

Education Options Strategy

Chicago Board of Education

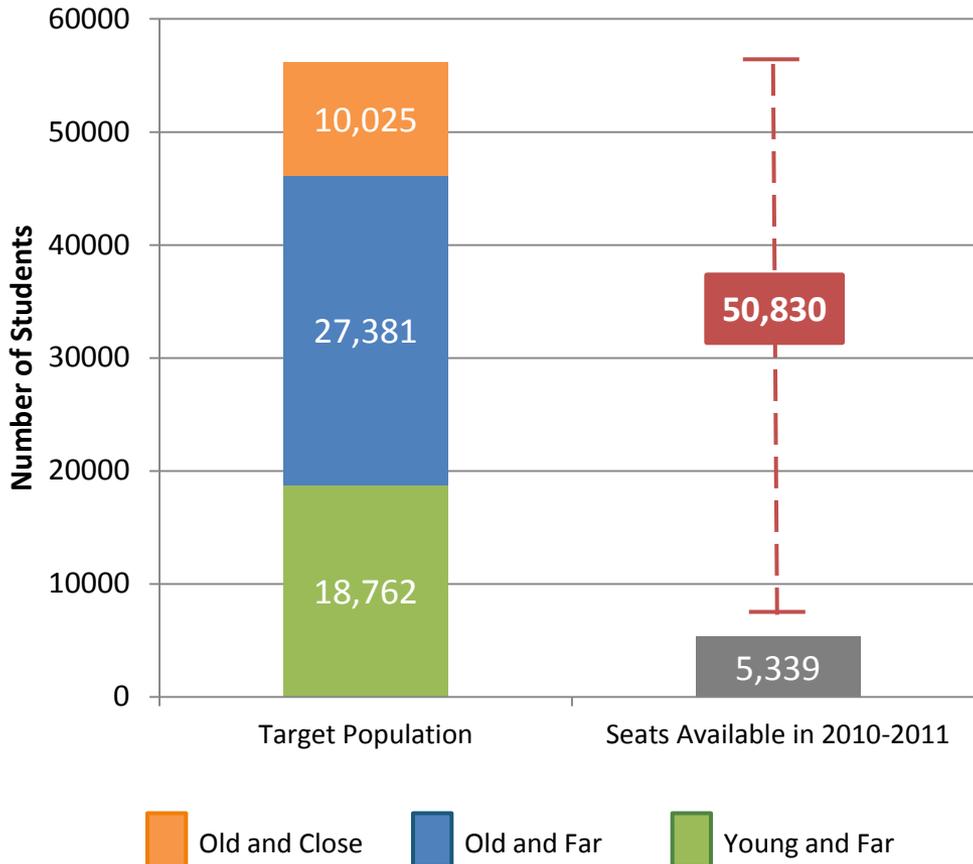
June 26, 2013

Chicago's Dropout Challenge

- An estimated 56,000 youth are out-of- school or significantly off-track for graduation .
- The costs of dropping out - to society, individuals and their families - are well-documented and devastating.
- Dropping out is rarely a sudden event, rather a long process of disengagement or “fading out”.
- The majority of out-of- school youth are more than 17 years old, far from graduation and in need of a different educational option.
- Improvements in the District's 5 year dropout rate have been steady and incremental – from 50.1% a decade ago to 35.3% in 2012, however, our efforts to identify and reengage students who have dropped out have been challenging.
- These challenges have identified our need for quality education options - designed with all students in mind.
- The District is developing a comprehensive strategy to address the issue.

