

Mt. Baker School District Partnership Summer School

During the past ten summers, Mount Baker School District and Western Washington University have operated a Summer Program that provided remedial reading instruction to students grade K through 6 and served as a practicum setting for special education majors.

Supported by a grant from Washington Mutual, the Mt. Baker/WWU partnership provides a context in which WWU and Mt. Baker School District benefit. WWU preservice teachers provide Mt. Baker K-6 students with six weeks of direct instruction in the areas of reading, math, and writing. This experience allows the K-6 students to make measurable progress toward academic competency. WWU Special Education preservice teachers receive high quality training, close supervision and daily practice in sound instructional methods.

WWU students are provided with a context in which they implement effective instruction and assessment practices as well as family/school collaboration strategies. WWU students utilize curriculum-based evaluation (CBE) procedures to determine the reading, math, and written instructional needs of the K-6 students. WWU preservice teachers monitor the students' progress in reading, math, written expression, and spelling. These progress-monitoring procedures include collecting performance data, evaluating the data and modifying instruction based on that data.

Family/School communication is strengthened as a result of the Summer Program. WWU students are required to communicate weekly with families during course of the Summer Program. Communication includes information about students' progress. WWU students communicate with teachers and families at the conclusion of the Summer Program by sharing progress monitoring and final evaluation data in all content areas.

For more information about this partnership contact Bridget.Kelley@wwu.edu