

Board Summary: Community Linkage Meeting
Connecting with the City Council, Mayor and City Staff
Jan. 24, 2013

The Bellingham School Board and Superintendent Greg Baker welcomed the City Council, Mayor Kelli Linville and some staff members from the City of Bellingham to a linkage meeting at Roosevelt Elementary School.

The purpose of the meeting was for the Board to engage in a broad-based discussion about the direction and goals of our district as it relates to the district mission, values and outcomes for student learning. The School Board listened as the City Council and Mayor reflected upon the district's strategic plan, known as The Bellingham Promise, using these guiding questions:

- What in The Bellingham Promise resonates?
- What in The Bellingham Promise could be improved?

Council members praised the School Board for the collaborative process used to develop The Bellingham Promise, and for how it reflects the values of the community. The portion of The Bellingham Promise related to developing students to become active, engaged citizens especially resonated with some Council members.

The Board and Council also discussed how Bellingham Public Schools can strengthen its relationship with the City of Bellingham. Both the Council and the Board expressed a desire to meet again. In addition City Council member Cathy Lehman has been appointed as the liaison to the School Board and plans to attend some Board meetings to keep the Council updated and promote open communication. The Council and Board discussed the work of Bellingham Public Schools' Facilities Planning Task Force. Both the Board and Council expressed a desire to keep each other informed about facility plans for schools and neighborhoods.

To view the complete notes from the meeting, please [click here](#).