



Bellevue Big Picture School

Opening Fall 2011 to grades 6 and 9
Serving grades 6-12 by 2014

A Worldwide Network

- 130 schools in the USA, Canada, Israel, the Netherlands, & Australia
- US schools have a 90+% high school graduation rate
- Over 90% of students accepted to college
- www.bigpicture.org

Key Principles

- Learning must be based on the interests and goals of each student
- A student's curriculum must be relevant to people and places that exist in the real world
- A student's abilities must be authentically measured by the quality of his or her work

Mission

To prepare all students for success in college, career, and citizenship through personalized, rigorous, and relevant learning experiences.



Volunteering at BBP—We need you!

Learning at Bellevue Big Picture is connected to students' interests, communities, and futures. For students to succeed and lay the foundation for college and careers, it is critical that they gain experience with responsible adults and professionals in a variety of fields. Below is a sampling of the roles we are seeking.

Time commitment (Sept—June)	Volunteer role
If you have 2-6 hours, one time, you might...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Host students on a visit to your workplace ◆ Visit BBP to speak to students about your career/schooling OR ◆ Evaluate student projects related to your field
If you have 1-2 hours/week to come to BBP, you might...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Be a one-on-one mentor/tutor ◆ Provide academic and/or social support for a group of students OR ◆ Work with teachers and students to implement project-based units
If you have time weekly at your workplace, you might...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Host a high school intern. Interns work 10 hours a week (W/Th) on projects that benefit your organization and connect to the student's learning goals

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Big Picture Learning - FAQs

What is Big Picture Learning?

The Big Picture Learning design is a dynamic approach to learning, doing, and thinking that has been changing the lives of students, educators, and entire communities since 1995 (see www.bigpicture.org). High school students work at internships two days each week at organizations related to their interests. Teachers (called advisors) teach the same group of students for multiple years, and work closely with family and community members. Core curriculum and advisory content focus on college and career readiness, in a small and personalized environment.



Building bridges to our students' futures

Why Big Picture in Bellevue?

Bellevue's outstanding middle and high schools serve many students well. However, evidence shows that some students consistently struggle in large, traditional schools. BBP provides a smaller environment focused on leveraging student interests and connecting them with college and career pathways.

Who can attend Bellevue Big Picture?

All students in Bellevue School District may attend BBP. For 2011-12, students were admitted for 6th and 9th grades. New 6th and 9th grade classes will be added each year until the school serves grades 6-12.

What do students learn at BBP?

BBP students take a college-preparatory curriculum based on the five Big Picture learning goals: quantitative reasoning, empirical reasoning, social reasoning, communication, and personal qualities. Courses are aligned with state standards and the district's common curriculum topics. 11th and 12th graders will be encouraged to enroll in Running Start courses for college credit.

Why the focus on community and adult volunteers?

Big Picture believes that students learn to be adults by being with adults, and that positive relationships with caring adults can be a stabilizing influence in the sometimes tumultuous time of adolescence. Our developing partnerships with colleges, nonprofit organizations, and businesses support students in both academic and personal success.

How can I get involved?

Contact Bethany Spinler using the information on this flyer. Check out our website. We'd love to work with you!

Contact:

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