



**World Language Advisory Group Meeting
January 20, 2015, 4:00-6:30**

MINUTES

Members Present:	Stephanie Korn	Rob McElroy	Wendy Barrett	Charles Patterson
	Analisa Ficklin	Anne Franzmann	Sonya Morrison	Sally Unger
	Mark Gardner	Dana Ringler	Mariam Rashid	Maria Rodriguez
	Dean Hagin	Byron Gerard	Diane Cooper-Schick	Ming Lin
Members Absent:	Kristi Dominguez	Larisa Shuvalova	Oriana LoCicero	

Today's Objectives:

- Learn about WWU Service Learning program and collaboration with the community
- Learn about program considerations for heritage language speakers
- Review different districts' approach to sequencing World Language programs
- Review the recommended criteria for the Seal of Biliteracy
- Learn about American Sign Language instruction at Sehome High School
- Identify guiding principles for use in developing our recommendations
- Identify sites to visit, questions to ask on site visits, and teams for each site visit

Stephanie Korn: Welcome, review norms, agenda, and groups from previous meeting

Dean Hagin: Guest: Travis Tennesen, Asst. Director of WWU's Center for Service Learning

Service learning is a method of teaching that combines classroom instruction with meaningful community service. This form of learning emphasizes critical thinking and personal reflection while encouraging a heightened sense of community, civic engagement, and personal responsibility. Reference: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Service-learning>

- WWU Center for Service Learning - Facilitators of mutually benefiting partnerships
- WWU is currently in partnership with WCC, BTC and NW Indian College and welcomes the prospect of collaborating with Bellingham Public Schools
- Excited about possibility of finding ways for BPS to partner with WWU and others participating in WLAG at BPS, specifically in creating long term partnerships with teachers that can be sustained over time
- The question of college students receiving credit for working without students was explored. Partnerships exist as part of education classes – not a partnership with language classes as of yet. Possibility of tapping into the TESL program already in place at WWU
- Travis is available as a resource as we move through this process

Byron Gerard: EF (Education First) and International Travel Opportunities

- EF is a privately-held company that offers a range of educational programs: language training, educational travel academic degrees and cultural exchanges
- With a mission to open the world through education, EF has helped people of all ages and nationalities become citizens of the world
- Byron has led international tours through EF. A representative will be at our next meeting (Feb. 3) to present on what is out there and available to us

- EF offers exposure, immersion, service learning opportunities, college study, and other classes. EF supports IB (International Baccalaureate) Programs, HS/College credit opportunities
- Also: Next meeting: February 3, 2014, Karen Tolliver (Happy Valley Principal): and current visiting teacher from China will come and share this experience

Sally Unger: Heritage speakers

- Who are our heritage speakers?
- Discrimination and Human Rights
- Results of Language Loss
- Heritage speakers in Bellingham Public Schools
- Graduation rates in BPS
- Benefits of Heritage Language Instruction

Sally Unger: Heritage Speaker class at Shuksan Middle School

- Heritage speaker class was born out of recognition of current Spanish speakers in her Spanish classes that needed different instruction in the language.
- There are currently 24 8th grade students enrolled in the 5th year of its existence.
- This is the first year with curriculum
- Most students are in the class by choice but that limits other electives: No PE, or music, art

Stephanie Korn: World Language Offerings – samples of how other districts approach sequencing

- There are many dual immersion models out there, but no FLES models in WA State.
- Examples of models to explore were shared showing various language sequencing from K-12
- What do we need to consider after reviewing these program models for our recommendations in terms of sequencing?

Stephanie Korn: Certificate of Biliteracy

- Washington State: What is a certificate of Biliteracy? What is the draft criterion?

Erin Furda: ASL program at Sehome High School

- First and only school to offer ASL
- Primarily a CTE Class – Qualifications for teachers are different

Benefits of ASL:

- Visual/Spatial Language
- Culture is personal – eye contact requirement
- Visual Intelligence – Athletes have an easier time
- IEP – 75% with IEP's select ASL
- Becomes an identity –a place to belong
- Global citizen – can find a common ground quickly with the visual communication
- Career pathways- there is a high need now , as with other interpretation
- Permits insight and connection to deaf communities

Stephanie Korn: Site visits/develop questions:

- Shared dates and potential sites to visit
- Brainstormed questions to ask site visits

Closing: Rob McElroy/Stephanie Korn:

- Advisory Group Timeline: Decided on extended timeline and possible length between meetings to get some work done

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 3