From: Cohn, Gary
To: EPS.MailList

Subject: Hooray and Congratulations!!!

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## Dear Colleague:

Late on Friday afternoon, OSPI released state-wide and district-wide graduation rate information. The great news is: Our work is paying off!

The rate of students graduating in **four** years  $\underline{increased}$  in 2013 to **84.4 percent** – 2.6 percentage points higher than the year before.

The rate of students graduating in **five** years increased in 2013 to **88.5 percent** – 2 percentage points higher than the year before.

Our five year dropout rate <u>dropped</u> by 2 percentage points over the year before – from 11.5 percent to 9.1 percent.

When you know the **five year rates** for our comprehensive high schools, it's even more remarkable: **Cascade** is at **91.5 percent**, **Everett** is at **90.6 percent**, and **Jackson** is at **96.8 percent** for the class of 2012. And what's more, **Sequoia's** five year rate rose nearly 10 percentage points to **52.1 percent**! This is tremendous!

It was certainly fitting that the announcement of this wonderful news came on one of the most inspiring Learning Improvement Days I've observed. What could better exemplify the results of the collaborative work happening in every school in our district at every grade level, than such a wonderful rise in our graduation rates? Our focus on each student is truly paying dividends for kids. I am so proud to be a part of this inspiring district team!

Thank you for the role you play to achieve our district's mission, and the success of each one of our students.

While there will be more information to come, I HAD to let you know about this great news!

Gary

