A+ WASHINGTON
EXCELLENT SCHOOLS
NOW
DRAFT
A Way forward for all students

Join Today. APlusWA.org
WASHINGTON. Our state is home to visionary thinkers and companies that transform how we live, work and play. We have great jobs, great opportunities and a great way of life.

But our schools are letting some kids fall through the cracks. As a result, many students do not get enough support to help them succeed in school, work and life.

It is getting harder to get a job without a postsecondary degree, yet more than one in four high school students do not graduate on time—and graduation rates are even lower for low-income and students of color. Of those who do graduate, too many are not prepared for what’s next. Nearly half of two-year college students need remedial work, shelling out college tuition for high school level classes.

Educators in Washington are working under tough circumstances. Funding cuts are straining already depleted resources, and teachers—who give their all every day—do not get the support and training they need to be their best.

*We can—we must*—do more for all of our children.

**UNDEREDUCATED, UNPREPARED**

Of **100** 9th Graders...

- **73** graduate from high school on time
- **35** enter a community college or university
- **18** receive a college degree in 6 years

Sources: OSPI/NCHEMS/IPEDS
BIG IDEAS TO HELP EVERY STUDENT SUCCEED
Giving all students every opportunity to succeed in school requires new ideas and practices that promote flexibility and encourage innovation. That’s why a group of parents, families, teachers, principals, community members and advocates created A+ Washington, a comprehensive plan to transform education.

A+ Washington builds on many laws, policies and programs that are already helping students succeed here and in communities across the country. The plan offers solutions and big ideas that add up to a bright future —where every student gets what they need to succeed in work and in life.

BIG IDEAS TO ENSURE SUCCESS IN SCHOOL AND LIFE
A+ Washington is built on big ideas: making sure every student has a great teacher; giving teachers the flexibility and support they need to serve students best; providing families and the community new tools to hold schools accountable; and expanding opportunities for students to reach their full potential. These ideas will help every student start school ready to learn, and improve their odds of graduating from high school and continuing their education.

Teachers have more impact on student achievement than anything else at school. That’s why every student deserves a great one, and it’s why teachers need support—including coaching and mentoring—to help them be their best.

Great teachers matter most

Principals, teachers and families need new information and tools to ensure that every student is learning and progressing. Sharing this information will allow us to give extra support to those schools and students that need it, and to shine a light on success.

New tools for accountability

When children participate in high-quality early education, it leads to powerful results: they do better in school, they become healthier adults and productive members of society. When students connect with teachers and programs that match their interests and learning styles, achievement takes off. Every student needs an individual path to success.

More and better opportunities

It’s up to all of us.
Join A+ Washington

For detailed information on the plans that will make each big idea a reality, please visit APlusWA.org
WHAT CAN YOU DO?
It is within our reach to make sure every student is prepared for success in work and life. It will take all of us—parents, families, educators, business and community leaders working together to help every student reach his or her full potential.

It’s up to all of us. Join A+ Washington. Go online today: APlusWA.org.

EXCELLENT SCHOOLS NOW
Excellent Schools Now (ESN) is a statewide coalition of 36 organizations committed to improving Washington’s education system. ESN believes we can ensure that every student starts school ready to learn, graduates from high school prepared for college, and earns a degree that prepares them to succeed in life. To achieve this vision, ESN developed A+ Washington: A Way Forward for All Students.

To learn more, visit us online at APlusWA.org.