



HCL Parent Advisory Meeting - Minutes
December 16, 2020
11:00 – 12:30 p.m.

Welcome, Introductions, & Purpose of Parent Advisory

The Bellingham Public Schools Highly Capable Learners team members Trina Hall, executive director of teaching and learning, Keith Schacht, director of teaching and learning and Jenny Lawrence, teacher on special assignment introduced themselves and welcomed the HCL families in attendance.

Reviewed agenda.

- Introductory presentation on the Promise Tomorrow Initiative provided by the project administrative team, by level: Margi Smith (Elementary), Eva Chazo (Middle School) and Erin Burke (High School).
- Middle school math discussion provided by Rey Ramos, teacher on special assignment and Charisse Berner, director of teaching and learning, curriculum.

Promise Tomorrow Initiative

The project administrative team: Margi Smith, Eva Chazo and Erin Burke provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Promise Tomorrow Initiative.

Please see Attachment A: Promise Tomorrow Initiative Program Description.

- An opportunity for students looking for academic enrichment in a group setting with peers.
- This is project-based learning at its best.
- Students will work on quarterly projects that envision creative solutions to transition to a better world. Students will research complex topics, then innovate technologies, designs, or plans to mobilize behavior.
- Student teams will meet weekly via Zoom, be supported by a volunteer, and be supervised by a Promise Tomorrow Coordinator.
- Projects will be presented quarterly with a final symposium in June.

Middle School Math

Rey Ramos, teacher on special assignment and Charisse Berner, director of teaching and learning, curriculum provided updates on middle school math opportunities.

Summary of the presentation related to middle school math:

- Summer Bridge Program (6 units)
 - o Rigorous learning standards
 - o During the pandemic beginning in February, math will take concurring Math 7 and same time Math 8. This is optional.
 - o Letter to all families with link to register will be emailed by first or second week of January.
 - o This program is specific to 7 graders only.
- Math Learning Center an additional resource to help challenge students. Here is the link: [Bridges in Mathematics | The Math Learning Center | MLC](#)
- DreamBox is a K-8 digital math program designed to complement student math curriculum wither in the classroom or at home. It is a rigorous and interactive lessons adapt to each student providing personalized learning experience. DreamBox is a support tool not meant to replace curriculum.
 - o Provides students access to concept questions.

Additional middle school math resources located on the Bellingham Public Schools website: [Middle School Math Q and A – Bellingham Public Schools \(bellingshamschools.org\)](#)

Questions and Answers

Please see Attachment B: Questions from Chat & Discussion

Meeting adjourned at 12:33 p.m.

Next HCL Parent Advisory Meetings:

- February 17, 2021 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. via zoom
- April 21, 2021 or April 28, 2021 from 11:00 – 12:30 p.m. via zoom