On average, we saw the following changes in the 40+ GRuB School students involved in the 2-year pilot:

- 70% of students increased Self-Confidence, 92% of students perceived a greater sense of control over their own lives, 77% of students increased leadership skills, 83% of students exhibited improved cooperative teamwork, 90% of students showed more community engagement, and 95% demonstrated positive movement towards educational and career goals
- Earned credits increased from 3.62 to 5.28
- GPA increased from 1.81 to 2.77
- Discipline issues decreased 83%

"Learning how fresh, organic food is so much healthier than processed food, I became excited to bring home food that I personally harvested from the farm. I remember from the beginning of the summer, walking into my house with a bag full of fresh food and getting a strange look from my mother because she’d never seen me so pumped about vegetables." - Tina, GRuB School Student

**COMMUNITY FOOD SOLUTIONS**

Through our Kitchen Garden Project:

- We built 73 backyard gardens and 2 large institutional gardens (the equivalent of 10 backyard gardens) in Thurston and Mason Counties.
- 46 backyard gardens and 1 institutional garden were built Thurston; 27 backyard gardens and 1 institutional garden were built in Mason.
- These gardens fed over 262 people who came from diverse households: 66% had children of which 29% were headed by single mothers; 36% had at least one member with a disability; 14% with seniors; and 69% with nutrition-related chronic health issues.
- After one growing season: 61% regularly cook with their homegrown veggies; 32% now eat 2-3 cups of fresh veggies every day; 26% use the food bank less; and 32% feel more food secure.

"The Kitchen Garden Project recognizes all of their community members and works on transforming this image of ‘you’re a victim in need and I am your resource’ and turns it into a passionate partnership that encourages sustainability and health. These two forces are the catalyst that drives a community in need into a prosperous more viable community." - Jacqueline, KGP Gardener

"...If we don’t have control of our food system, we are vulnerable...The health community encourages individuals to ‘know their numbers,’ but we’re just beginning to understand our ‘numbers’ related to our local food systems. How many farmers? How much acreage in food crops?...How do we ensure that people aren’t hungry...?" - Sustainable Thurston, Local Food Systems Panel

**CULTIVATING COMMUNITY LEADERS**

"I am a 2007 KGP Gardener Alum and started volunteering with GRuB in 2012 on the KGP Leadership Team. Many folks in the community know what a good thing we have going on at GRuB and want to support this work. I am delighted to have the opportunity to welcome you, appreciate you, and collaborate with you as we all continue to grow our GRuB!" - Angie Kelly, GRuB VISTA Volunteer

Through the food growing efforts of our GRuB School students, GRuB Farm Staff & Interns, and awesome Volunteers:

- 9,000+ pounds of sustainably grown produce were harvested
- 1,083 pounds of produce were donated to the Thurston County Food Bank
- 411 boxes of produce were distributed to our Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) members
- 1,700 pounds of produce were taken home by GRuB School youth
- 2,864 pounds of produce were sold at our on-site market stand and the West Olympia Farmers Market
- 384 pounds of potatoes were cooked in Olympia School District kitchens and eaten in district lunchrooms by happy students

"‘The Kitchen Garden Project recognizes all of their community members and works on transforming this image of ‘you’re a victim in need and I am your resource’ and turns it into a passionate partnership that encourages sustainability and health. These two forces are the catalyst that drives a community in need into a prosperous more viable community.’ - Jacqueline, KGP Gardener"