WAUNAKEE COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

INFO BRIEF
September 11, 2026

Equal Opportunity Schools Partnership: Year One in Review

What changed in advanced-course participation between the 2025-26 baseline and the fall 2026-27 Opportunity Chart

842
students in AP or DC courses
up from 745 — +97 students (+13%)

78.8%
participation rate
up from 73.2% — +5.7 points

18 pts
low-income participation gap
down from 31 points

6 pts
students-of-color participation gap
down from 15 points

ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITY CHART

Equal Opportunity Schools (EOS) generates the Opportunity Chart from the partner data WCHS uploads each fall. It counts every student in grades 9–12 enrolled in at least one course coded AP or DC (dual credit) and compares participation rates by race/ethnicity and income. The 2025-26 chart is the partnership baseline; the 2026-27 chart reflects the September 4, 2026 upload. Both were generated by the EOS platform on September 10, 2026.

WHAT CHANGED IN ONE YEAR

- **Participation grew faster than enrollment.** AP/DC enrollment rose by 97 students (+13%) while the grade 9–12 population grew by 50 (+5%). Every group with more than ten students improved except Black/African American Med/High Income students, which held flat at 63%.
- **The income gap narrowed by 13 points.** Low-income students went from 44% participation (28 of 63) to 62% (31 of 50); Med/High Income students went from 75% to 80%. The gap between the two fell from 31 points to 18.
- **The race/ethnicity gap narrowed by 9 points.** Students of color (Asian, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, and Multiracial combined) moved from 61% participation (106 of 175) to 74% (139 of 188); White students moved from 76% to 80%. The gap fell from 15 points to 6.
- **Largest gains: White Low Income (+19 points), Multiracial Med/High Income (+17), Hispanic/Latino Low Income (+16).** Asian Med/High Income students, already the highest-participating segment, rose from 79% to 89%.
- **Two-thirds of last year's gap is closed.** Against the 2025-26 goal of 79.3%, the students still needed to bring every group to goal fell from 66 to 24 (see the progress table).

PARTICIPATION BY STUDENT GROUP

		2025-26 baseline			2026-27 (fall upload)			
Student group	Income	Students	In AP/DC	Rate	Students	In AP/DC	Rate	Change (pts)
Asian	Low	5	3	60.0%	1	1	**100.0%**	+40.0 *
Asian	Med/High	29	23	79.3%	35	31	**88.6%**	+9.3
Black/African American	Low	8	4	50.0%	3	3	**100.0%**	+50.0 *
Black/African American	Med/High	11	7	63.6%	19	12	**63.2%**	-0.5
Hispanic/Latino	Low	24	11	45.8%	13	8	**61.5%**	+15.7
Hispanic/Latino	Med/High	50	29	58.0%	65	43	**66.2%**	+8.2
Multiracial & Addl. Races	Low	6	2	33.3%	4	2	**50.0%**	+16.7 *
Multiracial & Addl. Races	Med/High	42	27	64.3%	48	39	**81.3%**	+17.0
White (not Hispanic)	Low	20	8	40.0%	29	17	**58.6%**	+18.6
White (not Hispanic)	Med/High	823	631	76.7%	851	686	**80.6%**	+3.9
All students		**1,018**	**745**	**73.2%**	**1,068**	**842**	**78.8%**	+5.7

** Fewer than 10 students in at least one year; a change of one or two students moves the rate by 10–50 points. Read these rows as counts, not rates. Source: EOS Opportunity Charts for Waunakee High, 2025-26 and 2026-27. Rates recomputed from the chart's counts; EOS displays whole-number rounding.*

PROGRESS AGAINST THE 2025-26 GOALS

The 2025-26 chart set a 79.3% goal for every group and identified 66 students to add across nine groups. One year later, four of the nine are at or above goal, four narrowed their gap, and one did not improve. The 24 students still needed are concentrated in three segments: Hispanic/Latino Med/High Income (9) — the largest group among students of color and, at 66%, the lowest

participating student-of-color segment with 20 or more students; White Low Income (6), which improved most but remains 22 points behind its Med/High Income peers; and Black/African American Med/High Income (4), the only group over ten students that did not improve as it grew from 11 to 19. These three are the natural focus for Year 2 outreach.

