

**Yakima School District Highly Capable Program Parent Meeting
January 23, 2018; Agenda: Middle School Programs – Continuation**

The purpose of the meeting was to ensure communication to all parents and community of the HCP processes and services. The Yakima School District middle school principals, staff, parents in attendance continued conversation on what services will be available for incoming 2018-19 6th graders as well as current middle school students.

The audience received an update of this year's Nomination Window. The district was intentional in training all office staff, teachers and administrators on the process. The intentionality tripled the referrals from last year.

Franklin Online Pilot Program 2016-17: selected HCP students had the opportunity to enroll in an online program supported by the district, Advanced Academics. Students in the pilot project independently worked through the Algebra I course which if completed, earned them a .5 high school math credit. After review, the opportunity will be repeated this year at Franklin and Wilson, 8th grade only. Students and parents will meet to learn the details and expectations from school staff before the new semester at the end of January.

Parents shared concern about the services available at 6th grade during the day. Parents are interested in seeing an Honors class or other classes that will provide access to accelerated learning. Discussion will continue with principals and Teaching & Learning as plans/schedules are developed for 2018-19.

Parents requested more information on the transition from 5th grade to 6th grade as well as 8th to 9th grade. Decisions are still being made at the district level involving Teaching & Learning, Secondary Education Department and Student Family Center.

It was recommended by the group in attendance to continue working on improving communication between schools and parents.

The district will work on providing professional development at the secondary level specific to middle school teachers. There is Math training for secondary teachers on March 1, 28, 29. For 2018-19, Professional Learning Communities (PLC) training will continue for elementary level and will expand to secondary.

Parents requested that the middle school meetings continue as well as an elementary parent meeting in the future.

Future meetings/activities:

- March 1st Math Activities Night; Grades 1-4
- March 8th Math Activities Night, Grades 5-8
- March 19th Parent Workshop – Moving Past Perfectionism & Procrastination
- April Parent Meeting TBD
- End-of-Year BBQ & Student Fair, May 15, 2018, Davis HS, 5:30-7:00