented students who graduate ready for college.

High school students face a variety of challenges completing their coursework, while also developing the 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills they need to be successful beyond graduation. Bridge to Success develops district-wide approaches to these challenges.

**Accomplishments:** Developed Early Warning Indicators to identify incoming 9th grade students who are likely to need additional support to succeed in high school.

## College Readiness:

Increasing the number of students placing into college-level English and Math classes at City College.

Too many public school graduates who enroll at City College are placed into non-college credit remedial math and English courses, which drastically increases the likelihood that they will drop out before completing their program. Bridge to Success explores policies and practices that will reduce the number of students who are required to complete remedial courses at City College.

**Accomplishments:** Analyzed data and initiated dialogue with faculty from the school district and community college which has generated recommended changes to the placement policy.

## Transitioning to Post-secondary:

Increasing the number of SFUSD graduates transitioning to post-secondary education.

Many high school graduates do not successfully transition to college, particularly students who are the first in their family to pursue post-secondary education, low-income, or face other obstacles. Bridge to Success institutionalizes supports that help all students, particularly those facing challenges, transition to college.

**Accomplishments:** Created a citywide event called FRISCO Day that provides all 4,000 public high school seniors an opportunity to attend a college campus and learn the steps they need to take to become a successful college student.

## Completion at City College:

Doubling successful completion rates at City College.

Completion rates at City College for public school graduates are too low, particularly for Latino and African American students. Bridge to Success identifies more effective ways to support City College students to completing their goals.

**Accomplishments:** Secured resources to assess the impact existing support services have on students' completion rates and college experiences.

# Tracking our Progress

Bridge to Success uses data to drive its strategy. Below are the seven general steps all San Francisco students should take to increase their chances of post-secondary completion, and the corresponding measures Bridge to Success uses to monitor its progress. Each year, Bridge to Success publishes its *Report Card* to track progress on these measures.

Step	Measure	Baseline	2020 Goal
<b>1. Enter Kindergarten Ready</b>	% of kindergartners who demonstrate they are ready	in process	in process
<b>2. Be Ready for Middle School</b>	% proficient: 4th grade English Language Arts/ Math on California Standards Tests	66% / 70%	76% / 80%
<b>3. Graduate Middle School Ready for High School</b>	% proficient: 8th grade English Language Arts / Algebra 1 on California Standards Tests	59% / 56%	69% / 66%
<b>4. Graduate High School Ready for College &amp; Career</b>	% passing California High School Exit Examination <sup>1</sup> in 10th grade English Language Arts/Math	80% / 80%	90% / 90%
	% of students passing the Early Assessment Program <sup>2</sup> English Language Arts /Math	28% / 65%	40% / 75%
	% of SFUSD 9th graders graduating high school with "a-g" courses <sup>3</sup>	53%	100%
<b>5. Enroll in College</b>	% of SFUSD graduates enrolling in post-secondary	82%	90%
	- Of those, % who attend City College	32%	40%
<b>6. Go Full Time and Be Persistent</b>	% of those attending City College who are full time	50%	65%
	% of SFUSD graduates at City College placing into college-level English/Math	8% / 31%	30% / 50%
<b>7. Earn a Degree or Credential</b>	% of all SFUSD college attendees who complete a degree within five years	54%	75%
	% of those attending City College who complete a degree within 5 years	35%	66%



**Notes:** Baseline: 2009 –10, as of 6/11/12.

- 1 California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) is a test which students in California public schools are required to pass to earn a high school diploma. The CAHSEE covers English and Math and is first given in the 10th grade and can be retaken until graduation.
- 2 The Early Assessment Program (EAP) is a test administered in 11th grade to determine if you are ready for college level English and Math.
- 3 "A-g" courses are classes that you must take in high school in order to enroll in a California public university (CSU or UC). They are now required to graduate from SFUSD too.

**For data sources, please refer to the Bridge to Success website at [sfbridgetosuccess.org](http://sfbridgetosuccess.org).**

**City & County of San Francisco / Department of Children, Youth and Their Families**

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**For more information, go to [www.SFBridgeToSuccess.org](http://www.SFBridgeToSuccess.org)**