

**H.S. Graduation Requirements Implementation Task Force**  
**January 15, 2008**  
**Minutes**

In attendance: Sherrie Brown, Lynn Carroll, Linda Chapman, Helen Cratsenberg, Dennis D'Amelio, James Everett, Craig Funston, Byron Gerard, Maria Griggs, Ira Hyman, Bobbie Jaffe, George Kaas, Dawn Kearney, Julie Kratzig, Susie Landsem, Mary McClement, Terry McClement, Gigi Morganti, Michelle Ouilette, Michael Schackel, Phyllis Textor Lynn Torpey

- I. The meeting was held from 3:00 – 4:30 at Sehome High School in the library. Introductions were made.
  
- II. Information shared with the group:
  - Each member received a notebook. The focus of this meeting was to provide background information about the work of the Graduation Requirements Task Force that was convened during the 2006-07 school year, and the charge of the work for the Implementation Task Force.
  - Sherrie gave the group a general overview of topics that will be covered at each meeting.
  
- III. Statements by Superintendent Vedra
  - Dr. Vedra thanked task force members for volunteering to participate in this work.
  
- IV. Review of work from 2006-2007
  - Sherrie showed a PowerPoint presentation that described the work of the Graduation Requirements Task Force during 2006-07. She shared a comparison sheet that showed Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) recommendations for college entrance requirements, previous Bellingham graduation requirements, and the changes to the requirements. The chart included the “phase-in” dates for each requirement.
  
- V. Scope of Work for 2008-2009
  - Sherrie clarified the scope of the work for the task force. She explained that the task force will not be changing the graduation requirements, but will develop a multi-year implementation plan that will be placed in a “Management By Objectives (MBO)” format.
  - It was clarified that the decision-making authority of the task force was to be consultative to the superintendent.
  - Sherrie explained that the MBO plan would include recommendations for communication, curriculum and instruction, staffing, budget, special programs and professional development. The task force will also discuss topics in an “other” category. Other topics may include such items as impact of requirements on fine arts and/or elective program, middle school and high school schedules, etc.
  - Sherrie explained that the committee would work in a variety of groupings to both share their opinions with a mixed audience and with others in their same roles, e.g., parent, community member, student, certificated staff member, administrator, etc.
  - Sherrie shared a color copy of a variety of student schedules showing how the requirements would actually occur.

VI. Sharing Time

- Table groups had an opportunity to discuss information that had been covered and to look at the scheduling scenarios.
- Sherrie asked the group to share any first insights. The insights included:
  - A desire to hear about changes to the middle and high school schedules so that more choice might be possible for students.
  - A need to discuss support for students who might struggle to meet the new requirements.
  - A need to discuss career and technical (CTE) options and paths
  - Interest in discussing equivalency credits
  - A discussion of English choices. What will be available next year?
  - A desire to see data, i.e. dropout data, on-time graduation rates, etc.

VI. Next Meeting

- February 5, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. in the Room 212 at the Roeder Administration Building located at 1306 Dupont Street, 676-6511.
- Please review the board policy and Ready Guide prior to our next meeting.