		2025-26 baseline		2026-27 result			
Student group	Income	Rate	To add	Rate	vs. 79.3% goal	Still to add	Status
Asian	Low	60.0%	1	**100.0%**	+20.7	**0**	**Goal met ***
Asian	Med/High	79.3%	0	**88.6%**	+9.3	**0**	**Benchmark (at goal)**
Black/African American	Low	50.0%	3	**100.0%**	+20.7	**0**	**Goal met ***
Black/African American	Med/High	63.6%	2	**63.2%**	-16.1	**4**	**Not met**
Hispanic/Latino	Low	45.8%	9	**61.5%**	-17.8	**3**	**Progress, not yet met**
Hispanic/Latino	Med/High	58.0%	11	**66.2%**	-13.1	**9**	**Progress, not yet met**
Multiracial & Addl. Races	Low	33.3%	3	**50.0%**	-29.3	**2**	**Progress, not yet met**
Multiracial & Addl. Races	Med/High	64.3%	7	**81.3%**	+2.0	**0**	**Goal met**
White (not Hispanic)	Low	40.0%	8	**58.6%**	-20.7	**6**	**Progress, not yet met**
White (not Hispanic)	Med/High	76.7%	22	**80.6%**	+1.3	**0**	**Goal met**
All students		**73.2%**	**66**	**78.8%**	**-0.5**	**24**	**4 of 9 goals met**

*Goal = 79.3%, the rate EOS set for 2025-26. "Students to add" uses the EOS method: each group's target count (rounded up) minus current participants. Status is judged on the group's 2026-27 rate, since group populations changed between years. * Met on a group of fewer than 10 students.*

READING THE 2026-27 "STUDENTS TO ADD" FIGURE

The 2026-27 chart headline says WCHS should enroll 226 more students to reach a goal rate of 100%. That figure is not comparable to last year's 66 and is not a setback. When no goal is set, EOS uses the highest-performing segment's rate as the target: last year Asian Med/High Income at 79.3%; this year two very small segments (1 of 1 and 3 of 3 students) at 100%, so the platform counted every non-participating student in the school. The table shows what the same chart implies under more meaningful goals.

Goal rate	Basis	Students to add (2026-27)
79.3%	Last year's goal (2025-26 top segment: Asian Med/High Income)	**24**
88.6%	This year's top segment with 20+ students (Asian Med/High Income)	**108**
100%	Platform default this year, driven by two segments of 1 and 3 students	**226**

Recommendation: set an explicit goal rate in the EOS platform before Year 2 outreach begins so that the chart's "students to add" column is usable for counselor planning.

CAUTIONS WHEN USING THESE FIGURES

- **One year is not a trend, and EOS is not the only variable.** The AP catalog expanded on-site courses this year, enrollment grew, and cohort composition shifted. Credit the improvement to catalog growth, counseling, and EOS-supported outreach together.
- **Low-income counts depend on the income flag at upload time.** The low-income population fell from 63 to 50 even as enrollment grew. The September 4 upload may predate completion of this year's free/reduced meal applications; if so, the low-income rate could shift. Verify before citing the 62% figure externally.
- **The chart counts AP and DC only.** Courses coded DE, Honors, or CTE are not counted, so total early postsecondary opportunity (EPSO) participation is broader than shown. Ninth graders, who have few AP/DC options, are included both years, which depresses rates but not the comparison. Confirm with EOS whether DE-coded courses should count.

About this document. This brief was drafted with the assistance of Claude, an AI model from Anthropic, from the EOS Opportunity Charts and WCHS partner-upload data. All figures, framing, and conclusions were reviewed, verified, and approved by Tim Schell, Director of Secondary Curriculum and Instruction.

Estimated environmental impact. Producing this brief across three drafting rounds used an estimated 50 watt-hours of data-center electricity, about 20 grams of CO_2e. That is comparable to streaming Netflix for about 20 minutes, or driving about 300 feet (0.06 miles) in a car that gets 25 mpg. Order-of-magnitude estimate using U.S. average grid emissions (EPA eGRID), Netflix/DIMPACT's ~55 g CO_2e per streaming hour, and EPA's 8,887 g CO_2 per gallon.