



## COMMUNITY EQUITY PROFILE: **EDUCATION**

Inclusive Dubuque launched the Community Equity Profile in February 2015 in an effort to discover how diverse groups are affected by various systems throughout the community. Diverse groups are defined not just by race, but also age/generation, culture, disability, gender, nationality, religion, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, veteran status and more.

This snapshot, along with the final equity profile, will take shape based on three types of input: local data; feedback from community members through dialogues and surveys; and focus area specialists, who are individuals working in each focus area.

### **How can you get involved?**

1. Share your perspective at a community dialogue
2. Respond to the online survey if you cannot attend a dialogue
3. Spread the word by bringing a friend to the dialogues or sharing the survey link

Visit [www.inclusivedbq.org](http://www.inclusivedbq.org) to see upcoming community dialogue dates and to take the online survey.

This snapshot of education, the third of seven focus areas for the equity profile, is meant to provide a preview of what we have learned so far. This is not a complete representation of all the data and information gathered. The final equity profile will be completed this fall and will include additional information. To see additional demographics of Dubuque, visit [www.inclusivedbq.org](http://www.inclusivedbq.org).

Based on data collection, survey results and community dialogue sessions, it is clear that the community relies on schools for far more than classroom education.

How can we **ELIMINATE BARRIERS TO ACHIEVEMENT** so that all students can succeed?

## Student Achievement

### THE DATA:

- ▶ Historical data indicates a correlation between socioeconomic status and student achievement. In the Dubuque Community School District, 76% of all students meet reading proficiency in grades 3-5 (on Iowa Testing Program exams), while 62.10% of students eligible for free/reduced lunch meet proficiency in this category.

In grade 11 math, 86.40% of all students

- ▶ meet proficiency (on Iowa Testing Program exams), while 74.40% of students eligible for free/reduced lunch meet proficiency.

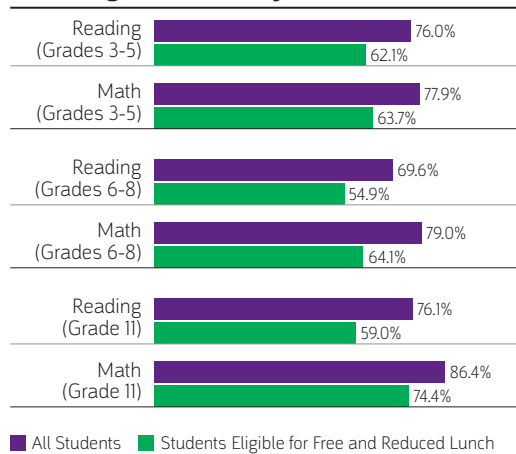
### FROM THE SURVEY:

- ▶ 149 of 291 respondents (58.25%) say they are confident that schools are meeting the needs of students, compared to 44 respondents (22%) who disagree.
- ▶ 166 of 282 respondents (58.25%) believe schools are preparing students for their next academic year, compared to 23 respondents (11.67%) who disagree.

### FROM THE DIALOGUES:

- ▶ Dialogue attendees expressed the need to increase participation of and outreach to minority students regarding Advanced Placement (AP) courses.

### Percentage of Proficiency (District-Wide)\*

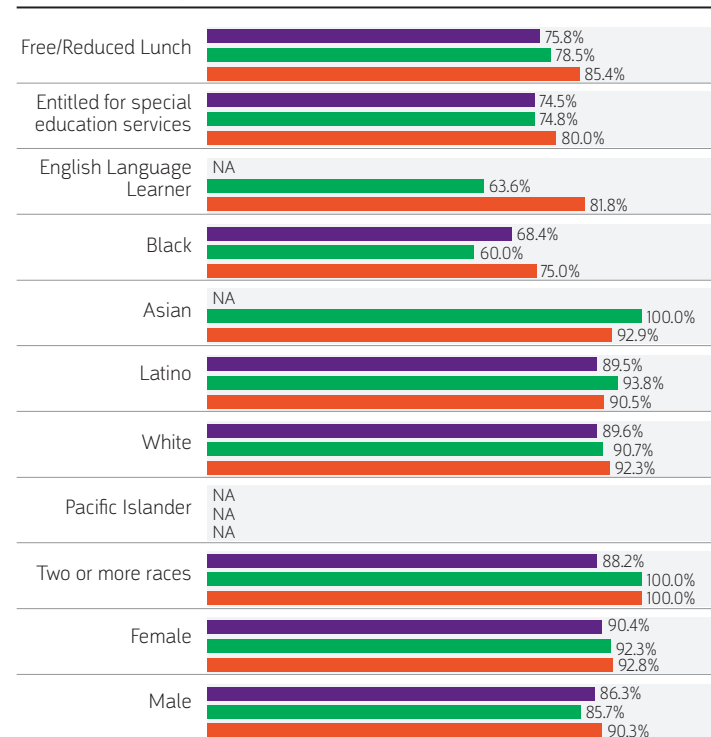


\*Based on Iowa Testing Program exams, which begin in grade 3. Scores are reported on a grade-level span.

Source: Dubuque Community School District

### Graduation Rate

Dubuque Community Schools



■ Reported Spring, 2013 for the Class of 2012  
 ■ Reported Spring, 2014 for the Class of 2013  
 ■ Reported Spring, 2015 for the Class of 2014

NA denotes small cell count (denominator, N<10) that has been redacted due to FERPA.

Source: Iowa Department of Education, Information and Analysis, Basic Educational Data Survey (BEDS) and SRI (EASIER) files.

