

PreK-12 Highly Capable Program Review Committee Minutes

Date: Tuesday, November 26, 2013

Central Services, Board Room

Time: 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Bellingham Public Schools

A Collective Commitment

Attendees: Michelle Abernathy, Kate Baehr, Kris Carpenter, Mike Copland, Susan Cotton, Haley Davis, Veronica Douglas, Michael Finley, Jeff Jacobs, Michelle Kuss-Cybula, Lori Radvany, Laurene Rusing, Keith Schacht, Rebekah Sharf, Dana Smith, Rachel Smith, Adrienne Somera.

Topic	Discussion	Recommendations
1. Overview of committee	<p>Michelle Kuss-Cybula welcomed and introduced each committee member. The committee will provide a recommendation for implementation of the new Washington Administrative Code and yet-to-be established program procedures servicing K-12 highly capable learners, WAC 392-170, and to align the program needs to support The Bellingham Promise. The committee will prepare a final recommendation to the Superintendent of the vision, mission and purpose of the K-12 Highly Capable Program for Fall 2014 implementation.</p>	
2. Sharing unique perspectives and beginning to build a vision	<p>Learning targets for this first meeting were to build a collaborative process through acceptance of common norms and to create a draft definition of giftedness that will guide the future work of the task force.</p> <p>Each member shared their individual vision, purpose and desired outcomes for the committee process.</p> <p>Michelle organized a group activity in which members looked for commonalities between each committee member's vision/purpose and The Bellingham Promise.</p> <p>To view the Norms of Collaboration, click here.</p>	

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3. Establishing collaborative norms	Adrienne Somera facilitated an exercise to learn and understand the seven Norms of Collaboration (Center for Adaptive Schools). The purpose was to learn how to exercise the specific norms throughout the program review process in order to work effectively as a committee.	
4. Building a shared definition of a <i>highly capable learner</i>	The committee reviewed three different written sources defining giftedness. Susan Cotton led the group in a task to synthesize ideas and information taken from the publications to begin to define giftedness. The committee began to compose a draft definition of giftedness, focusing on ideas that are vitally important to our district and students. Members will complete a draft definition of giftedness at the next meeting.	
5. What's our mantra?	Each committee member recorded a suggestion for the group's mantra to be used for the remainder of the review committee process. Members will vote on their favorite mantra before the next meeting.	
6. Closing	<p>Susan Cotton presented a video on giftedness and committee members were asked to take home and read the Highly Capable Program Amended WAC 392-170 & District Responsibilities handout in preparation for the next committee meeting. Members were also asked to read the NAGC Pre-K -- Grade 12 Gifted Programming Standards from the National Association of Gifted Children prior to the next meeting. The Highly Capable Program review consultant will attend the next meeting and share some of the initial draft results of her work. The committee will review data from the draft consultant report and review research on best practices in highly capable programs at the next committee meeting.</p> <p>Committee members shared written feedback of the first meeting for review by the co-chairs.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m. Next meeting: December 3, 2013 - 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Roeder Building</p>	