

Summary of BERC Research Reports to Date

October 1, 2021

October 1, 2013

BERC Presentation of Qualifications to the Board

Chehalis School District Contract: Comprehensive School District Review

1. November 2013: Initial District Needs Assessment

Chehalis School District Needs Assessment: District-Wide Synthesis Report

The BERC Group conducted a district review for the Chehalis School District (CSD). As part of this review, we conducted School and Classroom Practices Studies in all six schools within the district, and we aggregated the results into this report. The purpose of the report was to provide information to the Chehalis School District regarding any areas emerging in school studies that may need system-wide focus and support.

2. December 2013: STEM Research Report (Addendum)

W.F. High School Chehalis School District: STEM Education Report

The BERC Group conducted a district review for the Chehalis School District (CSD). As part of the study, The BERC Group analyzed the extent to which W.F. West High School's (WFWHS) Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Program aligns with proposed STEM national standards. This addendum report included a description of the data sources, the context of STEM education, high school outcomes data for STEM students, the results of the review, and conclusions and recommendations.

February 2014: SAI Treatment Begins

3. January 2015 Newsletter

In 2013, Chehalis School District set forth a vision to improve student achievement, modernize instructional practice, and prepare students for college and careers. This vision was embraced by the school board and by community partners, such as the Chehalis Foundation. This newsletter prose highlighted Powerful Teaching and Learning, the district-formed instructional leadership teams in each of the schools, the implementation of the College and Career Readiness Committee, data dashboards, and key performance indicators (KPIs).

4. June 2015: SAI Summary and Next Steps

Chehalis School District Education Initiatives Project: Research Report

The goal of this report was to provide relevant research and analysis of place-based program outcomes emphasizing effective support structures and emerging promising practices relating to college and career readiness, in addition to interpreting current outcomes of the West/Coffman Scholarship. As a result of exploring the benefit of scholarships, the foundation decided to focus on supporting students rather than funding them. By August, the district had posted positions for College and Career Counselors/Advisors.

5. January 2017: SAI Summary and Centralia College Partnership

Centralia College Student Services and Academic Program Audit: Research Report

This study provided an opportunity to assess the economic needs of the country in general and Washington State in particular. It also included a literature review of national promising practices related to school-community-college partnerships. Additionally, an inventory and analysis of current program options and support services at Centralia College provided qualitative data aligned with empirical evidence. Recommendations were offered on how to further develop and expand the college-school district-community partnership. Overall, the goal of this research project was to match current practices at Centralia College with current national promising practices around community partnerships in college readiness programs. In addition to informing current and future work, this study documented past work and provided a blueprint for other communities to consider in their efforts to strengthen their partnerships.

6 June 2019 Summer Melt

Decreasing Summer Melt and Increasing Persistence and Completion: Evidence from National and Local Efforts

This study explored college persistence, completion, and summer melt, contemporary terms used in education to address the transition from high school to, and through, postsecondary success. The report provided a review of relevant literature on summer melt, persistence, and completion, local and national best practices on mitigating summer melt and increasing persistence, and current practices being implemented in the Chehalis School District and local community college. Recommendations were included to build upon current efforts.

7. April 2020: CTE Needs Assessment

W.F. West High School CTE Audit: Career and Technical Education Needs Assessment

This report described why Chehalis School District is focused on CTE and how this connects to the Student Achievement Initiative. As part of their research-based initiative, district leaders recognized the need to focus efforts on the District's CTE program. The report was intended to guide CTE and school leaders in developing their 5 Year Plan for program implementation and improvement.

8. 2021: Reengagement

Chehalis School District: Post-secondary Reengagement Study

Over the past several years, the SAI partnership has expanded to include additional partners, including Centralia College. These partners have continued to build capacity for work around postsecondary education. This study explored reengagement in college, with a focus on the attributes and resources communities leverage to help students return to and complete a postsecondary degree or certification program.

9. Centralia College Federal Loan Feasibility Study

Currently underway