



# Annual Report for the 2007-08 School Year

City of Seattle

Office for  
Education

Families &  
Education Levy

March 2009



# Executive Summary

This report highlights the outcomes and accomplishments from the third year of the 2004 City of Seattle Families and Education Levy (FEL). The Levy focused its investments on increasing measurable academic outcomes and closing the achievement gap for students in Seattle. Outcome targets were based on measures of school readiness, academic achievement, dropout prevention and high school graduation. In 2007-08, the Levy achieved the following:

## Academic Outcomes

- 358 preschool children entered kindergarten ready to succeed
- 909 Seattle Public School students met grade-level standard on the DRA or WASL (value-added)
- 41 high-risk youth graduated from high school

## Key Findings

- Overall, program outcomes exceeded targets, resulting in academic growth for many students.
- At the elementary and middle school level, the gap for meeting grade-level standard narrowed for students of color and students qualifying for free & reduced lunch. Few gains were made for limited English proficient students.
- At the high school level, the gap for meeting grade-level standard remained constant for students of color and widened for students qualifying for free and reduced lunch and with limited English proficiency.
- Programs are using their data to make informed decisions at both the overall program and individual student level to improve and enhance services for students.
- Programs are collaborating to smooth school-level transitions and share critical information about student needs.
- Programs need help developing strategies that are effective with very low performing math students and students with limited English proficiency.
- The Office for Education and the Levy Oversight Committee continue to use data to refine and redefine meaningful indicators and outcome targets for each program.

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