

Rainier Prep

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LEA

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SEA

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Abstract

Rainier Prep, one of only eight charter schools authorized by the state of Washington in its inaugural year, will open its doors in August 2015 to 216 fifth and sixth grade students. At full capacity, the school will serve approximately 420 students in grades 5-8 in the South King County area of Washington State. Rainier Prep is committed to achieving radically different outcomes for traditionally under-represented low-income and minority students, focusing on identifying and serving those who will be the first in their families to attend and graduate from college. Rainier Prep will provide a college prep environment where all scholars will be provided with the support to succeed, regardless of background or birthright.

Using a 4-year middle school approach, Rainier Prep's educational program combines foundational learning in core subject areas with project-based, interdisciplinary inquiry approach and applied leadership enrichment experiences for all students. Rainier Prep's target demographic consists of 70-83% of students receiving free and reduced lunch. Recent data indicates that students born into the lowest quartile of income have an 8% chance of obtaining a college degree. Our goal at Rainier Prep is to shift that percentage from 8 to 100% by offering rigorous academic preparation and deeply personalized support. Students will obtain the critical thinking and leadership skills to prepare them for college graduation and community leadership.

Rainier Prep will be led by award-winning and experienced school visionary, Maggie O'Sullivan, who has a proven track record in achieving unparalleled results with precisely the students whom charter schools in Washington are, by law, designed to serve. Ms. O'Sullivan, along with a deeply committed and knowledgeable Board of Directors, is committed to transforming the future one child at a time. Rainier Prep intends to impact not only its own students but to serve as a proof point of what is possible when students are pushed and supported to achieve beyond any previous set of expectations.