

Opportunity and Equity

File: XXX

Lake Washington School district's vision is *Every Student Future Ready*. Therefore, we take seriously our responsibility to ensure the success of every single student. We believe that every student can learn and achieve at high levels. We are committed to ensuring every student has equitable opportunities to learn, grow, and achieve at high levels. We recognize that, in order to succeed, students need high expectations, culturally responsive curriculum and teaching, and adults that value and promote equity.

As a district, we acknowledge and recognize our responsibility to remove the predictability of success and failure that currently correlates with disability, race, ethnicity, and socio-economic status. We recognize the complexity of historic and present-day societal factors that contributes to these disparities, and we believe that it is imperative that we provide work to overcome these inequities. Disability, race, ethnicity and socio-economic status must cease to be a reliable predictor of student achievement and success. We are committed to interrupting inequitable practices, examining and removing biases, and creating inclusive school environments for all students to help them discover and cultivate their unique gifts, talents and interests. and work to close achievement and opportunity gaps where they exist.

Achievement gap refers to any significant and persistent disparity in academic performance or educational attainment between different groups of students, such as white students and students of color, for example, or students from higher-income and lower-income households.

Opportunity gap refers to access gaps that arise from the inequities in the education system that pose as barriers to student academic success, and the ways in which race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, English proficiency, community wealth, familial situations, or other factors contribute to or perpetuate lower educational aspirations, achievement, and attainment for certain groups of students.

Equity in education means raising the achievement of all students while decreasing and eliminating the gaps between the highest and lowest performing group of students. The concept of educational equity includes fostering a barrier-free environment where all students, regardless of disability, race, ethnicity and socio-economic status, have the opportunity to benefit and succeed equally.

Adopted: