

# Enrollment and Release of Attendance Summary Tacoma Public Schools

April 14, 2011



# Presented by:

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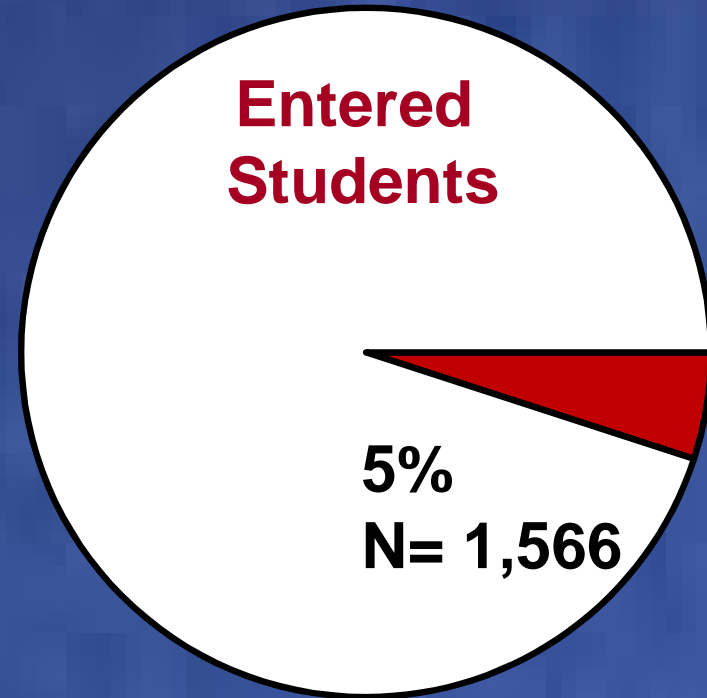
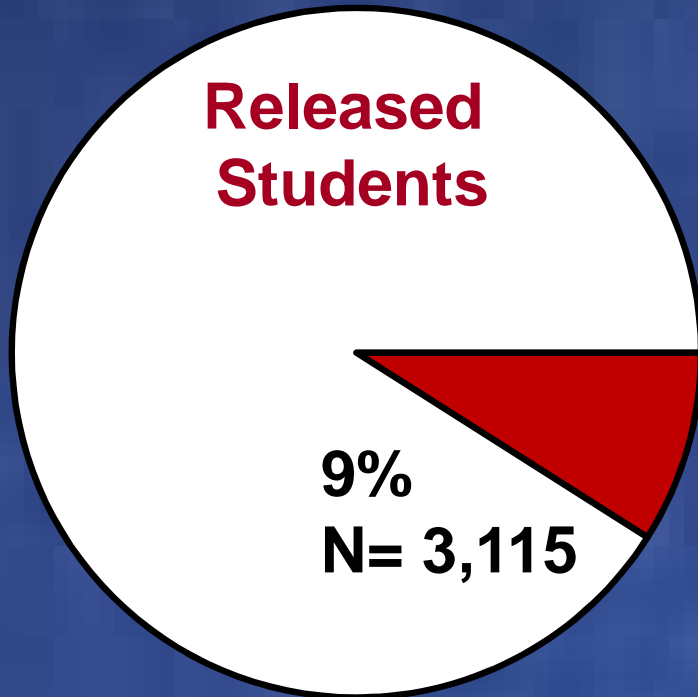
Michael Farmer  
Online Learning  
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Education

