## Welcome!



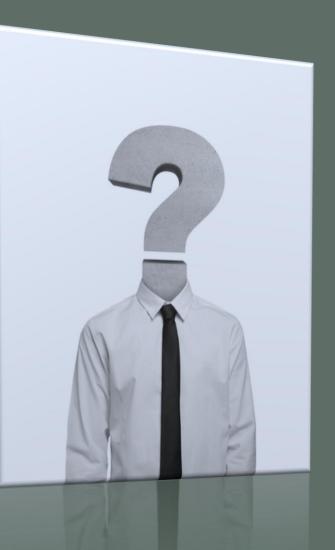
## NWEA's approach to developing and implementing college-ready indicators

John Cronin, Ph.D.
Senior Director of Education Research
NWEA

http://www.slideshare.net/JFCronin/college-readiness-presentation



### The key questions



- Is college readiness really the goal?
- Do we define college readiness too narrowly?
- What can we do to monitor readiness, particularly in the earlier grades?



# Is college readiness really the goal?





## College readiness aligns with parent and student aspirations

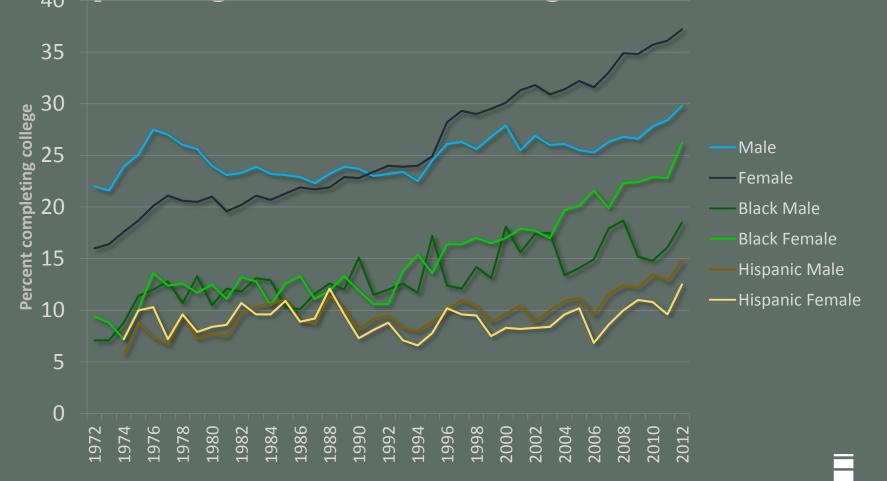


96% of minority parents and 92% of minority students believe that college completion is very important.

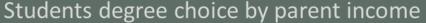
Source – 2004 United Negro College Fund Survey



## Percent of adults 25 and older completing a bachelors degree



### Kids from high income families choose career oriented majors less often.



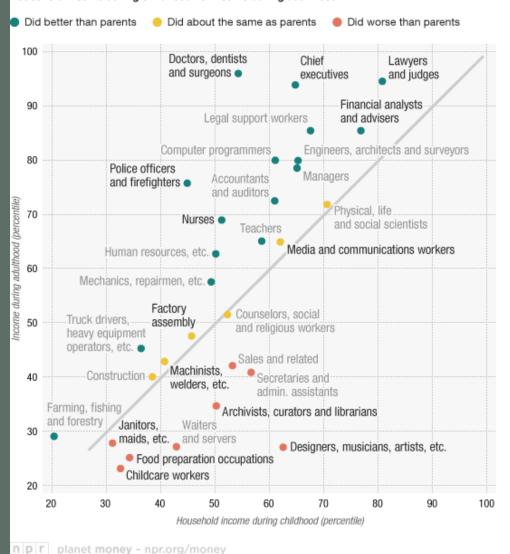


Source: Kim Weeden, National Center for Educational Statistics



#### The Big Picture

#### Household income during childhood vs. income during adulthood



What careers contribute to upward and downward mobility?





# Consider this student's survey responses

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
I find my classes engaging			X		
To be honest, you can't really change how				X	
intelligent you are					
I have difficulty maintaining my focus on projects	,				X
that take more than a few months to complete					
I plan to attend college				Х	
College is a priority for my parents			Χ		
I have someone who can explain to me how the		Х			
college process works					

What's your prediction for this student's success in college?

