

Understanding and Serving Students with Dyslexia Advisory Group
Bellingham School District Administration Office – Board Room
January 10, 2019
9:30 – 11:00am

Co-Chairs:

Kristi Dominguez, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning
Dawn Christiana, Director of Teaching and Learning

Members present:

Nancy Bischoff, Sara Buetow, Samantha Dang, Jennifer Gruenert, Alli Hancock, Jodi Kinzel, Stephanie Korn, LaVera Langeman, Stacey Nordtvedt, Campbell Phillips, Pam Pottle, Jeanne Endersby

Excused: Meri Kate Adams, Megan Hall

Minutes:

Welcome. Kristi Dominguez and Dawn Christiana reviewed some group norms and encouraged everyone to speak up and share if they feel that there are norms not being met. Jodie Kinzel shared the Dyslexia Advisory Council updates with the group that met on November 19, 2018:

1. During this meeting people shared highlights from the International Dyslexia Association Conference in Connecticut, including the importance of screening students throughout the year, ensuring high rates of reliability for all students, and the value of having a connection between multiple student measuring tools to provide a well-rounded view of student's progress and success.
2. Council members also read "Universal Screening for Reading Problems: Why and How Should We Do This?" By Joseph R. Jenkins, Ph.D., University of Washington, Seattle and Evelyn Johnson, Ed.D., Boise State University, Boise, ID and discussed the article in grade level bands: K, 1, and 2.
3. Council members also provided suggestions to OSPI and AESD Staff on how to enhance Dyslexia 101 presentation for districts and schools including a 1-pager.
4. They planned to meet again in February in an open forum.

Dawn Christiana gave some background knowledge of past and current work being done in Bellingham Public Schools regarding intervention for students not meeting expectations in a 1-2-3 pyramid approach. We have since moved from this approach to a Multi-Tiered Systems of Success (MTSS). Student growth collaboration. Every 6 weeks teachers look at data to see how to better assist students looking at data through MTSS. We want our schools to think about:

1. What do we know about dyslexia?
2. What do all kids need?
3. What are the ways we assess?

4. How do we provide intervention?
5. How are they as learners?
 - Group activity: Divided into groups of three and asked to write their answers to the following questions: What is your vision? What's really happening and what is currently in place?

Every school has an educational technology coach and they are getting regular professional development and learning about system technology and sharing with teacher how to use system technology. Linda Schleef works part time at WWU and part time at BSD working with the special education program as well as Ed Tech coaches.

The committee was asked: How are we supporting students with dyslexia and their parents? Give feedback today or at the next meeting. Feedback can also be sent to Kris Newberry.

- What are some positive things we've done?
- What should be revised?

System Technology link with resources:

<http://bellingshamschools.org/about/departments/educational-technology/assistive-technology/>

Staff can also access this information from the Intranet.

A committee member noted that families could use easier access to this link.

- How could this link for families be more accessible?
- And easier to find?

Next meeting: May 9, 2019