



Bellingham  
Public Schools  
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## GRADS Advisory Group Meeting

March 5, 2019

Options High School

3:30 – 4:30pm

Facilitator: Kristi Dominguez, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning

Members: Jeff McKenna, Stephanie Schroeder, Meghan Dunham, Michelle Anderson, Geraldine Coleman (excused), Wendy Courtemanche, Janel Erchinger-Davis, Jolyn Hunt, Tiffany Knudsen, Vicki Lee (excused), Kari Miller, Erika Moore, Darci Peterson (excused), Gretchen Pflueger, Michael Sidwell, Erin Shaffer, Peggy Stephens (excused), Nicole Talley, Marcie Thran, Steve Wiley, Michelle Wilhelm, Sonia Bell, Erin Burke, Kristin Cleary, Meagan Dawson, Crystal Garcia, Maureen Hodge, Meghan Lever, Jennifer Lindbeck, Sophia Morales, Erin Schuldt, Debbie Haney

Minutes: Kris Newberry

| Agenda Items                              | Discussion/Decisions   |
|---|--|
| 3:30<br>Welcome<br>Kristi Dominguez       |  |
| Child Care Reports<br>Stephanie Schroeder | <u>OHS</u> : 2 infants, 4 toddlers (2 staff & 2 students), PreK – 8<br><br><u>SHS</u> : 4 infants, 5 rosslwea<br><br><u>SqHS</u> : 4 infants, 6 toddlers |
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| <p>Classroom Reports<br/>Meghan Dunham,<br/>Michelle Wilhelm</p> | <p><u>OHS</u>: Working with State on one toddler who lives outside of our district but parent attends GRADS program in preparation for preschool next year. 1 student advocate.<br/>Both Meghan and Michelle are planning on reaching out and visiting other school districts.<br/><u>SHS</u>: 4 students gave birth in the last month. Home/hospital has been very helpful.</p> <p><u>SqHS</u>: 2 student advocates. Working closely with BTC &amp; Public Library for parent ed.</p>  |
| <p>GRADS Open House<br/>Student Presenters</p>                   | <p>Natacia and Patricia shared their stories on how they came to GRADS and the supports that the program has given them. They each know of other teen parents who could use the support of the program along with graduation from high school. Students were brain storming about how to get the word out about GRADS. They would like to host an open house at Sehome. They would have dinner, and give-aways like diapers, wipes, gently used clothes. They would like to have GRADS t-shirts. They are interested in bringing in community resources such as Brigid Collins, Opportunity Council, maternity support specialist. They are looking for support from the board.</p> |
| <p>Mentor Program<br/>Meghan</p>                                 | <p>Both Meghan and Michelle have students to connect with Board member mentors.</p>   |
| <p>Scholarships</p>  | <p>2 scholarship applications from Squalicum<br/>1 scholarship application from Options<br/>We will scan the documents and send them out to the board for their approval.</p>   |
| <p>Celebrations</p>  | <p>Sehome Site Update – Sehome opened on January 30<sup>th</sup>. The location of the childcare is in the hub of the school close to the common area/lounge. The community is embracing the program and students are now eating lunch with their child in the lunchroom.</p> <p>Hired our first Spanish speaking staff member in the childcare. She has been a huge asset to the program at Squalicum.</p>  |



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| Financial        | Savings     \$159.17<br>Checking    \$144, 51<br>Scholarship    \$11, 104.90<br><br>Total funds on hand:   \$11,408.58 |
| Announcements    |  |
| Meeting Schedule | May 14, Sehome High School   |