

*Monitoring Response Document*

Policy Monitored: Ends 2.1, Part 2 Student Competence

Date Report submitted: 2/27/2019

Date of Board’s Monitoring Response: 3/13/2019

The Board has received and reviewed the Superintendent’s Monitoring Report referenced above. Following the Board’s review and discussions with the Superintendent and his representatives, the Board makes the following conclusions:

<b><u>Ends Reports:</u></b>	<b><u>Executive Limitations Reports</u></b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Board finds that the Superintendent:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. has achieved the goals established in the policy.</li> <li><b>b. <u>is making reasonable progress towards achieving the goals.</u></b></li> <li>c. is making reasonable progress towards achieving the goals, but a greater degree of progress is expected in some areas.*</li> <li>d. is <i>not</i> making reasonable progress in achieving the goals established. *</li> <li>e. cannot be determined*</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Board finds that the Superintendent:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. is in compliance.</li> <li>b. is in compliance, except for items(s) noted.*</li> <li>c. is making reasonable progress toward compliance.*</li> <li>d. is <i>not</i> in compliance <b>or</b> is <i>not</i> making reasonable progress toward compliance.*</li> <li>e. cannot be determined*</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
<p><i>*see comments below (No. 3)</i></p>	

2. Please note commendable progress over the last year.

The board is impressed that graduation rates have increased six percentage points since 2010. With a 12% increase in 5-year graduation rates for low-income students since 2014, it appears that while poverty continues to be a significant factor in graduation rates, district efforts are helping to counteract this barrier. We also admire work towards lowering the dropout rates for students with IEPs (fallen from 28% to 14%). Over the past 4 years state-wide our comparable districts’ graduation rates have increased about 4%, Bellingham’s has increased 9%. That should be seen as outstanding progress.

3. Please note areas for additional improvement.

The board feels strongly in continuing to focus on five-year graduation rates for our ELL, Hispanic, low-income and students who have IEPs.

4. Comments on the report itself.

The board feels that the data really helps in strengthening the narrative. We appreciate the addition of the seven-year graduation data and breaking out Black/African-American students, even though the n is small. The report promises a continued look at the intersectionalities of race, language, disability and poverty and their impact on graduation rates. We look forward to this.

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5. Possible changes to the policy.

None.