

Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) to the Superintendent: Key Communications Oct. 5, 2017

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

- We are here to learn, 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.**
- Please arrange for a parent substitute to attend PAC if you are unable to attend.
- After meeting introductions, parents worked in small groups to discuss and prioritize meeting agenda topics for the school year.

Superintendent's Update

- Dr. Baker shared that we are **implementing many system changes** this year that we've been planning years for, including [new start/end times](#), [high school schedule](#) and [1:1 student technology](#). He talked about a new [safety technology](#) monitoring program for parents for district-provided devices. [Free Office 365 products](#) are available to all families. [Low-cost internet service is available for qualifying families as well as computer classes for parents.](#)
- **Facilities Update:** [Sehome High School construction](#) is well underway. Click here for an update on [2013 bond projects](#).
- **Bond 2018:** As we discussed last year at PAC when our Facilities Planning Task Force was developing its recommendation, we will have a bond proposal on the Feb. 13, 2018 ballot. Please be familiar with what it's in the [bond proposal](#) so you can be a key communicator at your school.

Parent Shout Outs

- The annual joint middle school fundraiser is underway with all four schools working together.
- Sehome Science Olympiad: There is so much interest that they're trying something different and plan to hold it at Sehome.
- Parent applauded how caring the teachers are for our kids.
- New principal at Columbia is going through an inquiry and entry plan process connected to The Bellingham Promise; Columbia is also looking at parent organizations and equity with interest in collaborative fundraising among all elementary schools.
- A girls STEM exploration program is happening at Roosevelt.
- Silver Beach has a student helpers program to build community and pride.
- Wade King is working on supporting social emotional learning for students and parents.
- Northern Heights has a new garden.

Next Meeting: November 2, 2017, District Office, Board Room

2017-18 PAC Meeting Dates: 10/5, 11/2, 12/7, 1/25, 2/22, 3/29, 4/26, 5/31