More to learn: The full equity profile with additional data and information will be available in fall 2015.

# School Culture and Climate

### THE DATA:

- ▶ 17.15% of students in the Dubuque Community School District are minority students, while 2.2% of staff are minority.
- ▶ 23 different languages are spoken in the Dubuque Community School District.

### FROM THE SURVEY:

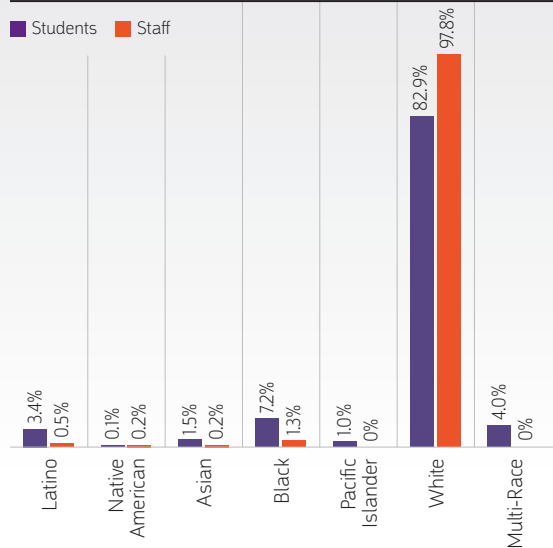
- ▶ 136 of 282 respondents (48.23%) expressed some level of concern regarding access to supplementary services (tutoring, counseling, afterschool programs, etc.).
- ▶ 133 of 280 respondents (47.50%) expressed some level of concern regarding discrimination.

### FROM THE DIALOGUES:

- ▶ Dialogue attendees referenced the misalignment between staff diversity and student diversity, and expressed the need for additional cultural competency training for staff.

- ▶ Dialogue attendees noted a lack of technology access outside of school for some populations, which makes success in school increasingly difficult in today's technological society.

**Dubuque Community School District Staff/Student Race/Ethnicity by Percentage**



Source: Dubuque Community School District

How can we PROVIDE DIVERSE ROLE MODELS to support students of all backgrounds?

# Educational Attainment/Access to Education

### THE DATA:

- ▶ Over 21% of the Dubuque County population over the age of 25 with less than a high school degree are in poverty status.
- ▶ In Dubuque County, individuals with a bachelor's degree have a median income of \$42,889 compared to \$26,926 for individuals with only a high school degree (in 2013 inflation-adjusted dollars).

### FROM THE SURVEY:

- ▶ 41.24% of survey respondents felt that they were able to pursue the type of education they would like, compared to 10.31% who felt they were not able to.
- ▶ 71.28% of respondents said if they were looking to pursue an education, it would be easy to access services to assist in the process, compared to 6.67% who disagreed.

### FROM THE DIALOGUES:

- ▶ Dialogue attendees expressed the need for more community exposure to educational opportunities and to increase opportunities for minority students.

### Poverty Rate for the Population 25 Years and over by Educational Attainment: Dubuque County

Less than high school graduate	21.2%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	7.6%
Bachelor's degree or higher	4.7%

Source: U.S. Census

Can we REDUCE POVERTY IN OUR COMMUNITY by ensuring all students have at least a high school diploma and ideally a bachelors degree or higher?

## INCLUSIVE DUBUQUE NETWORK PARTNERS

365 Ink  
 4 the People, Inc.  
 Alliant Energy  
 Children of Abraham  
 City of Dubuque  
 Clarke University  
 Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque  
 Diamond Jo Casino  
 Dubuque Area Chamber of Commerce  
 Dubuque Area Congregations United  
 Dubuque Area Convention and Visitors Bureau  
 Dubuque Area Labor Management Council  
 Dubuque Community School District  
 Dubuque Community YMCA and YWCA  
 Dubuque Franciscans  
 Dubuque Racing Association  
 Farrell's Extreme Bodyshaping  
 Greater Dubuque Development Corporation  
 Hillcrest Family Services  
 IBM  
 Iowa State University Extension and Outreach  
 John Deere Dubuque Works  
 Julien's Journal  
 Kendall Hunt Publishing Company  
 Loras College  
 Medical Associates  
 Mercy Medical Center  
 Multicultural Family Center  
 Mystique Casino  
 NAACP - Dubuque Chapter  
 NAMI Dubuque  
 Northeast Iowa Community College  
 Progressive Processing LLC  
 Proudly Accessible Dubuque  
 Prudential  
 Sisters of Charity, BVM  
 St. Mark Youth Enrichment  
 TH Media  
 Tri-State Independent Physicians  
 United Way of Dubuque Area Tri-States  
 UnityPoint Health Finley Hospital  
 University of Dubuque  
 University of Wisconsin-Platteville

## COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION: EDUCATION

Attended a  
Community Dialogue:

124

Completed  
a Survey:

344

At Dialogues:

124

Online:

220

## COMMUNITY EQUITY PROFILE COMMITTEE

Alvin Nash, City of Dubuque  
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 Willie Slayden, 4 The People, Inc.

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City of Dubuque  
 Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque  
 Dubuque Area Chamber of Commerce  
 Dubuque Racing Association  
 Greater Dubuque Development Corporation  
 IBM  
 John Deere  
 Mercy Medical Center  
 Mystique Casino  
 Northeast Iowa Community College

**Thank you to all our host organizations, facilitators and scribes who have generously donated their time and facilities to assist with the community dialogues. To see a complete listing of individuals and organizations, visit [www.inclusivedbq.org](http://www.inclusivedbq.org).**