# Postsecondary Transition at Scale

The Role of Partnership in Supporting College Success

Glenda Tesalona, New Visions for Public Schools Jeremy Greenfield, New Visions for Public Schools Jordan Wesley, Let's Get Ready









- Opening
- New Visions & Let's Get Ready:
   Organizational Background
- The Problem: How to support college persistence & completion at scale
- The Solution: Partnership
- Key Learnings
- Q & A



With 1932 students from 9 high schools transitioning to 150 institutions of higher education, how is partnership scalable and manageable?



#### Opener





## Meet Stephane (she/her)

- From Brooklyn, NY
- Immigrant from Haiti
- GPA: 81
- Applied to 18 colleges including public institutions (CUNY & SUNY), and private colleges, including HBCUs
- First-gen college student on mom's side, who is her primary caregiver
- Decided on St. Joseph's University, Brooklyn. Cost before financial aid is \$17,000





What are the informational and navigational supports that a student like Stephane will need as she makes the transition from high school to college, and to persist in college.

Make a list at your table, and be prepared to share out.



#### **New Visions Overview**



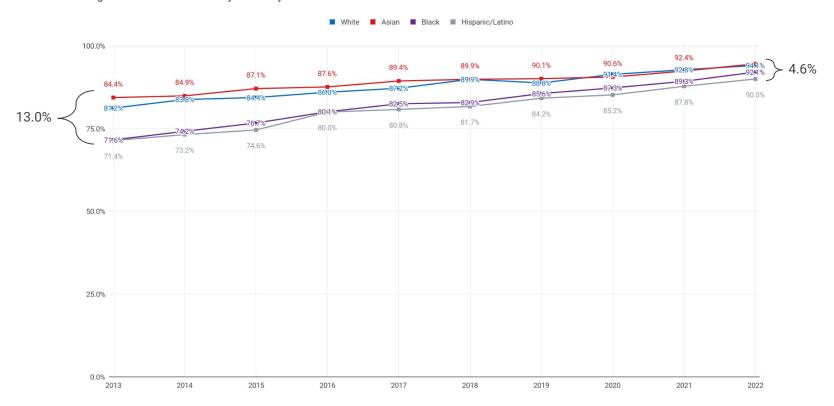
Over New Visions' 30-year history, we have evolved from focusing on high school graduation to now zeroing in on initiatives to improve postsecondary outcomes



#### **Impact: Reducing Achievement Gap**



#### August Graduation Rates by Ethnicity



Today's focus

## **Our Postsecondary Vision**

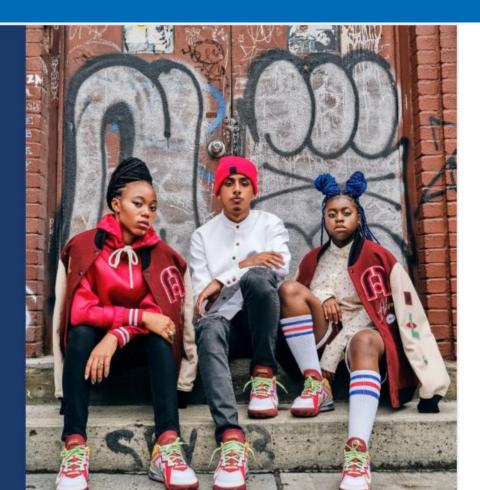
Every New Visions school in our core network will support students and their caregivers so that students graduate with a postsecondary commitment that includes best fit education, training, employment, transition supports and the **skills and experience to succeed** in that plan.

#### Who is Let's Get Ready?



# IN A NUTSHELL

Let's Get Ready empowers paid college students to serve as mentors and role models to their peers, providing the information, inspiration, guidance and support students need to gain access to, navigate and thrive at college and beyond.







## **MODEL AT A GLANCE**



Junior year of
HS through
college
graduation;
multiple entry
points



Any student with a college aspiration



Paid college student coaches serve as mentors



All virtual (text & phone, virtual classes)



Students choose light touch or high touch support



## VIRTUAL COACHING

#### **RIGOROUS & RELEVANT**

Our culturally responsive curriculum and resources are available online to Coaches. Full-time staff rigorously track data and hold Coaches accountable.

#### OVERVIEW

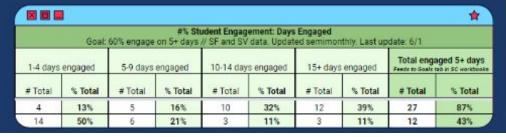
Welcome to the Resource Library for LGR's Virtual Success program

#### In this resource library you'll find

- the curriculum resources you need lead great conversations with the students in your caseload
- Information on the milestones you'll be assessing throughout the year
- tip sheets to help you understand how to support students around common challenges and that you can send directly to students
- links to the most common tools you'll use to do your work

#### How to use the materials in this resource library

- use the "Term Milestone" page to find conversation tools to help plan for and guide your conversations/messages to your students about the term milestones. Have this page open to reference when you're talking with students.
- use the "Gut Check Milestone" page to find conversation tools where you'd find ideas for questions you can ask.





