

Leading for Student Success in a Changing Landscape

*How do we ensure all students succeed,
regardless of political pressures?*

May 5, 2025

Dr. Susana Reyes

Dr. Mary Templeton

Agenda for today

Welcome & Framing (0:00-0:05)

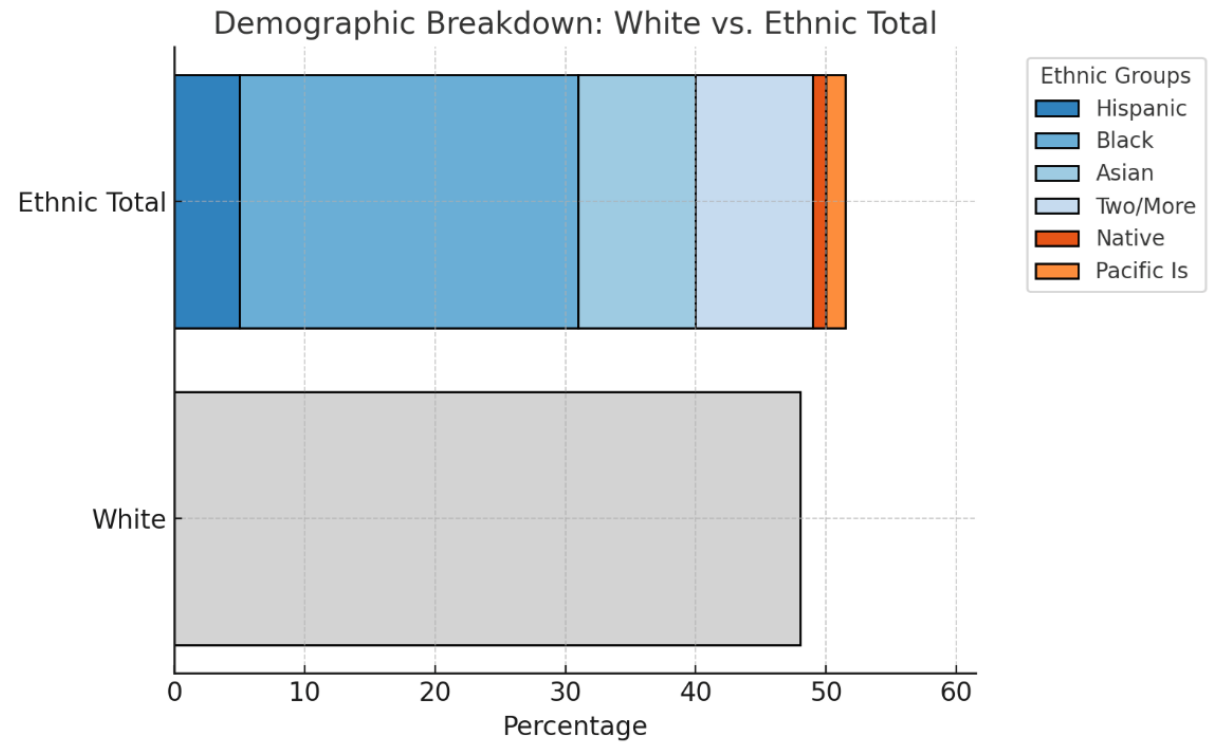
- Workshop Theme
- Framing Q: How do we ensure all students succeed?
- Context for our times
- Strategy Discussions
- Emphasis: Adaptive leadership & Student-centered focus

Reality Check

Why it Matters (0:05–0:08)

