

**Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) to the Superintendent Meeting  
June 2, 2016 – Central Services Board Room  
Key Communications**

Each school has two representatives on this committee. Attendees introduced themselves and shared their connections with the school district. Dawn Brand and Grace Munson are co-chairs.

**Superintendent's Update**

- Thank you for a **great school year**.
- **Leadership Update:** Analisa Ficklin will be the principal at Cordata Elementary School next school year. Stephanie Johnson will be the interim principal at Wade King Elementary.
- The [Transportation Levy Advisory Group](#) is ready to submit their recommendation to the superintendent that will include a **school bus levy** for the November ballot. WTA and the City of Bellingham were represented on the group. The proposed levy will replace an aging bus fleet, improve student safety, meet growing needs for specialized transportation for students in special education and who are homeless, and support more opportunities for students such as field trips and an improved high school schedule.
- **Budget:** We shared our draft budget this spring and received feedback. We then communicated what we heard and are planning to fund for 2016-17 to finalize our budget this June.
- **Facilities Update:** Ron Cowan shared an update on the Parkview and Happy Valley projects, which are nearing completion. He also shared that we are preparing for construction this summer for the turf field at Squalicum High School and the new Options High School. Finally, the [New Sehome High School Educational Specifications and Design Advisory Committee](#) will be submitting a recommendation to the superintendent this month for the proposed site plan and design for the new school. The site plan allows students to remain in the existing building while the new Sehome is built. The group shared appreciation that the projects have remained on budget and on schedule.

**Partners in Funding – Roles of the District, Foundation, PTA/PTO**

- The group reflected on the various funding roles of the district, Bellingham Public Schools Foundation and PTA/PTOs.
- **Field trips:** Each school has a budget for field trips. The Foundation also helps fund field trips. And, PTA general fundraising supports field trips. We want to avoid asking parents for money for a specific field trip. If a field trip is desired, PTAs should work with their school's principal.
- Need clarification on **how PTAs can contribute to bonds and levy campaigns**. The national and state PTA recommendation is no more than 3-5% of the school's annual PTA budget.
- A PTA from one of our schools adopted another school's PTA this year.
- We will continue this conversation throughout next school year.

**Announcements and Acknowledgements**

The group recognized Dawn Brand for her service as co-chair. Holly Miller will be the new co-chair for 2016-17. Grace Munson thanked everyone for their work, attendance and sharing information back at their schools.

**Next Meeting: September 2016 at the District Office.**