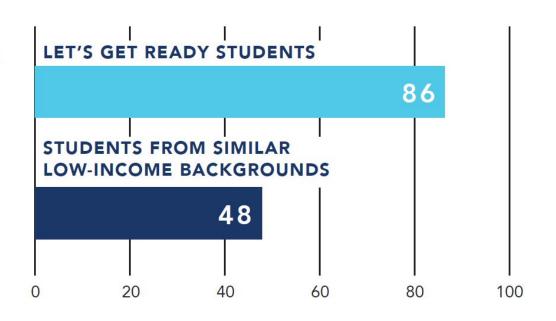
#### Measuring Our Success



LET'S GET READY STUDENTS ENROLL IN COLLEGE AT

SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER RATES

THAN PEERS FROM
SIMILAR BACKGROUNDS





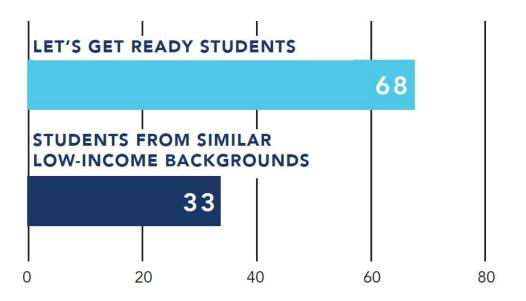
#### **Measuring Our Success**



LET'S GET READY COLLEGE STUDENTS GRADUATE AT

#### **DOUBLE THE RATE**

OF STUDENTS FROM
SIMILAR BACKGROUNDS

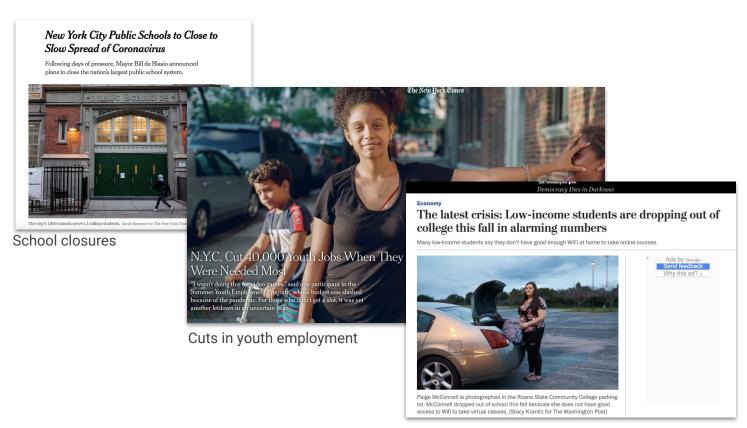


Benchmark sources: Enrollment: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (2020 cohort); Graduation: National Center for Education Statistics, Digest Table 104.91



#### The intersecting challenges of Spring 2020



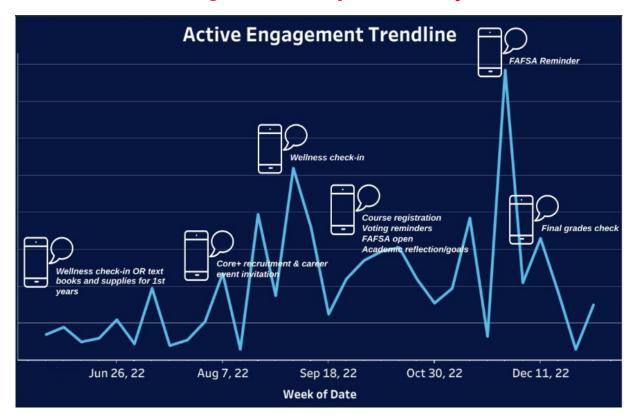


Dire college persistence challenges

#### **Monitoring Progress & Outcomes**



#### Students are reaching out for help when they need it the most.



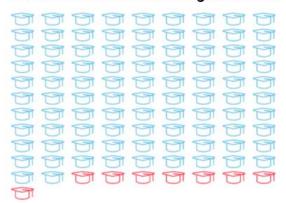


#### **Monitoring Progress & Outcomes**

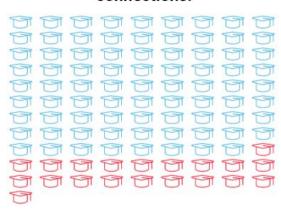


**Student Engagement: 1,932 students have been enrolled** from the Classes of 2020, 2021, and 2022. New Visions students are engaging in similar ways to other students across the LGR network:

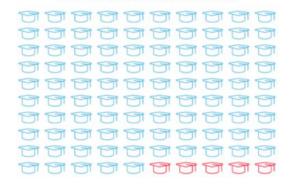
92% of Students said their Coach provided information that kept them informed and on track to graduation.



80% of Students said their Coach helped them increase their campus connections.