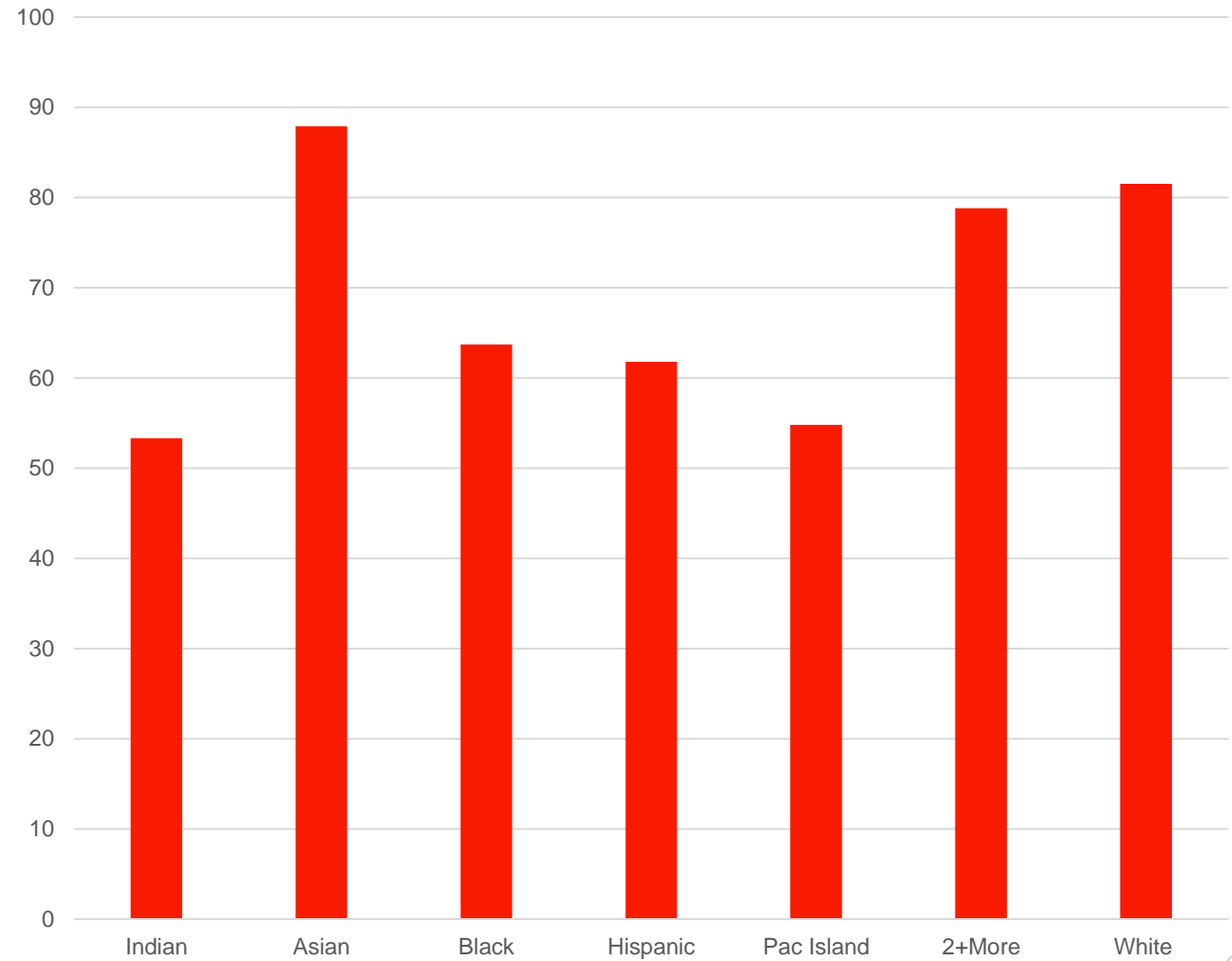
- 48% of WA students are White; 52% are students of color
- 20% gaps in Kindergarten readiness and ELA
- Double-digit graduation gaps
- 100% gaps in discipline

Growing Diversity



ELA Gaps ... K-12 in Washington

Continued
Gaps



Changing Landscape

The Changing Landscape

(0:08–0:12)

- WA's Equity Commitment – Chris Reykdal quote
- Federal pushback on DEI
- WA response: Inclusive education remains priority
- Implication: Stay legally ready and values-driven

Public education is a civil right, and that in itself is DEI. I'm proud of the work we've done in Washington state, and we are not going backward. – Chris Reykdal

Why it Matters

Our Personal Journey –

(0:12–0:20)

- Susana's Story
- Mary's stories
- Support leads to success

Our Leadership Work

Discussion – Leading in a Divided Time (0:20–0:40)

Table Prompt:

- 1 min each: Where are you?
What are you doing now?
- Group Task: What three strategies are most likely to help us ... keep student safety, success, and equity of opportunity at the center of our work?

**Best
Strategies**

Table Report Outs (0:40–0:50)

- One strategy per table
- **Brief share-out: 2-min**

Take-aways

Practical Strategies (0:50–0:55)

- Continue to emphasize DEI around student outcomes
- Stay steady under pressure
- Integrate equity in instruction, not just policy
- Use stories + data to build support
- Build local coalitions
- Be visible, communicate often

Re-Framing

Public Education = The American Dream in Action

- ✓ DEI → Student Success & Belonging
- ✓ Equity → Opportunity
- ✓ Social Justice → The American Dream

Thank You

Wrap-Up & Resources

(0:55–1:00)

- Recap & Takeaways
- Additional Resources