### What do teachers nationwide rely on?

Outcome	Academic Preparedness	Academic Tenacity
Dropping out	37%	63%
College Readiness	52%	48%





## Teachers are actually very good at measuring these things

Outcome	Teacher	Model	
Dropout			
% Correct	82	88	
% Incorrect	11	12	
% Unsure	7	0	



# Biggest risk relying on teacher judgment is bias

Teacher 1 (Math/Science) College Predictions by Race and Experience

		Incorrect			
College Going	Correct	Predict Go	Predict Not Go	Unsure	Total (100%)
Student race					
Pacific Islander	78.1%	1.2%	6.8%	13.9%	512
Hispanic	52.4%	4.1%	23.0%	20.4%	926
African American	55.5%	3.3%	24.2%	16.9%	726
White	63.0%	3.7%	17.5%	15.8%	5558
American Indian	50.0%	4.9%	28.0%	17.1%	82
Missing	45.6%	6.3%	31.6%	16.5%	79
Total	61.7%	3.6%	18.3%	16.3%	7883
Teacher experience					
1-3 years	57.5%	5.4%	17.5%	19.4%	864
4–6 years	60.6%	5.3%	17.2%	16.8%	757
7–9 years	62.2%	3.7%	20.5%	13.6%	624
10+ Years	62.5%	3.1%	18.4%	16.1%	5638
Total	61.7%	3.6%	18.3%	16.3%	7883

### EPIC – Four Dimensions of college readiness

THINK

**Key Cognitive Strategies** 

**KNOW** 

Key Content Knowledge

College Ready

GO

Key Transition Knowledge and Skills

ACT

Key Learning Skills and Techniques



### EPIC – Four Dimensions of college readiness

THINK

Key Cognitive Strategies

**KNOW** 

Key Content Knowledge

College Ready

GO

Key Transition
Knowledge and
Skills

**ACT** 

Key Learning Skills and Techniques

- Problem Formulation
- Research
- Interpretation
- Communication
- Precision and Accuracy



#### **EPIC – Four Dimensions of college** readiness

THINK

**Key Cognitive** Strategies

**KNOW** 

Key Content Knowledge

College Ready

GO

**Key Transition** Knowledge and Skills

**ACT** 

Key Learning Skills and Techniques

- Key terminology
- Factual information
- Linking ideas
- Organizing concepts



### EPIC – Four Dimensions of college readiness

**THINK** 

Key Cognitive Strategies KNOW

Key Content Knowledge

College Ready

GO

Key Transition
Knowledge and
Skills

**ACT** 

Key Learning Skills and Techniques

- Time management
- Study skills
- Goal setting
- Persistence
- Collaborative learning
- Technological proficiency
- Ownership of learning
- Learning techniques



### EPIC – Four Dimensions of college readiness

**THINK** 

Key Cognitive Strategies

**KNOW** 

Key Content Knowledge

College Ready

GO

Key Transition Knowledge and Skills **ACT** 

Key Learning Skills and Techniques

- Post-secondary career awareness
- Post-secondary costs
- Financial aid
- College culture
- Self-advocacy
- Admissions requirements

