

Core 24 Implementation Task Force Recommendations

A Presentation to the Washington State Board of Education

November 12, 2009

Dr. Jennifer Shaw, Co-chair, ITF
Dr. Mark Mansell, Co-chair, ITF

CORE 24 ITF Phase-In Recommendations

The ultimate success of students' meeting the requirements of CORE 24 depends on a systems approach across the K-12 spectrum. The ITF believes the framework articulated in ESHB 2261 addresses much of the necessary supports needed to meet this essential work on behalf of the students across the state. With that in mind and based on the ITF's current awareness of the issues with this work, the following recommendations are put forward for consideration by the SBE.

ITF Recommendation #1

Stable funding in categories articulated in ESHB 2261 must be provided to support the implementation of CORE 24 for at least grades 8 through 12. In particular, funding to meet class size standard, extra support for high poverty schools, guidance and counseling, as well as resources aimed at supporting struggling students are essential.

ITF Recommendation #2

Once funding begins, the ITF believes districts will need one year for planning purposes and five years to make the relevant changes needed to graduate the first students meeting CORE 24 expectations (beginning with students in the eighth grade of the first graduating class affected by the new requirements).

Additional Consideration

The ITF also remains concerned about the facilities needs associated with the increase in graduation requirements. We believe that many high schools will need to create and/or repurpose space to provide appropriate learning environments to meet these increased course requirements.

For more information

Go to the SBE website:

<http://www.sbe.wa.gov>

Contact:

Kathe Taylor, Policy Director

kathe.taylor@k12.wa.us