

Monitoring Response Document

Policy Monitored: Ends 2.1, Part 2 – Student Competence

Date Report Submitted: 3/14/2024

Date of Board’s Monitoring Response: 4/17/24 and 5/16/2024

The Board has received and reviewed the Superintendent’s Monitoring Report referenced above. Following the Board’s review and discussions with the Superintendent and his representatives, the Board makes the following conclusions:

<u>Ends Reports:</u>	<u>Executive Limitations Reports</u>
- The Board finds that the Superintendent: has achieved the goals established in the policy or is making reasonable progress towards achieving the goals. - is making reasonable progress towards achieving the goals, but a greater degree of progress is expected for policy items noted.* - is not making reasonable progress in achieving the goals established. * - cannot be determined*	- The Board finds that the Superintendent: - is in compliance, with the acknowledgement that there is always more work to be done. - is making reasonable progress towards compliance, except for item(s) noted.* - is not making reasonable progress toward compliance.* - cannot be determined*
<i>*see comments below (No. 3)</i>	

- Please note commendable progress over the last year.

There is evidence of modest gap closure with Hispanic/Latinx and low-income groups. There have been significant increases in dual credit and CTE participation, particularly among female students. The growth particularly in CTE participation and offerings is impressive. Despite the difficulties students had during the pandemic, it seems hopeful that dropout rates seem similar to pre-pandemic. Our overall district graduation rates have improved over the past 10 years beyond state averages and made important progress towards the rates reflected from the high bar peer districts. This progress is commendable. Bellingham’s very strong graduation rates for students with disabilities at seven years reflects the values of The Bellingham Promise and illustrates our district’s impressive commitment to transitioning students effectively to life after public schools. The 90% graduation rate is especially commendable. Our progress in closing the gap for low-income vs. non-low-income students’ five-year graduation rates are evident from the data provided; the progress is commendable. The notable increase in CTE dual credit is an impressive reflection of the district’s investment in and dedication to the CTE programs and is a commendable outcome. The breadth of programs offered is impressive and will directly help support engaging student interest and belonging with applied knowledge and learning opportunities.

- Please note areas for additional improvement.

The graduation gap with multilingual learners increased, though it is recognized these numbers fluctuate significantly. The report indicates that income is perhaps the most significant contributor to graduation rate gaps. Our interpretation of the testing impacts to grade 10 students is that these

Monitoring Response Document

Policy Monitored: Ends 2.1, Part 2 – Student Competence

Date Report Submitted: 3/14/2024

Date of Board's Monitoring Response: 4/17/24 and 5/16/2024

anomalous scores may be the result of COVID era effects due to reduced student familiarity with the standardized tests and a lack of understanding for the use of these standardized test scores specific to this cycle of measurement. We were glad to learn that we will likely see improvement in this area in future cycles. Our district stands out for our strong focus on proficiency gaps and the district team's efforts to close these gaps. We would anticipate continued progress in this area as we see reduced COVID era effects and with the efforts already underway and would like to voice support for the importance of these continued efforts.

4. Comments on the report itself.

Appreciate blending the data sets with the report narrative, makes for a much smoother read. Great report, as always. This is an exceptionally rich and transparent report on key outcomes related to The Bellingham Promise. The integrated data set makes it much easier to see. This report is always great – thorough and clear.

5. Possible changes to the policy.

None identified.