



# ELD Program Advisory Committee - MINUTES

Tuesday, November 12, 2024 | 3:30-5:00pm | District office

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**Meeting called by:** Roberta Kramer, Assistant Superintendent

**Members Present:** Roberta Kramer, Jenny Ahn, Audrey BeerHamill, Kelli Dahmen, Jennifer Hamilton, Kelsey Winningham

**Members Absent:** David Clark

**Call to order:** 3:30

## Meeting Minutes

Reviewed meeting minutes (June 11, 2024)

### WIDA ACCESS results

- The committee reviewed the spring 2024 WIDA ACCESS results. This was the first year that Smarter Balanced Assessment ELA results were included as part of the English language proficiency program exit criteria. could be used as an additional point for students to demonstrate proficiency and thereby exit out of the ELD program. The exit criteria are as follows,
  - Students in kindergarten and grade 1 who score at least a 4.0 will exit ELD services
  - Students in grades 2-12 who score at least a 4.7 overall will exit ELD services.
  - Students in grades 2-12 who score between a 4.3 and 4.6 and earn a level 3 or 4 on the ELA portion of the SBA test can also exit ELD services.
- Twenty-eight students grades K-12 exited program based on their overall WIDA ACCESS score. An additional 9 exited based on meeting the WIDA ACCESS and SBA score criteria. Proficiency distribution by grade with a 2-year comparison was also reviewed.
- The committee discussed classroom opportunities to improve performance on WIDA domain areas tested such as speaking and listening. Dahmen commented that it would be good to look at what conditions 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students need to promote speaking in the classroom. BeerHamill suggested promoting opportunities in the general education classroom through thoughtful pairing of students to help foster an environment for students to engage in group discussions. Kramer offered that the ELD team can further develop this discussion at their Tuesday meetings.

### Programing for 2024-25

- Professional Development:
  - ELD teachers Jenny Ahn and Kelli Dahmen are planning to provide GLAD training sessions to staff this year. The sessions will also offer clock hours to participating staff, so Dahmen and Ahn will need to submit a clock hour proposal detailing the training.
- Family Events: The Family Literacy Night

- The theme this year is reading around the world. Ahn proposed updating the event as it is proving difficult to maintain the passport theme offered in previous years. She requested support for the purchase of supplies for this new theme.
- Currently eight countries are represented, which is based on available material for this event. The committee discussed the obstacles and potential to have more countries represented. Families do volunteer to support the existing tables, and recruitment can be a bit of a challenge. The committee considered assistance for staff or Washington State Cultural Center to help.
- The target audience will be elementary school families, but the committee suggested having middle school students be asked to participate by volunteering at the event. The location was decided to be held at Jefferson Elementary, tentatively January 23 at 6-7 PM.
- In coming years, the goal is to have Literacy Night in December.

#### Family Communication and Use of Parent Square

- The committee discussed the situation that ELD program families are hesitant to use Parent Square to communicate with ELD teachers and staff. It was stressed at the meeting that as Parent Square offers translation for messages, this is the preferred method for teachers and families to communicate. The goal is that translated communication can strengthen the relationship between teachers and families.
- The committee discussed the opportunity for live training sessions to families on how to access and use the ParentSquare app as well as having an information graphic on how to access.

#### Other Items

- Ahn communicated that parents are request resources for after school to assist to reinforce lessons learned and assistance for supporting English use. Kramer offered the reminder to be mindful of the district homework policy and whether there is someone at home to provide support. This would be something to discuss with the homeroom teacher to determine what could be offered.
- The ELD committee has several open spots to fill for elementary, middle, and high school teachers.
- The committee briefly discussed classroom grouping. Winningham asked about using a co-teacher model, which she saw at her previous district as positive and contributing to growth of the students. Kramer said that staffing has been an issue. Winningham will look into strategies when working in a co-teach model and bring them back to the committee.