

BISD Multicultural Advisory Council
Tuesday, February. 6, 2018, Ordway Elementary School Library

We convened at 4:30 p.m. to:

1. Learn how the elementary schools move beyond raw achievement data to respond to student's individual learning needs
2. Honor this year's recipients of the Dr. Frank Kitamoto Award for Inclusion, Civil Rights & Social Justice and the winner of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay/Poetry Contest.

1. Data and Individual Needs

Presented by:

Blakely Principal, Reese Ande,
Ordway Principal, Melinda Reynvaan
Wilkes Principal, Amii Pratt
Dr. Jeff McCormick, Director of Instructional Services

Bainbridge School District receives an annual Washington State Report Card from the state's Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. The report cards provide basic data for each school and grade level showing the numbers and percentages of students who meet and/or fail to meet standards for English Language Arts and for Math. The data is further broken out by gender, race, limited English, low income, Special Education, Section 504 and Continuous Enrollment. From these breakdowns a school can easily see that "x" number of low-income students met the 3rd Grade math standards and "y" number did not. However, the data does not reveal to schools, which low income 3rd graders need additional help with math.

In order to identify individual students and their particular needs, staff at each school gather together routinely to compare the state report card with other available data such as scoring for social and emotional wellness, individual student progress, and staff familiarity with students and their families. While the exact procedures vary slightly from school to school, in general each elementary school meets regularly—as often as every six weeks—to discuss every student as needed. At the beginning of the school year the number of students reviewed will be large, but as patterns emerge the focus is on fewer numbers of students because individual needs are more clearly recognized and have been addressed.

Grade level meetings involve the teacher, counselor, principal and other relevant staff as needed. Schools define three levels of relationship between students and staff: level one—knowing a child's name; level 2—having a better relationship; and level 3—where staff member and student have a strong relationship. This personal knowledge, along with student progress scores and general data allow the school to identify the specific areas where a student needs additional help to succeed. Staff can redeploy to meet these students learning needs, for example by having the

school's principal step into a second grade class for several weeks to cover the regular lessons while the teacher works individually with a small group.

This approach of careful and consistent review of student progress allows the school to recognize both ongoing or recently occurring needs. Once identified, these needs are met by providing individuals with the particular help they need. Schools are also now better able to offer resources to parents/families and can increase teacher's knowledge of their students by learning from the child's parents about what may be needed.

2. Award Reception for the Frank Kitamoto Award and MLK Essay/Poetry Contest

Award recipients, their families and guests attended. Ethan Soltanzadeh was recognized for his work with international students and students where English is not their native tongue. Giselle Hausmann was recognized for her work with special education students. Jeanette "Red" Sheets was this year's winner at the MLK Assembly for her poem that she read at our meeting. Anne Wilhoit was recognized for her work with students and for guiding them in organizing the Children's Peace March. Following the award announcements we had a lively discussion with the recipients, their families, guests and MAC membership.

Guests Attending

Ethan Soltanzadeh

Recipient, Dr. Frank Kitamoto Award for Inclusion, Civil Rights & Social Justice

Giselle Hausmann

Honorable Mention, Dr. Frank Kitamoto Award

Jeanette "Red" Sheets

Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay/Poetry Contest Winner

Anne Wilhoit

Odyssey Multiage Program teacher and organizer of the Children's Peace March

Marie Djemondo King-gombe Student President UBS

Mev Hoberg, School Board Member

Sharita Jones, Community Member

Clarence Moriwaki, Community Member

Voting Members Attending

Karen Vargas, Katy Curtis, Marsha Cutting, Steven Soltar

Allison McDonald, Amy Nakata, Joyce Nishimura, Eileen Okada

Non-Voting Members Attending

Sheryl Belt, Christina Peato, Brandy Bispham, Carrie Holloway, Susan Tolley, Maggie Hitchcock, Beth Riggs