

# Welcome!

Please enjoy some coffee and cookies

We will begin at 6:15 p.m.



November 21, 2016

# Setting the Context

Why we are here together tonight

What we want to achieve

What will happen next

# What is a Board Linkage?

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- An opportunity for the Board to dialogue with constituents

# Dialogue vs. Discussion

- In a discussion, opposing views are presented and defended and the team searches for the best view to help make a team decision. In a discussion, people want their own views to be accepted by the group. The emphasis is on winning rather than on learning.
- In dialogue, people freely and creatively explore issues, listen deeply to each other and suspend their own views in search of the truth. People in dialogue have access to a larger pool of knowledge than any one person enjoys. The primary purpose is to enlarge ideas, not to diminish them. It's not about winning acceptance of a viewpoint, but exploring every option.

# Background Information

- The Lake Washington School District recently completed a Special Services Program Review.
- The final report was informed by multiple data sources, including the work of the Urban Special Education Leadership Collaborative; OSPI's Washington Integrated System of Monitoring (WISM) Desk Review; OSPI's Consolidated Program Review (CPR); and, stakeholder feedback.
- The final report identifies seven priority areas and action items for a five-year action plan.

# Purpose of Linkage Session

## **For the Board and administration team to:**

- Listen to feedback on the Special Services Program Review Final Report and Action Plan
- Hear specific ideas and suggestions for how the district can best address the *Parent and Family Engagement* aspects of the plan

## **For parents to:**

- To give feedback and share specific ideas and suggestions
- To listen to the ideas and perspectives of other parents

# Purpose of Linkage Session

## **What will happen to the feedback gathered at tonight's session?**

- Administration will share it back with the larger community of LWSD parents of students receiving special education and 504 services for comment
- Administration will use it to inform and finalize the implementation of the five-year action plan

# Linkage Participants

## Dialogue Table Participants

- directly participate in large group and small group dialogue facilitated by Board members and district staff.

## Dialogue Process Observers

- observe the linkage process and listen to the group dialogue first hand. Process observers will also provide written feedback on the same questions discussed by participants.

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focus all of  
your energy,  
not on fighting  
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building the  
new

-Socrates





# Creating Hospitable Space

How we can have welcoming environment for all

# Group Norms

1. Everyone in the group should participate in the conversation.
2. Listen carefully to what others are saying.
3. Ask clarifying questions if you do not understand a point raised.
4. Be respectful of what others are saying.
5. Focus on ideas, not personalities.
6. Keep an open mind.

*Adapted from the Center for Education Law and Democracy*



# Ensuring we meet our Purpose

How we can have productive, satisfying dialogue

# Facilitated Dialogue

## The Facilitator

- **Explore Questions that Matter**
- **Encourage Everyone's Contribution**
- **Connect Diverse Perspectives**
- **Listen together for Patterns and Insights**

## The Group

- **Explore Questions that Matter**
- **Encourage Everyone's Contribution**
- **Connect Diverse Perspectives**
- **Listen together for Patterns and Insights**

# Looking for Common Ground

How we will find common themes

How we will find a pattern of “wholeness”

# Share Collective Discoveries

- Silent reflection on the patterns, themes and deeper questions experienced in the small group conversations
- Share out with the larger group
- Record
- Make the pattern of wholeness visible to everyone in a large group conversation

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# Small Group Dialogue #1

- 6:30 – 7:00: Table discussion
- 7:00 – 7:10: Reflection/preparation for whole group sharing
- 7:10 - 7:30: Whole group share out by table

# Small Group Dialogue #1

- What specifically do you like about the action plan?
- What are your specific questions and concerns?
- Are there areas of concern/interest not addressed in the plan?
- Do you have other feedback, questions, thoughts to share?

# Share Collective Discoveries

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# Share Collective Discoveries

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# Small Group Dialogue #2

- 7:30 – 8:00: Table discussion
- 8:00 – 8:10: Reflection/preparation for whole group sharing
- 8:10 - 8:30: Whole group share out by table

# Small Group Dialogue #2

## ***Parent and Family Engagement***

- What ideas do you have for parent engagement at the district level?
- What communication resources and tools would be beneficial to families?
- As a parent, how would you like to be provided opportunities for feedback? What parent education resources and opportunities should the district be providing?
- What community partnerships would you like to see enhanced and/or formed?
- What other ideas, suggestions, feedback do you have related to *Parent and Family Engagement*?

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# Next Steps

## **What will happen to the feedback gathered at tonight's session?**

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