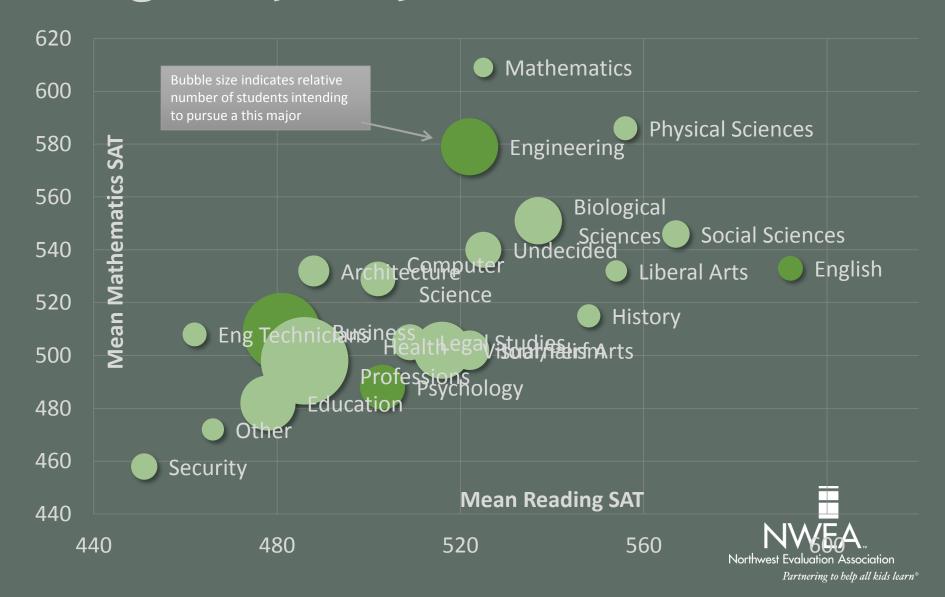




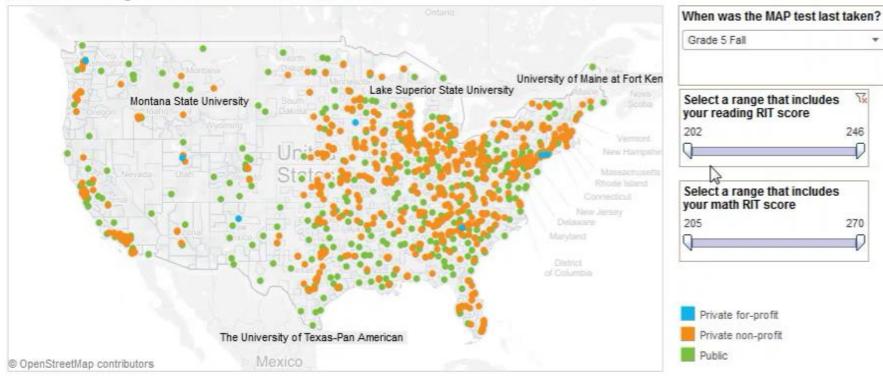
College readiness should NOT be defined by a single test score associated to a single cut score.



### College major by SAT score

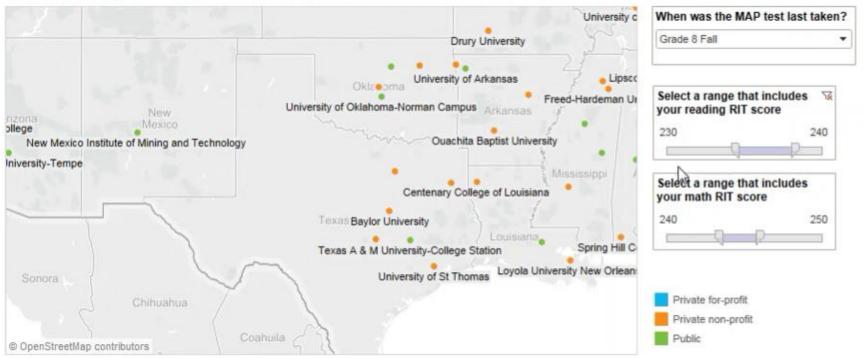


Scenario 1 - Selecting locations on the map and finding schools that are a good academic fit for the student.



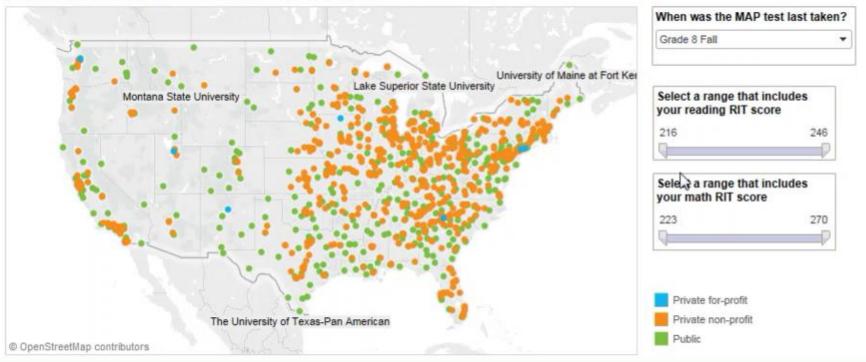


Scenario 2 – Selecting a school and interpreting the profile





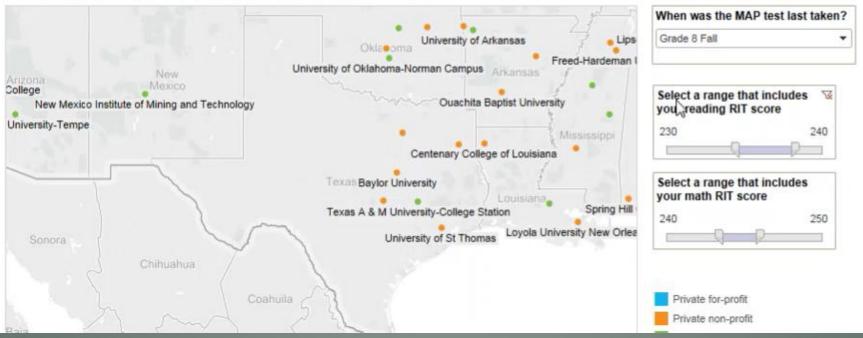
Scenario 3 - Selecting all schools for which a student's RIT score fits.





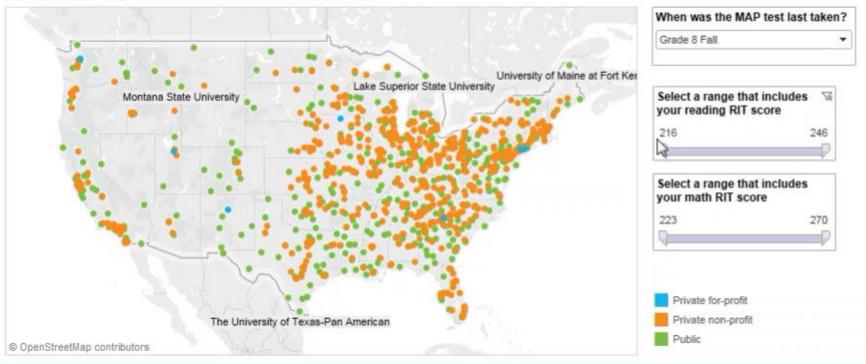
#### Scenario 4 – Using the explorer to tool to find aspirational schools

the map to see the colleges in which your scores are likely to be near the median scores of students admitted to these schools. Based on your score, you may have a good chance of getting into these schools.



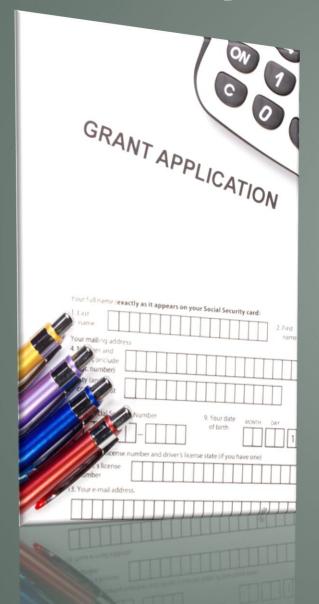


Scenario 5 – Using the explorer to find a particular school.





### The importance of simplification



#### The FAFSA Experiment

Treatment – Low-Income families (under \$45,000 per year) filing taxes through H & R Block were offered support in filling out and submitting the FAFSA paperwork. Enrollment and financial aid rates were compared for this group relative to control groups that received "aid eligibility information" and "general information on college costs and aid"



### The importance of simplification

#### The FAFSA Experiment Results

Treatment group families showed a 25% increased rate of college enrollment (34.8% vs. 26.5%)

Treatment group families received Pell grants at a 33% higher rate than control families (39.6% vs. 29.8%)



### Concluding thoughts

- Precise measurements and predictions can support students academically on their path to the college of their choice
- Academics isn't enough
  - Getting a complete picture of each student is important
- College Knowledge is important and is relatively easy to address



# Thank you!

E-mail: john.Cronin@nwea.org

Organization Website: www.nwea.org

Contact:

