



Community Transitions Educational Specifications/Design Advisory Committee Meeting

December 11, 2023

Present: Jeff Coulter, principal on special assignment, co-chair; Analisa Ficklin, director, special education, co-chair; Andrew Krzysiek, principal, Zervas; Dominique Lantagne, teacher, Community Transitions; Liz Madden, teacher, Community Transitions; Curtis Lawyer, director, capital projects; Jessica Sankey, chief operations officer; Jacqueline Brawley, executive director, Communications; Michael Copland, deputy superintendent, Kurt Gazow, executive director, Educational Technology; Nathan Langstraat, vice president, Administrative Services, Whatcom Community College; Brian Keeley, senior director, Facilities and Operations, Whatcom Community College; Kerri Holferty, director, Access and Disability services, Whatcom Community College; Mark Peterson, director, Facilities and Sustainability; Brian Smart, capital projects manager; Sara Ullman, planner, City of Bellingham; Brent Baldwin, development manager, Bellingham Public Works; Brenda Hill, occupational therapist; Phoebe Stockton, teacher, Community Transitions; Laurel Taubel, paraeducator; Candice Lankhaar, community member; Emma Gleckman, community member; Terry Brown, Zervas; Amy Zimmerman, principal, Zervas; Jed Ballew, principal, Zervas; Patrick Durgan, executive chef and director; Kelly Bashaw, associate director, Workforce Funding Programs, Whatcom Community College; Shannon Darnell, interior design director, Zervas

Welcome

Analisa welcomed the group and briefly explained what Community Transitions is, including its relation to higher education, vocation and independent living for students ages 16-21.

Jeff Coulter shared the [Bellingham Promise](#).

Introductions

After the introduction of the Zervas group and the capital projects team, Jessica Sankey invited the group to introduce themselves and share why they are interested in this committee.

Why an Ed Specs committee:

The purpose of this committee is to review the Community Transitions Educational Specifications for Bellingham Public Schools. After the Educational Specifications are completed, the group will review and provide feedback on schematic and design development drawings for the Community Transitions project.

Meetings have already happened between Whatcom Community College and Bellingham Public Schools to develop a design for this exciting collaboration between Community Transitions on the land owned by Whatcom Community College. This committee will help bring this collaboration to fruition.

Norms

The group discussed the norms of this committee:

1. Be respectful
2. Be stewards of the process
3. Be productive

Project Assumptions

- Proposed site: adjacent to Whatcom Community College and the Whatcom Transit Authority bus terminal
- The site is 39,000 square foot site
- Access to Cordata Parkway with a pedestrian walkway to Whatcom Community College.

Size/Capacity

- 4-5 classrooms
- Bathrooms
- Motor room
- Storage
- 2 conference rooms
- Staff room
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Homework assignment

1. Review Bellingham School District Community Transitions FAQ on [website](#)
2. Needs wants Goals brainstorming (link to be added)
3. Community Transitions staff to update program requirements

Closing

Analisa shared with the group inclusive environments. At CT inclusiveness is about the community. We believe students both at Whatcom Community College and students at Community Transitions will benefit from inclusive spaces.

Next Meeting

4:15 p.m. Monday January 8 at Community Transitions (1600 Birchwood Ave.)