

# Secondary Education and School Improvement

## *District/School Systems Gap Analysis Process*



### Overview

The **Gap Analysis** is a “big-picture” reflective process that focuses on what students experience as they progress through the school/district system over time.

Through the self-assessment process, participants identify specific district-wide strengths and opportunities for improvement in order to create a focus for future **Implementation Planning** at the district/school levels.



### Research-Based Process

Research in evidence-based practices, district data, and district curriculum documents guide the review and provide evidence for strengths and opportunities for growth. Criteria for assessment draw primarily from the work of:

- OSPI’s K-12 Reading Model
- National Reading Panel
- National Mathematics Advisory Panel

### Purpose of the Gap Analysis

The process is designed to: (1) analyze the curriculum, instruction, assessment, and intervention components of the existing K-12 Mathematics and Reading Systems; (2) identify strengths and growth opportunities for improving these systems; and (3) prioritize systemic “gaps” that provide a focus for subsequent planning for improvement.

### Participants

Reading and Mathematics Gap Analysis teams represent all parts of the system: district leaders, middle and high school mathematics and reading teachers, elementary teachers, alternative program representatives, instructional coaches, ELL, Special Education, and *Title I* teachers and leaders.

### Outcomes

**Summary Statements** that emerge from the **Gap Analysis Process** form the platform for proposed changes designed to ensure implementation of coherent K-12 Reading and Mathematics Systems. **Summary Statements** are used in both the **District Self-Assessment** and **Implementation Planning** processes.

### Process at a Glance

#### Preparation

- Communicate process to district leaders and participants
- Collect relevant data and curriculum documents

#### Mathematics (1 day) & Reading (2 days)

- Review current research
- Analyze data
- Identify strengths and “gaps”
- Prioritize needs and research-based strategies
- Generate **Summary Statements**

#### Debrief

- Review findings with district leaders
- Analyze data
- Identify Next Steps