

# STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**HEARING TYPE:**              X   INFORMATION

**DATE:**                      May 14, 2008

**SUBJECT:**                 **BELLINGHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**SERVICE UNIT:**         Ms. Edie Harding, Executive Director  
State Board of Education

**PRESENTER:**             Ms. Sherrie Brown, Interim Deputy Superintendent  
Dr. Kenneth D. Vedra, Superintendent

## **BACKGROUND:**

After two years of study, and substantial community and parent input, the Bellingham School Board voted in 2007 to phase in new graduation requirements in English, math, and world language over the next seven years. Although the total required credits (23) will not change, the number of credits will increase in English (from 3.5 to 4 in 2012) and math (from 2 to 3 in 2013). Two credits of world language will be added in 2014. Electives will decrease from 8.5 to 5 credits to accommodate the changes.

Ms. Brown led the task force that spearheaded the changes. Dr. Vedra assumed the position of superintendent after the changes had been approved, and is now leading the transition.

Bellingham's "2008 Ready Guide" for students describes the changes and is included behind this tab.