

Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) to the Superintendent: Key Communications
March 23, 2017 – Kulshan Middle School (Room 306)

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

- We are here to learn information, have discussions and give input to the superintendent. **Please bring information back to each of our schools, share it, and take back questions or concerns from other parents. Please send a parent sub if you are unable to represent your school at a future meeting.**

Superintendent's Update

- **New High School Schedule:** What's happening with homework? Students will have eight classes next year instead of six or seven. Each day, students will attend four classes, giving them more time to complete homework on off days before their class meets again. We also will have an academic support or anchor course that meets twice per week for all students, AVID, additional electives to pursue passion areas and a variety of other support classes. We are also looking at other ways to support students with more high school and middle counseling if state revenue allows us to invest in this area.
- **Facilities Update:** The District Office, Gordon Carter Environmental Learning Center and Transportation Garage are the projects still remaining from the 2013 bond, in addition to Sehome and Options that are underway. The soil, rain and snow slowed us down at Options and more resources were needed there to finish on time. With Sehome's increased construction costs, new storm water regulations and more, additional funds are needed to finish Sehome from the next bond; finishing Sehome is not contingent on passing on the bond because we will use funding from remaining projects as needed from our facilities fund. A call for applications is out for our next [Facilities Planning Task Force](#).
- **Snow Day:** We shared our [plan](#) for make-up days earlier this week.
- **New Principals:** Following an extensive interview process, we announced three principal selections at Wade King, Stephanie Johnson; at Sunnyland, Lynn Heimsoth; and at Columbia, Aaron Darragh. They are an experienced and dynamic group of leaders.

Project-Based and Inquiry-Based Learning

- What does it mean and how does it look when it's working? Joe Wooding and Jeff Thran, 8th grade teachers at Kulshan Middle School, shared their take on project-based learning and mock congress rite of passage. The magic is making the content applicable to kids' lives: How can you make a difference in the world? Alderwood Principal Micah Smith shared an elementary school perspective of project-based learning.

Next Meeting: April 20, 2017 at Alderwood Elementary School