

BELLINGHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WORK PRIORITIES

2007 – 2009

FOCUS ON POWERFUL TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGIES IN ALL CLASSROOMS

- Convene an implementation task force of students, families, community members and staff to plan for the phasing in of new high school graduation requirements.
- Convene a planning task force of students, families, community members and staff to explore opportunities for K–12 world language programs.
- Convene a planning task force of families, community members and staff to explore opportunities for pre-school and all-day kindergarten.
- Review math curriculum to align with new math standards and curriculum being reviewed and selected by the state.
- Review, assess and adjust middle and high school schedules to better meet the learning needs of all students.
- Support staff to integrate technology into everyday learning through professional development.

PERSONALIZE LEARNING IN THE SCHOOL SETTING

- Continue small learning communities to include all ninth grade students and review effectiveness of high school structure changes over time.
- Complete an operational database of student achievement information, increasing the ability of staff to utilize data to make ongoing instructional decisions.
- Develop classroom-based assessments in social studies, arts and health/fitness to inform instruction in these areas.
- Continue to develop a standards-based report card for middle school students.
- Review use of parent/student access to information in ParentConnect and Student Connect, online programs with student information, grades, assignments and more.
- Implement new phone system, computer system hardware replacement, Web site improvements and other instructional technology to increase student learning as funded by the current technology levy.
- Continue to strengthen staff leadership skills related to the change process and encourage collaboration among students, staff and the community to seek innovative solutions for improving student learning.

ENGAGE FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY IN STUDENT LEARNING

- Engage community and staff in planning for the spring 2008 maintenance/operations and technology replacement levies.
- Gather input from the community about district priorities and challenges for planning purposes.
- Engage community and staff in planning for the fall 2008 opening of Wade King Elementary School and continue facility work.
- Increase awareness about the congressional reauthorization of No Child Left Behind and Adequately Yearly Progress (AYP) and its implications on testing, school funding and resources.
- Establish an experts' panel to assist in the development of an integrated marketing and communications plan.
- Establish a community engagement committee to share information as key communicators, to plan and help implement data-driven strategies aimed at getting all students ready for college, career and citizenship.
- Establish a Superintendent's Student Advisory Council of high school students and expand the Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council to increase two-way communications among all district stakeholders.
- Continue labor management meetings and committees work with all five union groups in the district to strengthen communication and continue to build collaborative relationships.
- Build upon district programs to recognize and celebrate success of students, staff and community partners.