Seattle Super Reader Update: This week I visited JumpStart at Wing Luke and Camp Read-a-Rama at Dearborn Park International school!!

Culturally Responsive Workforce:

- I attended the Academy for Rising Educators participants and partners at their kick-off event. What a great group of students and partners!
- I spoke to our incoming brand new to the profession teachers at S. Shore K8 this week. A shout out to Chris Drape and his team for their focus on Foundational course work that is grounded in racial equity.

Work with the Philanthropy: I met with Dr. Bell from Casey Foundation. He is very excited about our work with students furthest from educational justice, and our intentional focus on African American males reading by 3rd grade.

Partnerships:

- A team visited the Muckleshoot Tribal School to welcome new teachers. After learning a bit about their tribal history, we participated in a cultural activity and made bracelets out of nettles and cedar.
- Urban League leaders met with the principals from our 13 schools. They are excited to partner and support our work with students and families.

Public Relations: I did “back-to-school” interviews with KIRO and KOMO this week. I love sharing the great work happening in our schools!

TAF Update: We are reviewing a Joint Operating Agreement with TAF Academy for Washington Middle School. The teams will work together to ensure a strong partnership that is aligned with our Strategic Plan.

eScribe: The Board office will review this product and give you an update on recommendations soon. As you know, we have struggled to lift this work due to limited capacity in central office.
Friday Memo to the Board  
Teaching and Learning Division  

Essential Information for the week of August 19-23, 2019

CURRICULUM, ASSESSMENT AND INSTRUCTION

2018-19 Annual Assessment Report and 2019-20 Assessment Calendars
The 2018-19 annual assessment report and the 2019-20 assessment calendars were provided to the Curriculum and Instruction (C&I) Policy Committee on August 20th. The report and calendars were developed through the collaborative efforts of the District’s Assessment Committee. The report, calendars and memo to the committee can be found in the C&I meeting packet here, beginning on page 26. If you have further questions, please contact Dr. Diane DeBacker, Chief Academic Officer at dmdebacker@seattleschools.org.

Science Instructional Materials Adoption
Question from C&I Policy Committee: Was there an opportunity at the Science Instructional Materials Adoption professional development training to identify and talk about concerns?

Answer: Yes. In every session (elementary, middle, and high school), we gave multiple opportunities in each of the four days of professional development to have teachers ask questions, voice their concerns and offer input. Generally, the participating teachers expressed gratitude for having the professional development time to learn about and engage with the new materials and learn about the pedagogy that is required by the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). They also said they felt prepared for the classes in the fall. Moreover, in every session, teachers shared their enthusiasm and gratitude for the new resources and how these tools will help them offer quality science instruction to all kids across the District with an eye toward equitable practices that meet the needs of our historically underserved population. If you would like to see the survey data from these professional development sessions, please contact Dr. Caleb Perkins, Director of College and Career Readiness at ebperkins@seattleschools.org or Cashel Toner, Executive Director of Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction at cctoner@seattleschools.org.

National Science Foundation’s DRK-12 Grant
A Board Action Report (BAR) for the acceptance of the National Science Foundation’s (NSF) DRK-12 Grant was presented at the Audit and Finance (A&F) Committee on August 19th. Along with the University of Washington, Seattle Public Schools is a recipient of the grant that will support professional development for science teachers. A Friday Memo was sent on July 12th announcing the award. Please refer to the August 19th Audit and Finance Committee meeting packet for details. If you have further questions, please contact Dr. Diane DeBacker, Chief Academic Officer at dmdebacker@seattleschools.org.