Graduation Equity Webinar Series

Alternative Learning Options

Washington Office of Superintendent of
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Vision

All students prepared for post-secondary pathways, careers, and civic engagement.

Mission

Transform K–12 education to a system that is centered on closing opportunity gaps and is characterized by high expectations for all students and educators. We achieve this by developing equity-based policies and supports that empower educators, families, and communities.

Values

- Ensuring Equity
- Collaboration and Service
- Achieving Excellence through Continuous Improvement
- Focus on the Whole Child

Equity Statement

Each student, family, and community possesses strengths and cultural knowledge that benefits their peers, educators, and schools.

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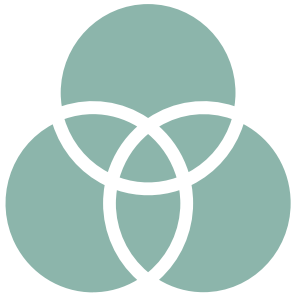
I am on Squaxin, Cowlitz, & Nisqually Land

Equity Pause – Why Are We Doing This?

Who will my decision affect?



What is my locus of control?

Which actions will have the largest impact?

What's a step I can take right away?

Objectives

- Get a **landscape** of what learning options are available through Washington schools
- Learn from program staff about a **variety of programs available**
- Learn from school practitioners **implementing** learning options
- Get **resources** to help you get started

Presenters

Jocelyn Núñez S.

Student Engagement Program Supervisor

OSPI

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Rhett Nelson

Director of Learning Options

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Brad Sprague

Executive Director

Washington Association for Learning Alternatives

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Mandy Paradise

Associate Director of Open Doors Youth Reengagement

OSPI

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Anissa Sharratt

Associate Director of Learning Options & ALE

OSPI

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We want to know about you!

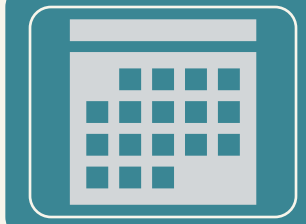
Who's here?

What grade band do you work with the most?

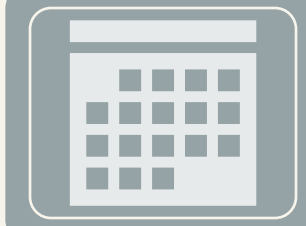
How familiar are you with our topic?

Timing for Webinar Participation:

I would attend an **April** webinar



I would attend a **May** webinar



I would attend an **August** webinar

New To ALE: Teacher or Administrator

Helpful hints to being successful as a new ale teacher or administrator

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Brad Sprague

Executive Director

Washington Association for Learning Alternatives

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Relationship Building

- Get rid of the word, “Alternative”! (school and community)
- Get to know your teaching and office staff
- Get to know your custodian! They have all the secrets!
- Get to know your classified staff. They are your life support!
- Get to know your students. Enrollment process is a great start.
- Get to know your district support staff (allies vs. adversaries)

Surround Yourself with Knowledge

Staff

- Those with experience in Alternative Learning Experiences (ALE)
- Those with program model experience
- Those who are in it for students as the target vs. themselves (You decide how you are going to exert your effort)
- Office staff (registrar, office manager) who have experience with full time employment (FTE) or enrollment
- Counselors (outside support for students)

Call on WALA for Support

Executive Director

- Legislative updates
- Organizational opportunities
- Program design
- Ethical practices
- Best practices
- Use region representatives

Best Practices Based on Your Style

- Manage in the morning and late afternoon vs. during the day
- Be visible and supportive in classrooms
- Daily 5 x 5's - All classes
- Promote your program throughout your district (proactive vs. reactive)
- Be a good **listener**
- Be a good **communicator**
- Audit Notebook
- Quality high school & beyond planning and career planning for students. Meaningful! (Employability Profile)
- Be willing to **"spend the time" to make your program successful for kids, staff, parents, and community**

Do you have any questions?

Add them to the **Q&A**

Upvote the questions you like

OSPI Supports

Learning Options

Alternative Learning Experiences (ALE)

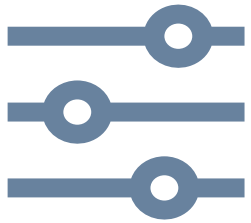
- All ages
- Including **online learning**

Open Doors

- Ages **16-21**
- Reengagement focused

Mastery-based Learning

- All ages
- **Method** of instruction



Alternative Ed

- All ages
- **Variety** of delivery

Landscape of Learning Options

Identified Need

Instructional Framework + Delivery Method + Basic Education Components + Type of State Funding =

Basic Education and Learning Options

Truancy & Re-engagement	State Assessments	Graduation requirements	Instructional hours and days	Curriculum adopted per school board policy
Appropriately certificated and endorsed teachers	Special Education	Transitional Bilingual Instruction Program	CEDARS Reporting	Highly Capable
McKinney-Vento	John McCoy (lulilaš) *Since Time Immemorial*	Counseling	High School and Beyond Plans	All other basic education regulations and requirements

What Does it Look Like to Do This Work?

