



Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) to the Superintendent Meeting Oct. 20, 2016 – Happy Valley Elementary Key Communications

Each school has two representatives on this committee. Holly Miller and Grace Munson are co-chairs.

- We are here to learn information, have discussions and give input to the superintendent. **It's important that we bring information back to each of our schools, share it, and bring back questions or concerns from other parents. Please send a substitute if you are unable to attend.**

Superintendent's Update

- Congratulations to the middle schools on the [joint fundraising project](#).
- A 2-year [School Bus Levy](#) is on the ballot: A reminder to please vote the whole ballot by Nov 8.
- ***Our Kids*** is a book that our leaders and some teachers are reading. If you're interested in a parent book study, copies are available.
- **New high school schedule** coming this fall: Planning is underway.
- The [Squalicum High School field](#) is now complete.

1:1 Technology Integration

- In 2013, voters passed our current technology levy. It has helped us rebuild our technology infrastructure, replace old computers at a 3:1 ratio of computers per students, and much more.
- Our Student Technology Think Tank provided the recommendation that provided the basis for our next technology levy, which voters overwhelmingly passed in February 2016.
- A big part of the upcoming technology levy is a 1:1 device per student, starting at the secondary grades. The first cohort will start with the 2017-18 school year with remaining secondary schools to follow.
- The schedule introduces the technology to staff first at pilot schools (Squalicum, Options and Kulshan) this year with professional development; students at those schools receive their devices the following year. This process repeats with adding more schools each consecutive year.
- **Adapting and improving instruction while integrating technology is at the heart of this work.**
- One Note has an online notebook that can be used as an instructional tool where teachers can give feedback to students in real time. Parents also looked at an immersive reader tool that can read text to students to build literacy levels as well as a dictation feature.
- ***Question about how some teachers use technology and Skyward while others don't?*** Schools staff are having conversations now about consistent use of technology across classrooms and schools. This is part of our professional development.
- ***Question about parent learning initiatives related to technology?*** Yes, we need to think about learning at home just like at school.
- A focus on teaching **online safety and digital citizenship** is an important part of this project. *Screenagers* is a film about supporting healthy and appropriate technology use at school and home; our Bellingham Public Schools Foundation is working on a community screening. We are working on curriculum resources for families, home use recommendations, and guest speakers. Schools are developing digital citizenship and online safety curriculum lessons. School administrators are receiving training on social media, bullying and digital safety.

Announcements, Questions and Feedback from Schools

- Questions about portables and a balanced, year-round school calendar for future discussion.

Next Meeting: Dec. 8, 2016 at the district office board room