



THE WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

A high-quality education system that prepares all students for college, career, and life.

Feedback Summary of the March 8, 2016 Community Forum

Twenty participants, plus six board members and seven staff, attended the January community forum in Tumwater.

Parents, educators, community leaders, and administrators attended the forum. The notes below are collected from board and staff members' notes and nine feedback forms. Many expressed concerns about the following topics (bold and bold underlined items indicate high relative frequency):

Washington's Education system:

- **Need more consistency and communication between Legislature, OSPI, and SBE, local districts – all directions**
- **Need more flexibility to adapt to growing educational opportunities (STEM)**
- Structural money and power systems create non-responsive systems
- Provide diversity training to educators

Opportunity and Achievement Gaps:

- **Provide interventions for struggling students**
- The opportunity gap starts in early learning
- Norming of privileged power structure creates problems with over-discipline and lack of respect for all students' needs
- Need more ELL supports – currently sink or swim

Career and College Readiness

- Prepare kids to be "contingent worker of the 21st century"
- 24 credit graduation requirements challenging for high poverty schools

Assessments

- Put a temporary moratorium on changing assessments
- Smarter Balanced Assessments need time to grow on educators and parents

School administration

- Kids' experiences of school system is a deterrent for teaching – not just salaries

High School and Beyond Plan

- It's a good tool

Feedback on Outreach Efforts

- **Please continue the face-to-face meetings**
- **It's meaningful to see the board listen and ask questions**

If you have questions about this feedback summary or future community forums or outreach efforts, please contact Stefanie Randolph, Communications Manager, at Stefanie.randolph@k12.wa.us