



**Family Partnership Program Advisory Group
Survey Feedback Summary
Dec. 12, 2014**

The Family Partnership Program Advisory Group sought community/parent during an open forum on Nov. 18 at 5 p.m. via electronic survey. Additionally, feedback was sought on Dec. 2, 2014 via email communication. A reminder was sent on Monday, Dec. 8 and the survey closed Friday, Dec. 12 at noon. A total of 54 people responded to the survey.

Respondents:

Of the 54 respondents, more than half of them have children in public schools (53 percent). The next highest group was home-based learning (independent homeschool) with 25.5 percent. A total of 48 respondents currently live within Bellingham Public Schools boundaries.

Number of children respondents have:

- One child (52 percent)
- Two children (34 percent)
- Three children (6 percent)
- Four or more children (8 percent)

Grades children are in:

- Grades K-2 (46 percent)
- Grades 3 to 5 (38 percent)
- Grades 6 to 8 (30 percent)
- Grades 9 to 12 (16 percent)

Program preferences:

More than 50 percent of respondents selected the option of two days per week to have their child participate in workshops/classes, followed by 31 percent of respondents selecting three days per week.

Respondents had mixed answers as to what time of day works for their schedules. Tied with 31.25 percent, both “afternoon offerings” and “all times work” were the top selections.

Regarding teaching/learning approach or model that best fits their child’s needs, 32 respondents selected project-based learning, 27 respondents selected thematic approach, 27 respondents selected single subject class and 11 respondents selected consultation and curricular support for home-based instruction. Note: respondents could select more than one choice.

When asked which top five subject areas families would like to seek support, the following were most selected:

- World Language, 65 percent
- Science, 63 percent
- Math, 49 percent
- Technology, 47 percent
- Music, 47 percent

A total of 18 respondents said they would consider enrolling with the Family Partnership Program as early as winter/spring 2015, 14 respondents selected next school year and 11 respondents were unsure.

What would you not want to see in the Family Partnership program?

- Required participation
- Homework
- Unqualified parents in the classroom
- Tests

Additional input:

- Autism/special needs opportunities
- Offer world language classes, especially Russian
- Social skills classes
- Online support
- Available counselor or psychologist
- Support for varied learning styles
- Enhanced learning opportunities for highly capable students

Deeper Analysis:

Of the 18 respondents who would be interested in enrolling this school year 55 percent have children in grades K to 2 and 33 percent are in grades 6 to 8. Of these children, 50 percent are currently receiving home-based learning (independent homeschool) and 39 percent are enrolled in public school. This group marked science as their top need for additional support at 72 percent.

Of the 25 respondents who are currently enrolled in public schools, tied at 65.22 percent, respondents chose thematic approach and project-based learning as their preference for a model that best fits their child's learning needs. The respondents for this group had children ranging from grade 3 to grade 8 primarily (80 percent). Of this group, four people commented on the need for special needs support in the program, especially including Autism.