



## Early Learning Task Force

Session #4

February 16, 2023

4:00-5:30 p.m.

### Members

Ashley Hill	Georgia Eiford
Angie George	Joan Youngquist
Kate Walker	Tashena Montoya
Kim Hawes	Juliana Larson
Rachel Bowlden	Maureen Hodge
Sarah Hare	

### Welcome/Opening

Ashley opened by showing a video of a son and dad communicating in their language. Each table talked about their thoughts on the video.

Rachel Bowlden talked about Developmental Preschool and Jump Start and how the process works for enrollment.

- Developmental Preschool serves students who are 3-5 years old who have specialized needs. Students go through a screening and evaluation process to identify if they have disabilities, the outcome being an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and enrollment in our developmental preschool if the parent chooses to. We have 3 developmental preschools at our North Bell campus, with 5 classes (AM and PM). Information on our developmental preschool and screening process can be found by scrolling down on the [Early Learning page of the district website](#). For more information and to schedule a screening, please contact: Rachel Bowlden at 360- 383-9572 or email [rachel.bowlden@ferndalesd.org](mailto:rachel.bowlden@ferndalesd.org) or fill out this [Link to Screening Referral Form](#)
- Jump Start is Ferndale's Transitional Kindergarten (TK) program. It is an early entrance kindergarten program for students who are 4 years old and have demonstrated need. Transitional Kindergarten is designed to provide opportunity to early learning prior to the kindergarten year for students and families who are not able to access childcare and

preschool. For more information look to [Ferndale's Jump Start information](#) or the state's [Transitional Kindergarten](#) information.

### Session 3 Outcomes and Big Ideas

Ashley shared the slide show presentation on big ideas and recommendations from the previous meeting. Review took place at each table and additional items and clarifications were submitted.

### WaKIDS

Maureen Hodge went over a video about Gold by Teaching Strategies – one of the three components of WaKIDS, our state early learning assessment and engagement strategy. Kate Walker went explained how the assessment is used. Gold by Teaching Strategies is done through teacher observation of students during the regular aspects of their school day. Each table followed along while Kate explained the process. Kim Hawes commented that they have used the WaKIDS data several times in their Student Support Team meetings, felt it was a very helpful tool.

Maureen Hodge went through the scoring (first 10 weeks of Kindergarten). Asking the tables two questions:

1. What do you notice?
2. What do you wonder?

Each table shared their thoughts on the above questions

Maureen also walked the team through looking at the data in the areas of Literacy and Math. Data was shared on the effectiveness of TK as an instructional practice. [OSPI published data](#) on February 1, 2023, showing that TK is an effective strategy for closing opportunity gaps.

### Data Driven Improvement

Each table had time to reflect and discuss while generating their recommendations for the big ideas and strategies for our district related to use of student data to drive improvement. Results will be shared at the next meeting.

### Homework

Read; How the Opportunity Gap in K-3 Teaching is Failing our Students

### Next Meeting

March 2, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. at Mountain View Conference Center, Board Room.