



Dec. 1, 2014

Dear Parkview Elementary School Neighbors,

We are so excited to share with you that we have started the process to make some greatly needed improvements to Parkview Elementary School in your neighborhood. Thanks to voters who approved a bond to fund these projects in November 2013, Parkview is receiving safety and energy efficiency upgrades as well as a new gym or cafeteria.

A Parkview Educational Specifications/Design Advisory Committee has just been formed and will provide input into the renovation work specific to the gym or cafeteria. The committee is made up of staff, parents and neighborhood representative John McGarrity, Chair of the Cornwall Park Neighborhood Association. This committee will take into consideration that a future bond issue may provide funds for the complete renovation or rebuilding of Parkview Elementary, although the design of a new Parkview will not be part of this committee's work. This may impact which type of space to build – a gym or cafeteria – and the location of the new space, which has not been determined and will be part of the committee's recommendation to me later this winter.

The purpose of this letter is to share this exciting news with you about improvements to Parkview that will be a great asset to students, families and the neighborhood community. It's important to us that you feel well informed about your Bellingham Public Schools; therefore, we want to provide regular updates to you about this project. Since this planning work is just about to begin, we don't have many details yet. However, you can follow the committee's work online at [bellingshamschools.org/parkview-design-advisory-group](http://bellingshamschools.org/parkview-design-advisory-group) where meeting minutes and other information is posted. I anticipate receiving a recommendation from this committee in February with construction on a new gym or cafeteria to begin later this spring and summer and be completed approximately one year later, by summer 2016.

We appreciate your support of our schools and strive to be good communicators and neighbors.

I wish you and your family a happy holiday season,

Greg Baker,  
Superintendent of Bellingham Public Schools