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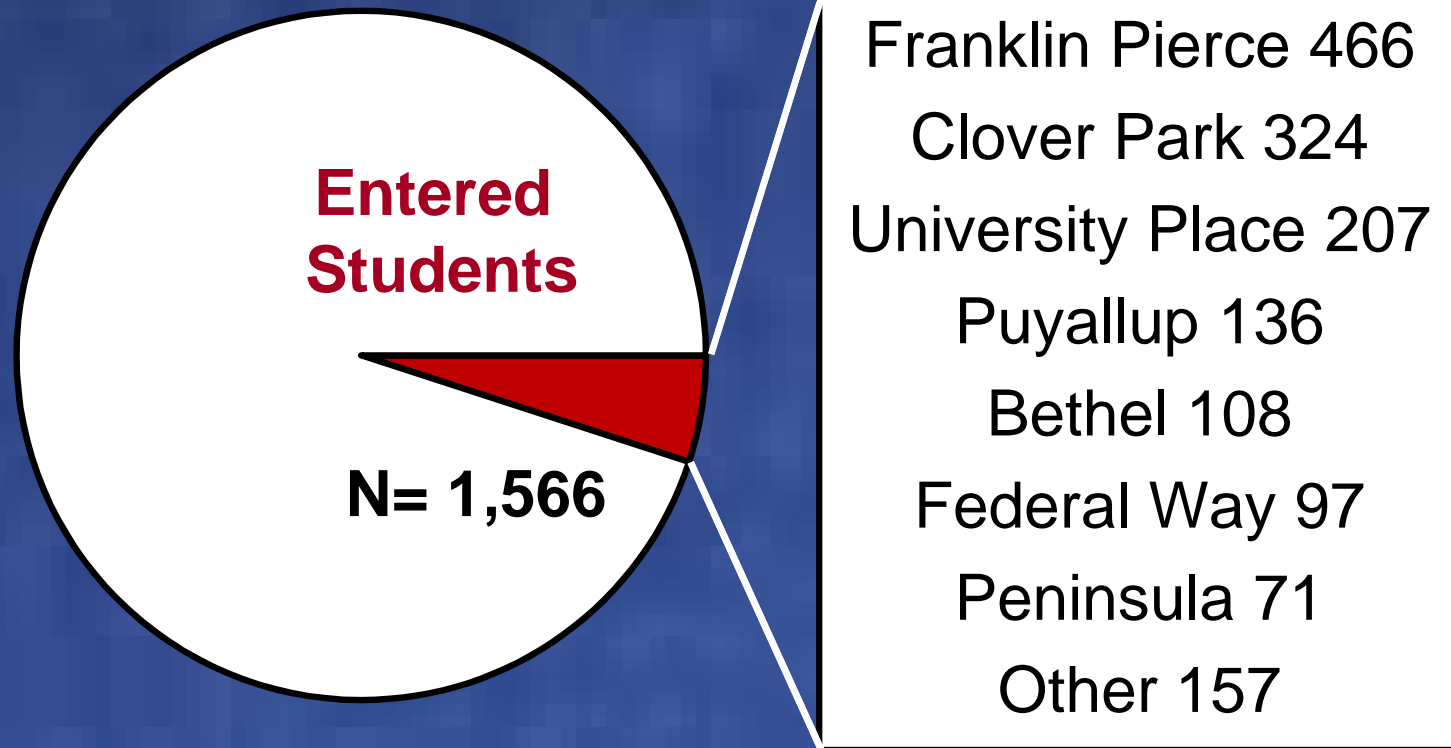
# Students Released and Transferred Into Tacoma

(Percent and Count)

