

Week of March 22, 2021

FCS Newsletter

WELCOME TO THE FIRST FCS NEWSLETTER!

In previous weeks, I shared the answers to several frequently asked questions. The questions have recently slowed but I think it is important to continue to share information. My goal is to provide a reminder of upcoming training opportunities, share important information, and answer any questions I receive between newsletters. If you have a topic or question you would like me to share in a future newsletter, please do not hesitate to reach out. You can email me at Amy.Kohn@rsd.edu. You just might see your topic in the next newsletter!

--Amy Kohn

IMPORTANT CHANGES FOR FCS 12

I have GREAT news!! The hour you need for FCS 12 can be done completely online through OSPI at your convenience. You will need to go to What We Do Matters module and complete module 11.

By completing the online module, you will be able to:

- Work at a time that is convenient for you
- Complete the requirements for FCS 12
- Allow all who need the class to attend (there were 27 people on the waitlist for this class)
- Not have to have to prepare for a sub cover your duties while you are out

Because this is a much easier way to get the hour credit for this class, I cancelled the course through the ESD. (The link to What We Do Matters on the OSPI website is <https://moodle1.ospi.k12.wa.us/enrol/index.php?id=73>).



UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

March 31st: FCS 08
April 2nd: FCS 08
April 2nd: FCS 11
April 15th: FCS 02
April 23rd: FCS 02
April 23rd: FCS 11
April 23rd: FCS 12
April 30th: FCS 11
May 7th: FCS 12
May 21st: FCS 02

Please visit ProDev to register for any of the courses listed here.

Do you Need FCS04?

You can complete FCS04 online. You will need to go to What We Do Matters modules through the OSPI website (complete module 8). Please log into the OSPI website and complete the module. The OSPI website is <https://moodle1.ospi.k12.wa.us/enrol/index.php?id=73>

UPDATE ON FCS 03 and FCS 05

Annie Carlson and Monti Gray have graciously agreed to present FCS 03 and FCS 05 for us. As soon as we confirm training dates, I will get them added to the ProDev site. Please keep an eye on the calendar for the addition of these two classes.

ORGANIZATION OF FCS CLASSES

Are you wondering how the FCS classes are organized? The Fundamental Course of Study (FCS) is grounded on four standards of practice. Each of the twelve classes are organized under each standard.

Standard 1: Support Educational Outcomes

Classes that Support this Standard:

- FCS 01: Introduction to Cultural Identity and Diversity
- FCS 02: Methods of Educational and Instructional Support
- FCS 03: Technology Basics
- FCS 04: Using and Collecting Data

Standard 2: Demonstrate Professionalism and Ethical Practices

Classes that Support this Standard:

- FCS 05: District Orientation of Roles and Responsibilities
- FCS 06: Equity

Standard 3: Support a Positive and Safe Learning Environment

Classes that Support this Standard:

- FCS 07: Behavior Management Strategies Including De-Escalation Techniques
- FCS 08: Child and Adolescent Development
- FCS 09: Emergency and Health Safety
- FCS 10: Positive and Safe Learning Environment

Standard 4: Communicate Effectively and Participate in the Team Process

Classes that Support this Standard:

- FCS 11: Communication Basics
- FCS 12: Communication Challenges

The Fundamental Course of Study course is made up of 12 different classes, totaling 28 hours. This is the first of two required classes that make up the Paraeducator Certificate Program.

The paraeducator certificate program offers standards-based training for paras in Washington State. It is made up of two required training components and three optional certificates.

Required Components of Certificate Program

FCS Certificate

The program begins with the Fundamental Course of Study. The FCS is 28 hours of training that covers the paraeducator standards of practice.

General Paraeducator Certificate

The general certificate includes 70 hours of training to help improve instructional practices. A paraeducator has three years to complete this certificate after completing the FCS.

Optional Certificate Options

Advanced Paraeducator Certificate

- After completing the general certificate, a paraeducator can earn the advanced certificate. This certificate includes 75 hours of training on assisting high-impact classrooms, supporting specialized instruction, and mentoring other paraeducators.

Each optional subject matter certificate includes 20 hours of training. Subject matter certificates can count toward the general certificate hours.

English Language Learner (ELL) Certificate:

- Language acquisition, cultural competence, and instructional strategies will be explored.

Special Education Certificate:

- Special education processes, culturally responsive strategies, and behavioral supports will be addressed.