

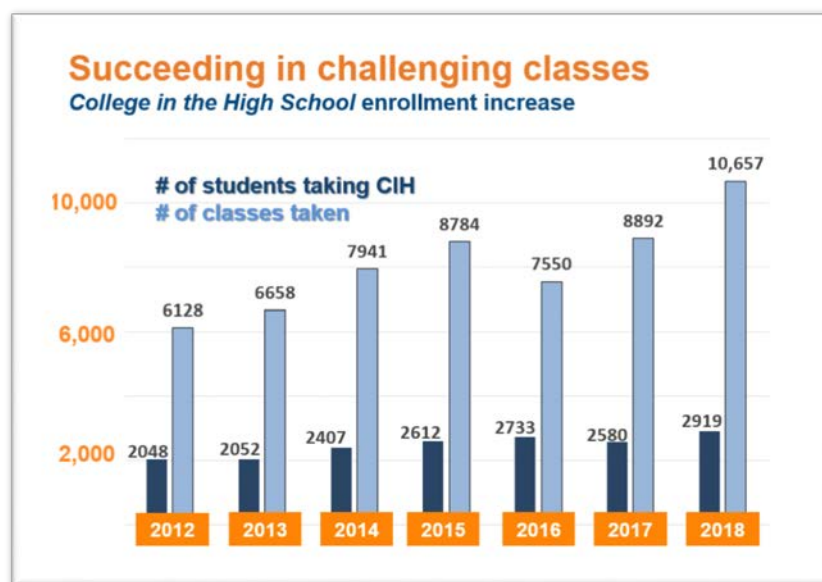


News release

Dec. 11, 2018

Students taking more College in the High School courses

Participation rates up nearly 75 percent over the past seven years



Everett, WA – Students who take College in the High School (CiHS) courses in high school can earn college credit while fulfilling a high school course requirement. Those courses, taught by teachers endorsed by Everett Community College or University of Washington, are offered at the district's three comprehensive high schools.

Not surprisingly, student participation in the program has increased over the years. In 2012, students took

6,128 CiHS courses. This school year, students enrolled in 10,657 courses. That is a 73.5 percent increase over the past seven years. That increase is a positive indicator because studies show dual enrollment students are more likely to stay enrolled in college, maintain a higher college GPA, and earn more post-secondary credits.

The increase in participation is no accident. Over the past several years, district staff has worked closely with Everett Community College to strengthen the program. The district partners with Everett Community College to:

- Identify qualified teachers and courses
- Ensure alignment with college course and accreditation standards
- Help students navigate the enrollment process
- Provide a variety of tuition-assistance programs
- Offer academic advising through Everett Community College for CiHS students via email or phone

Why would any student NOT elect to snag the college credit? The \$220 price tag for the five community college credits (\$370 for UW) per course is still a barrier for some families. Recognizing that less than 50 percent of students applied for the college credit, Everett Community College began offering fee waivers for first-time CiHS students who were free- and reduced-lunch eligible. Everett Community College also offers micro-scholarships to students who previously received College in the High School fee waivers and are continuing to take courses as Everett Community College students after they graduate from high school. Other financial assistance comes from Everett Public Schools Foundation and local organizations.

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College in the High School is one of several “dual credit” options offered in the district. Students may also participate in Advanced Placement, Running Start, and select dual credit Career and Technical Education courses to earn college and high school credit at the same time.

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