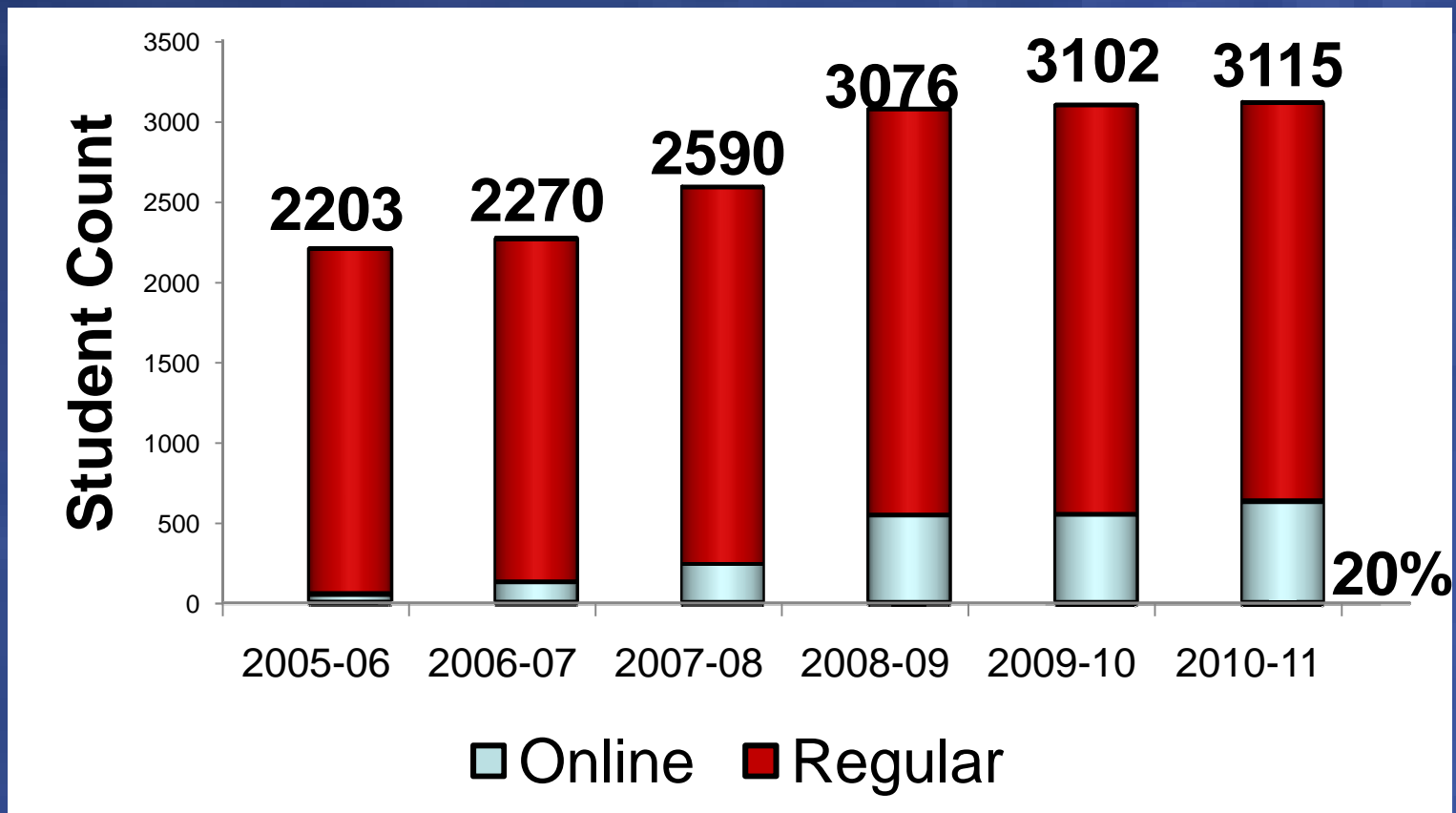


# Students Transferring In

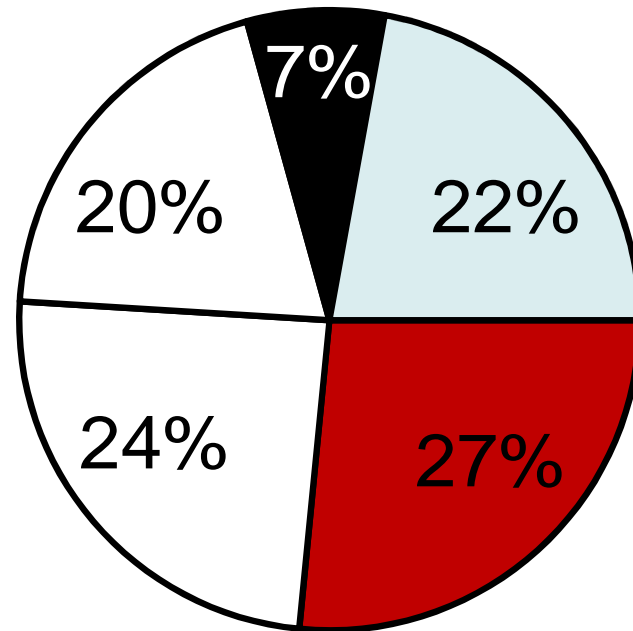
What District Do They Come From?



