

**Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) to the Superintendent: Key Communications**  
**Jan. 25, 2018**

Each school has two representatives on this committee. Attendees introduced themselves and shared their connections with the school district, tools they use for technology and what they are looking forward to in 2018. 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 arrange for a parent substitute to attend PAC if you are unable to attend.

**Superintendent's Update**

- **Loss:** Dr. Baker acknowledged that this is our first time gathering together since the loss of Tanya Rowe. We are adding capacity to the Communications Department in the interim and will be taking steps in the coming months to fill the executive director position permanently.
- **Calendar Adjustments:** High school families are impacted with the addition of some all school early dismissals (Feb. 8, March 8, April 26). We anticipate the 2018-19 school year will be released in the coming months ([key dates for 2018-19](#) has been released).
- **Budget:** The state legislature is now in session in Olympia. While not inclusive of all future investments, [four budget priorities](#) for 2018-19 are: staff compensation, enhancing the middle school schedule to expand elective opportunities, adopting new curriculum for social emotional education (K-8) and middle school science; and adding support for K-3 grades to meet state requirements.
- **Special Invite:** PACs representatives are invited to a special poverty immersion exercise from 9:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. on March 7. More info to follow.
- **Facilities Update:** We have our facilities bond on the February ballot. Sunnyland is one of the schools that is slated to be rebuilt. Click here for [bond facts](#) to share with parents. You will start to see ballots in your mailboxes in the coming days.
- **Leadership Shifts:** Karen Tolliver at Happy Valley has announced her retirement. This position is posted and we're working with that community to find the best person for that position.

**Up and Coming Best Practices in Classroom-to-Home Communications**

- Technology integration Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) Brian Pahl presented information related to the 1:1 student technology initiative and school-to-home communications tools, including Seesaw and OneNote. Executive Director of Educational Technology Kurt Gazow and Squaticum Principal James Everett also helped answer questions.
- Feel free to leave comments or questions on [bitly.com/Jan25BhamPAC](https://bitly.com/Jan25BhamPAC) and/or share/tag via social media [@bellingshamschools](#) and [@edtechbham](#) on Instagram; [@BhamSD](#) and [@edtechbham](#) on Twitter; [@BellinghamSchools](#) on Facebook. Brian offered to attend any PTA meeting or parent group to help answer questions and share details about the 1:1 student tech initiative, best practices, digital safety and more. You can email [brian.pahl@bellingshamschools.org](mailto:brian.pahl@bellingshamschools.org). You can also attend upcoming [Family Tech nights](#).

**Parent Shout Outs**

- Shout out to Birchwood PTA for amazing family nights. New or gently used shoe donations to [Jamipitman77@yahoo.com](mailto:Jamipitman77@yahoo.com)

**Tour of Sunnyland Elementary**

**Next Meeting:** Feb. 22, 2018, District Office, Board Room

**2017-18 PAC Meeting Dates:** 2/22, 3/29, 4/26, 5/31