



VOICES of the NEXT GENERATION SF

WHY COLEMAN PARENT AND YOUTH MEMBERS ARE CALLING FOR AN “A-G EQUITY PLAN” IN THE SAN FRANCISCO SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT GRADUATES ALL STUDENTS READY FOR COLLEGE & CAREER.

The 100,000 children growing up in San Francisco have a right to a secure future in their own city. And because the majority of the city’s young people are children of color, our future economy depends on a new commitment to truly provide racial equity and equal education opportunities to all.

But the reality today is that too many of the city’s African American, Latino and Pacific Islander young people are growing up on a path to poverty or prison. Why? Because they are being denied the opportunities in school they need to *graduate ready for college and get a good job right here at home*. Too few reach high school graduation at all, and those who do, leave school unprepared for the 21st century economy.

- ⇒ **Young people’s future in the 21st century San Francisco economy now requires a college education.** It’s not like the old days. More than 50,000 blue-collar jobs that paid a living wage without a degree have disappeared from SF over the last generation.
- ⇒ **But only 1 in 3 students from SF schools graduated from high school prepared for a four-year university in 2008.** Without access to college and career-ready “A thru G” classes, most graduating students weren’t even *eligible* for UC or CSU universities or prepared for a union apprenticeship exam.
- ⇒ **Most Black, Latino and Pacific Islander students do not have access the “A thru G” college and career path in San Francisco:** 5 out of 6 Latino students, and 9 out of 10 African American students graduated without the A-G classes required to even be eligible for a UC or CSU university. Instead, students of color are being tracked into poverty wage jobs or work in the street economy that will send them straight to prison. Many go to community college – but the truth is that few ever transfer to 4 yr colleges. In order to address the poverty and violence in our communities, students of color must be prepared for college & living wage work.
- ⇒ **All students have the right to a quality education, and a student’s race shouldn’t determine their future.** But data show that most Black, Latino and Pacific Islander students are being denied equal educational opportunities, and are ‘tracked’ or segregated into the classes with low academic expectations. They get the least opportunities to develop the high-level skills and the critical thinking required in the 21st century economy.

Support our "A thru G Equity Plan" to Graduate All Students Ready for College & Living Wage work:

- ⇒ We want the school district to raise expectations for students of color and increase their opportunities for support and success.

- ⇒ This May, we want the school board to pass a new policy making "A thru G" coursework the *curriculum for all* and part of the high school graduation requirement in SFUSD, starting with the class of 2014.
- ⇒ We want all students, but especially African American, Latino and Pacific Islander students, to receive all necessary supports and teaching strategies to ensure their success, and we want schools held accountable for this success.
- ⇒ We support ongoing educational efforts by community members and the school district to raise our expectations and create a “college and career going culture” in every school.
- ⇒ We want a transparent, accountable implementation process with community input.

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