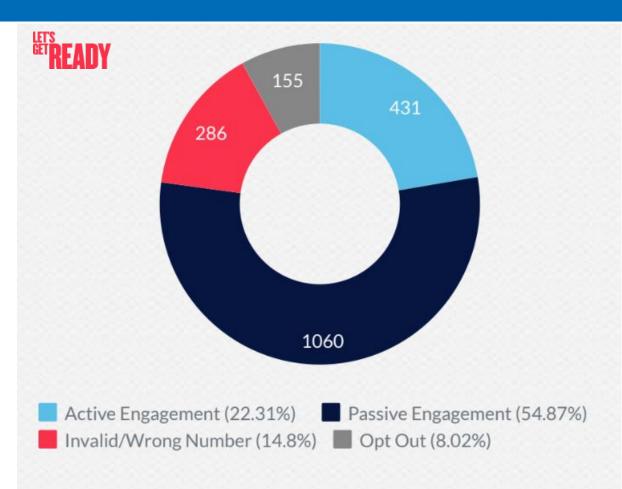
95% of Students said their Coach could relate to their challenges, were responsive to their needs and were invested in their success.





#### **Monitoring Progress & Outcomes**





**32** 

Students are receiving college re-entry services to get back on track, offering a promising way to ensure students don't fall out of reach of our educational systems

**77%** 

of students have remained enrolled in a program that they never signed up for. HS Class of 21 has highest opt-out rate at 14%, and it drops to 2% for most recent cohort.

#### Agency, Belonging, and Connection





"The most helpful area of support I've received from my LGR Coach is the consistent check up on my progress and well being. And [they] urge me to seek other forms of support, feel comfortable making friends, and getting to know other people."

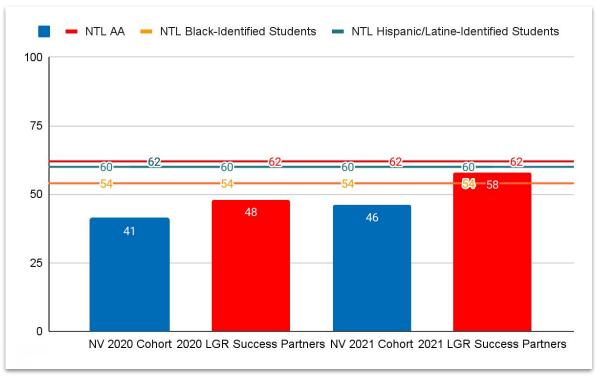
"When I was struggling with music, he kept checking in on me to make sure I was trying to get help and if the work was completed."

"If I am ever in need of help for a class, I know I have LGR to fall back on. It releases some stress knowing this."

#### Early Impact Findings: Y1 to Y2 in AA degrees



Early analysis of NSC data suggests **positive trends in college persistence** for New Visions students enrolled in Let's Get Ready. Separate subgroup analysis indicates enrolled students are closing equity gaps.

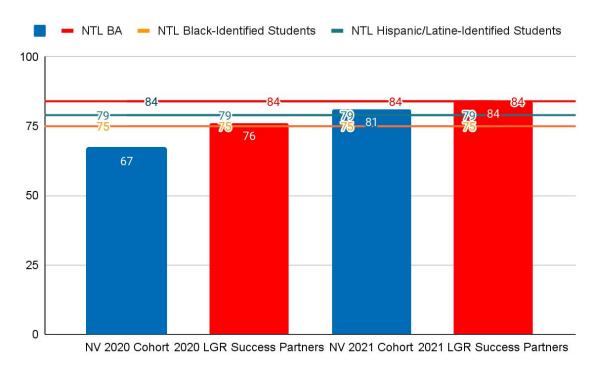




#### Early Impact Findings: Y1 to Y2 in BA degrees



Early analysis of NSC data suggests **positive trends in college persistence** for New Visions students enrolled in Let's Get Ready. Separate subgroup analysis indicates enrolled students are closing equity gaps.





#### **Keys To Success**





**SCALABLE:** Virtual, near-peer mentoring model enables broad reach



**OPT-OUT:** Automatically enrolling all grads → substantial increase in students served



**CHOICE:** Flexible engagement options meet variable needs of students



**DATA SHARING:** Cross org review of data supports continuous improvement at the high school and postsec level



#### **Key Takeaways**





Student pathways should guide partnerships.

Build internal systems to understand student pathways and interests, and provide supports accordingly



Traditional K-12/higher ed partnership models are insufficient. Scalable, virtual models alongside boutique, intensive partnership models can strengthen impact.



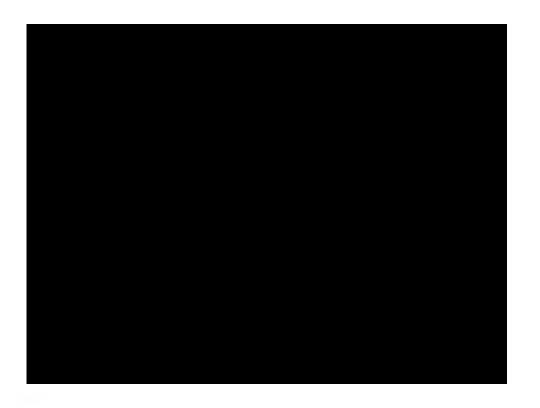
You can't do it all.

What are your internal capacities and strengths? Identify a partner to help you with critical areas that lie outside your area of expertise.



### What happened to Stephane?







# Thank you!

Q & A