

Special Education Focus Group

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Department Owner:

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Purpose(s):

- Provide IDEA - ARRA management
- Develop a long-range plan for special education in Bellingham
- Serve as an advisory group to the Director regarding special education issues

Basis for Establishment:

- Request of the Director

Decision Making:

- Consultative
- Delegated
- Direct

Plan:

- Provide management and oversight for use of IDEA-ARRA stimulus funds
- Ensure alignment of programs and practices with the department's belief statements
- Provide input and guidance regarding special education programs and services
- Represent constituents in decision-making
- Problem-solve issues relevant to special education in Bellingham

Qualifications:

- Appointed by Director
- Willingness to participate for a 2-year term

Members:

PERMISSION

Special Education Focus Group

Published on Bellingham Public Schools (<https://a-www.bellinghamschools.org>)

- Jennifer Brice (OT & PT, VI, & Autism)
- Sarah Catudio (Life Skills)
- Debora Haney (Early Childhood & Early Intervention)
- Jean conley (Elementary Resource)
- Pat Contor (Psychologist)
- Nicole Talley (General Education)
- Mary Lippiatt (HS Resource & Community Transitions)
- Heather Korbmacher (BRIDGES & Behavior)
- Karen Pauls (MS Resource)
- Melinda Nelson (Elementary Paraeducator)
- Vicky Williamson (Secondary Paraeducator)
- Emily Teeter (SLP & DHH)
- Missy Ferguson (Elementary Administrator)
- Michelle Abernathy (Secondary Administrator)
- Bethany Verner (Teacher on Special Assignment)
- Sue Thomas (Director)

Responsibilities:

- Regularly attend meetings
- Actively participate in discussions and activities at meetings
- Share the responsibility for taking notes at the meetings
- Participate in decision-making
- Solicit input from Representative groups
- Accurately represent the interests and issues of Representative groups
- Provide feedback to Representative groups

Timeline:

- 9/23/10 10/19/10 No mtg Nov 12/13/10 1/20/11 2/9/11 3/21/11 4/19/11 5/17/11 No mtg June

Budget Implications:

- Substitutes for participants
- Participate in decision-making that will have budget implications

[Priority Task List](#) [4]

Questions or Comments: _____ [5]

No

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[4] <https://a-www.bellinghamschools.org/imported-content/needs-review/special-ed-focus-group-tasks>

[5] <mailto:Specialeducation@bellinghamschools.org>

[6] <http://bellinghamschools.org/department-owner/special-education/special-education-focus-group-meeting-notes-feb-2009>