

HIGHLY CAPABLE LEARNERS PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 07, 2017

9:30am to 11:30am

Central Services

Attendees:

- Chris Aioldi
- Hope Bright
- Cathie Brown
- Dawn Christiana
- Mike Copland
- Melissa Daughters
- Veronica Douglas

- Jennifer Johnson
- Sharon King
- Trish Neary
- Lynn Pillitteri
- Pam Pottle
- Vicky Reardon
- Dawn Reedy

- Tracy Teng
- Sara White
- Robert Kalahan
- Quenby Peterson

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	DECISION
Welcome	Dawn Christiana, Director of Teaching and Learning and lead for Highly Capable, welcomed members and provided instructions for an activity regarding raising children identified highly capable.	
Norms of Collaboration	- Dawn provided a deep dive into the norms of collaboration used by Bellingham Public Schools and asked members to find a norm they felt was important during the Highly Capable Learners Parent Advisory Committee.	- Dawn will spend more time this year exposing members to various instructional techniques used with and by teachers in our district.
Responsibilities and Roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dawn asked members to be present at meetings as much as possible in order to share their perspectives, while also reminding members that they are representing the culture of the school their child is attending. - HCL PAC is a recommending body to support improvements for highly capable. 	
Changes to the Law regarding Highly Capable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dawn shared the state funding for highly capable has increased and laws were approved in July 2017 prioritizing equitable identification of low-income students. - Dr. Mike Copland, Deputy Superintendent, shared funding has increased from the state and new expectations are being defined for how local funding is able to be utilized to support students identified highly capable. - Dawn added the current boost in highly capable funding allowed for more liaison support to be allocated to our elementary and middle schools. 	- Bellingham Public Schools will continue to have a strong commitment to supporting students identified highly capable.

	- Dawn shared there is a strong focus from the state that each district needs an action plan and that we happen to be in a unique place since our identification process changed two years ago in order to provide a more equitable model for identification.	
Highly Capable Learner Review of Progress	- Dawn has been attending staff meetings at each elementary and middle schools and briefly shared the 15 to 20 minute presentation.	- Stronger emphasis on communication from the school level rather than majority of communication from district office level.

FOR NEXT MEETING: November 2, 2017

1. Start with Goals and Ideas for next meeting.
2. Take a look at data by the different demographic groups in the district.
“Do we actually need to do more work or have we put the necessary things in place already?”
3. Discuss current identification process and qualifications and ideas for future identification.
4. Changes for counselors at our high schools supporting students identified highly capable.