# 6-Yr Trend of District Exit Released Students

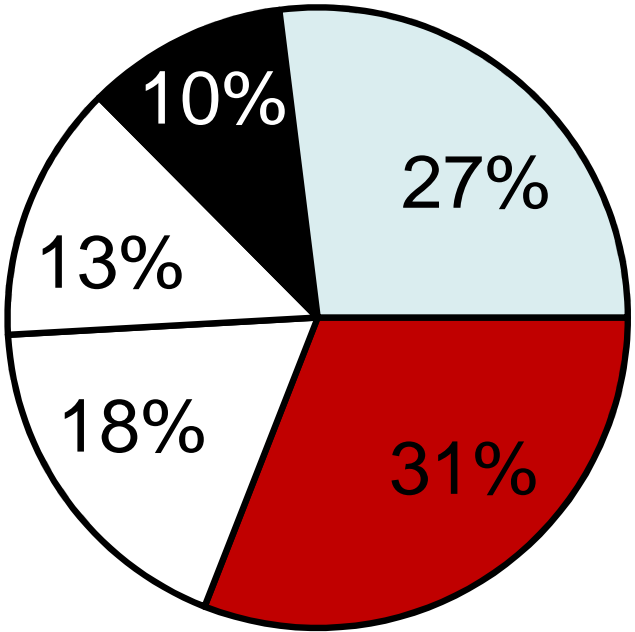


# Where are released students going-Online Programs?



- Steilacoom
- Quillayate Valley
- Valley
- Fed. Way
- Other

# Where are released students going-Traditional Programs?



- University Place
- Chief Leschi
- Franklin Pierce
- Clover Park
- Other

# Why are students leaving?

- Proximity to home
- Grade band configuration
- Close to neighborhood associations
- Safety
- Transportation
- Lack of timely communication
- Low performing schools

# According to RCW 28A.225.220

A District is strongly encouraged to honor the request of a parent or guardian for his or her child to attend a school in another district or the request of a parent or guardian for his or her child to transfer as a student receiving home-based instruction.

# So what are we doing?

The New Procedure for release will include:

- Focus of control will be at the school site
- Parents will complete exit questionnaire and talk with principals
- Central Office Enrollment Services will monitor school-level decisions

# So what are we doing between now and July 1st?

- Parents are being asked to complete an exit interview
- Certified personnel are conducting interviews with each student/family
- Enrollment Services personnel are analyzing data and determining trends

# So what are we doing about Online?

- Since August, parents or students in grades 9-12 requesting to be released to other online programs have been asked to meet with the Online Learning Coordinator
- After learning more about Tacoma Virtual Learning, over half of the students and parents elected to stay with Tacoma School District

## ...continued

- Students who have requested to transfer to other online programs expressed the need for a computer as the reason for not staying with Tacoma School District
- This year, Tacoma School District has mailed letters and brochures and have contacted (using ConnectEd and personally) Tacoma families who are enrolled in other online programs

## ...continued

- Tacoma School District will continue to reach out to Tacoma students and families in other online programs
- Because it is necessary for students to renew their release of attendance, students will be required to meet with the Online Learning Coordinator

# ...continued

- The Online Learning Coordinator is working with the Public Information Office to further publicize and advertise online learning options in Tacoma including:
  - Presence on Facebook and Twitter
  - More mailings and calls to currently released families
  - Use of reader boards at schools on major thoroughfares to advertise online options over the summer