

Standing Committee on Inclusionary Practices

June 14, 2023

Location: District Office for Bellingham Public Schools, 1306 Dupont Street

Time: 4- 5:30 p.m.

Presenters: Arionda Feeney, executive director and Debbie Haney, assistant director of early learning.

Members present: Arionda Feeney, executive director; Debbie Haney, assistant director of early learning; Mike Copland, deputy superintendent; Courtney Ross Webb, director of special education; Nina Ballew, teacher on special assignment; Jill Connor, special education teacher at Squalicum high school; Craig Baldwin, Cordata elementary principal; Analisa Ficklin, assistant director of special education; Lisa Peterson, BEA president; Monique Carpenter, special education teacher at Options high school; Jennifer Vivanco, promise k teacher at Parkview elementary; Jessica Wallace, 1st grade teacher at Birchwood elementary; Natalie Jude, special education teacher at Parkview elementary; Sonia Cole, Sehome high school principal; Atiavo Jude, paraeducator at Carl Cozier elementary; Katie Wood, occupational therapist; Molly Lynch, special education teacher at Wade King elementary; Peter Sundberg, special education teacher at Fairhaven middle school; Kyla Strupp, paraeducator school support team; Jenny Lawrence, director department of teaching and learning; Dana Smith, assistant director of communications; Helena Quigley, kindergarten teacher at Columbia elementary; Sarah Zeller, teacher at Whatcom Middle School;

- Look at our schools' physical access and environment.
- Create master scheduling to guide conversations. Include collaborative scheduled time, support staff schedules to better serve kids, revisiting regularly to make changes as needed, co-teaching and co-planning, weekly common planning, and schedule 6-8 MTSS check in dates.
- Provide a districtwide focused professional development calendar plan. A proactive plan that would include a districtwide book study, provide trimester professional development and for high school level adding additional professional development opportunities.
- Provide strong Tier 1 instruction.
- Provide a system where all staff can collaborate. Create a Google drive where all staff can access common lesson plans and a place where documents are stored.

Inclusive Culture Expert Group

- Create

- Provide teachers professional development training.
- Provide the groundwork for student services. Create systemic steps to support students by providing methods to identify what students need.
- Provide core training as part of the onboarding process.

SEL & Behavior Expert Group

- Provide Tier 1 consistency among behavioral supports. We learn best from one another.
- Create a master schedule.
- Provide collaboration time built in the BEA contract.
- Provide Right Response components of the training for all staff.
- Add instructional rounds for mentoring one another.
- Possibly assign subs to specific schools and then provide them with training.

Connections:

Expert groups met to discuss “What connections did we see between the groups?” Teams added notes in OneNote.

Priorities:

Expert groups met to discuss professional learning and next steps. Teams added notes in OneNote. These priorities will guide the August professional development learning.

Closing:

Mike thanked the team for their time and commitment. He invited the team to return next school year beginning September 20, 2023.

All recommendations will be presented to the summer leadership team.

Mike asked the team for their help to lead teachers on districtwide inclusion and opportunities throughout the year.

Next meeting: September 20, 2023, 4-5:30 p.m., Bellingham Public Schools District Office