Mastery-based Learning & Open Doors

Curt Scheidel
Principal, Heights Campus
Vancouver School District
curt.scheidel@vansd.org

Kathleen Paradis
Associate Principal, Heights Campus
Vancouver School District
kathleen.paradis@vansd.org

Tell us a bit about your programs and role

You have an extensive variety of Learning Options available at Heights Campus, what was it about **Mastery-Based Learning** that compelled you to moving in that direction, too?

When it comes to your **Open Doors program**, what is an ah-ha moment or lesson learned that you've experienced that stands out to you?

How do you determine if Open Doors or ALE is the best fit for a student? What things are considered?

Open Doors

Carol (Gift) Kelly

ABE Lab Instructor/Open Doors Coordinator, YVC
Step up to College Program

Stevenson & White Salmon

ckelly@yvcc.edu

Tell us a bit about your programs and role

You work in a very **rural environment**. Can you tell us a bit about what it looks like on the day-to-day for serving students and getting their needs and goal met?

What sort of things do your students need

Online Learning

Brooke Wertz
Coordinating Teacher for Online Learning
Bellingham School District
Brooke.Wertz@BellinghamSchools.org

Supports online learning in Bellingham Public Schools as the Teacher Coordinator

Supports the K-12 programming through The Bellingham Family Partnership Program and Bellingham Virtual Learning

Alternative Learning Experience (ALE) & Alternative School

Mace Gratz

Principal, Seaview Academy & Lincoln High School

Port Angeles School District

MGratz@portangelesschools.org

- Multi-district online provider for grades 3-12 with staff members all local to Port Angeles
- Port Angeles School District's Online & ALE program for K-12 serving 400+ students
- Weekly in person workshops for elementary age students to ensure fundamental academic and social skills are developed
- Weekly in-person and online tutoring for additional support
- Several hybrid options for fine arts and personal pathways (writer's workshop, calligraphy, music etc.)
- Performance-Based Graduation Pathway

What advice would you give someone who wants to launch a learning option or who is advocating for learning options in their district?

Can you tell us a story of how your program impacted a particular student?

Mastery-based Learning Open Doors

Curt Scheidel
Principal
Heights Campus
Vancouver School District

Kathleen Paradis
Associate Principal
Heights Campus
Vancouver School District

How do you determine if Open Doors or ALE is the best fit for a student? What things are considered?

If you could share one thing about your experience implementing your programs, what is it that you hope people could know about?

Share What You Learned

- Discuss your ideas with leadership

- Share ideas with your Professional Learning Community

- Lead a discussion with students

Resources

Resources

Funding

- Unlocking Federal & State Program Funds to Support Student Success

Tools & Videos

- Read & Subscribe to the Engage Newsletter
- Engage Care Package

Websites

- OSPI Open Doors
- OSPI Alternative Learning Options
- Mastery-based Learning Collaborative page
- Washington Association for Learning Alternatives
- YVCC Stepping Up to Success

People

- Connect with OSPI staff

Learning Options Resources

- Alternative Learning Experience Website
  - Guide to Offering ALE
  - ALE 101 Canvas Course
  - Compliance Resources
- Online Learning Website
  - Guide to Online Learning
  - FAQ's
  - Approval Information
- Open Doors Website
  - Getting Started Toolkit
  - Compliance Resources
  - Difference between ALE and Open Doors

- Serving Students with Disabilities
  - Guide
  - FAPE and LRE Self-Assessment Tool
  - ALE/Online Program Profile
- Newsletters
  - Open Doors
  - Learning Options

Next Month

May 14

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Teacher Strategies for Mental Health in the Classroom

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Evaluation

Do You Need Free Equity Clock Hours?

Watch Live → Register in Zoom for the year → Register for Clock Hours monthly in pdEnroller → Complete the pdEnroller Evaluation

Watch the Video Later → Complete the Graduation Equity Webinar Feedback Survey → Complete the pdEnroller Evaluation

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