



STRONG START PROGRAM OVERVIEW + 2019-2020 WORKSHOPS

The most successful schools are those with strong operational systems and procedures. As a follow-up to the Washington State Charter Schools Association's (WA Charters') School Leadership and Design Fellowship, the Strong Start program works with newly authorized and currently operating charter public schools in Washington State to provide training, services and resources to thoughtfully develop school operations and academic systems. By creating compliant, sustainable systems and procedures within the operations team, instructional staff can focus on providing a high quality, equitable education to diverse learners.

Strong Start allows WA Charters members to receive additional supports through on-demand consultation, technical assistance, trainings, and advocacy. Our training aligns to state and federal regulations as well as Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction requirements and prepares new schools to successfully meet the Washington State Charter School Commission Pre-Opening Conditions.

2019

JULY

Finance Foundations

- GAAP, Budgeting, Back Office Roles and Responsibilities Fund Development
- Workshopping your plan

AUGUST

Preparing for Staff

- Non-instructional Staff Recruitment and Personnel Best Practices

SEPTEMBER

Preparing for Students

- Student Recruitment and Enrollment Best Practices
- Parent/Family Engagement in the Planning Year
- Running a Lottery
- Open Public Meeting Act (OPMA) Compliance

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

Universally Designed School Culture and Climate

- Restorative Practices and MTSS Systems
- Student Civil Rights
- Student Discipline Regulations

Universally Designed Curriculum and Instruction

- Interventions, SEL and UDL

DECEMBER

Preparing for Instructional Staff

- Competency-based Hiring
- Staff Handbook
- Personnel Requirements and Compliance

2020

JANUARY

School-Based Residencies

- Observe the culture and climate systems, professional development and instructional coaching practices within a Washington State charter school

FEBRUARY

Instruction and Professional Development

- Professional Development and Coaching
- Assessments and Screeners
- Interventions
- Program Preparation (Title I and LAP)

MARCH

Day-to-Day School Operations

- Child Nutrition
- Transportation
- School Health
- Student Information Systems

APRIL & MAY

Developing a Continuum of Services

- SpEd, ELL, HiCap

Staff Readiness & Preparation

- Crisis Communication
- Summer Onboarding

JUNE

iGrants Application Workshop

- Special Education IDEA (FP267)
- Title I, Part A (FP201)
- Learning Assistance Program (FP 218) Title III Consortium (FP231)

PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Strong Start program centers around three primary components:

1. Monthly cohort workshops
2. Monthly team check-ins with WA Charters departments
3. Weekly team check-ins with Director of School Services for Start-up Plan management support

Strong Start workshops will be held on the 4th Friday of the month unless otherwise noted.

We will have a combination of in-person and remote workshops.

Date	Location	Topic	Presenters
July 1, 2019	Seattle Public Library	Strong Start Kick Off & Happy Hour	All available WA Charters Staff for introductions
July 26, 2019	Seattle	Finance Foundations & Fund Development	Bill Kiolbasa, Gillia Bakie, Diana Marker
August 23, 2019	Remote	Preparing for Non-Instructional Staff	Diana Marker
September 27, 2019	Seattle	Preparing for Students & Families	Franki McDaniel, Derek Dias
October 25, 2019	Seattle	Building Systems for a Universally Designed School Culture	John Scott, Diana Marker, Mitch Price
November 22, 2019	Seattle	Building Systems for Universally Designed Curriculum and Instruction	Diana Marker, Sarah Okun
December 13, 2019	Remote	Preparing for Instructional Staff	Diana Marker
January	Remote	Differentiated School-Based Residencies	
February 28, 2020	Remote	Instruction and Professional Development	Diana Marker, Rekha Bhatt
March 26-27, 2020	Spokane	Building Systems for Day-to-Day Operations and visits to PRIDE Prep and Spokane International Academy	Diana Marker
April 24, 2020	Remote	Developing a Continuum of Services	Diana Marker, Sarah Okun
May 22, 2020	Seattle	Staff Readiness & Communications	Maggie Meyers, Diana Marker
June 26, 2020	Seattle	iGrants Workshop	Diana Marker

ON-GOING MONTHLY CHECK-INS

Each school team will be responsible for coordinating a monthly check-in with various departments at WA Charters as well as with our external partners at Washington Charter School Development (WCSD).

These check-ins will be a way to directly connect you with our experts as well as keep you abreast of resources and supports available to you. Your school team will schedule check-ins with the following departments at WA Charters:

- Communications
- Facilities (WCSD)
- Family and Community Engagement
- Finance
- Fund Development
- True Measure Collaborative: Inclusive Instructional Practices

WEEKLY COACHING

Each school team will be required to participate in weekly coaching to aid in tracking progress on the WA Charters Start-up Plan.