A Deeper Look

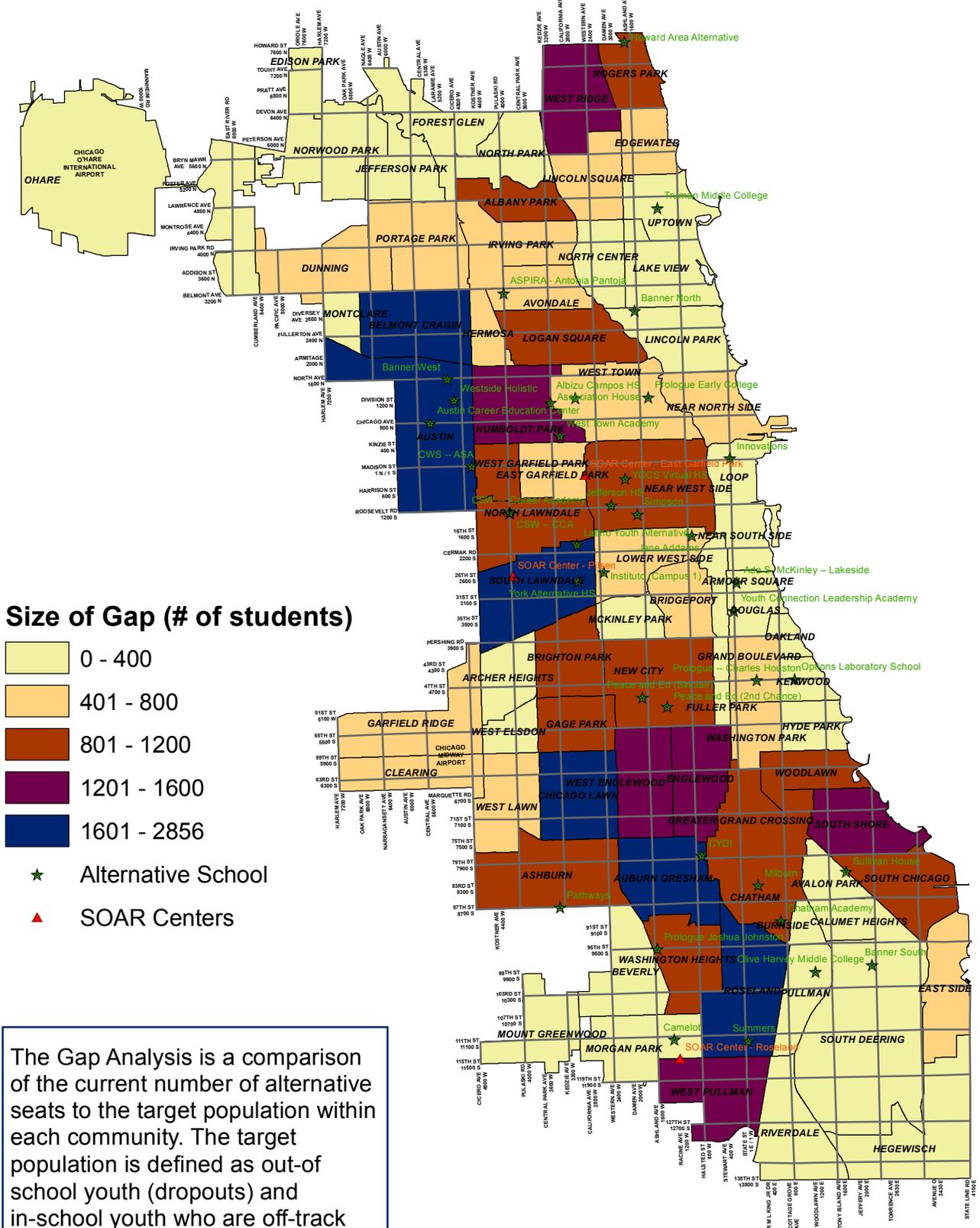
District Target Population and Capacity



- ▶ An analysis of student transcripts and ages of Out-of-School Youth and significantly Off-Track In-School Youth from 2008-2012 **identified 56,168** potential target population for Options schools and programs.
- ▶ Based on the target population, a gap analysis was completed to determine the highest need and least served communities in the District.

Segment	Definition
Young and Far	Ages 14 – 16, Out of School Youth and In-School Over-Aged Under-Credited Youth
Old and Far	17 – 21 year olds, Out of School and In-School Youth with less than 12 credits
Old and Close	17 – 21 year olds, Out of School and In-School Youth with greater than 12 credits

Alternative Seat Gap 2008 - 2012 Analysis



Size of Gap (# of students)

- 0 - 400
- 401 - 800
- 801 - 1200
- 1201 - 1600
- 1601 - 2856

- ★ Alternative School
- ▲ SOAR Centers

The Gap Analysis is a comparison of the current number of alternative seats to the target population within each community. The target population is defined as out-of-school youth (dropouts) and in-school youth who are off-track to graduation.

A Comprehensive Strategy

← Prevention — Intervention — Reengagement →

Eliminate the
Dropout
Pipeline

Establish a
**Proactive
System** for
Reengaging
Out of School
and Off Track
youth

Adopt an
Options
**Accountability
Framework**

Expand
Options
Schools and
Programs

Change the **Policies and Practices** that Drive the Problem
and Impede the Solutions

Expanding Options

Objective: Grow existing and recruit new high quality providers who can deliver education pathways shown to be most effective in re-engaging, retaining, and graduating out of school youth and students at-risk of dropping out. Ensure that these programs are aligned to the segments of students to be served and serving communities with the greatest need.

3rd cycle of requests for new Options

- 2011 New Schools RFP included first request for new Options
- 2012 Call for Quality Schools
- 2013 Options RFP
- **Agnostic about Governance Models**
 - Charters and contracts have greater flexibility to offer non-traditional curriculum and program design to meet the needs of some segments of students
- **Required Features:**
 - Small learning communities and personalized learning paths
 - Holistic support for student development
 - Program design for accelerated credit and skill acquisition
 - Pathway and supports to college and career
 - Track record of success reengaging and graduating out of school and off track youth

June Board Reports

Approvals from the Options RFP for SY 14-15 Openings:

Pathways in Education – Illinois

- Multi-site dropout charter school serving Old and Close
- 660 students in first year, with potential for 1,875 over time
- Converting existing Alternative Learning Opportunities Program campuses in Ashburn (3284 87th Street) and Avondale (3100 W. Belmont)

Camelot Schools – Excel Academies

- 2 contract schools serving Old and Far
- 375 students at each school
- Planned communities of Woodlawn and one to be determined

Final Approval from 2012 CFQS for SY 13-14 Opening:

Chicago Excel Academy – Englewood

- Contract school serving Old and Far
- 375 students
- Located in Englewood in the former Guggenheim school building

Overall Growth in Seats

