



Elementary Partners in Funding
10 a.m. May 30, 2018
District Office Board Room, 1306 Dupont St.

Welcome, Introduction, Recap of PTA Summit in 2017 – Superintendent Greg Baker

Dr. Baker welcomed the group of PTA/PTO representatives, principals and district office staff and asked everyone to introduce themselves. Dr. Baker said the way schools fund needs has changed throughout the years and he said the meeting was an opportunity to share ideas for the next steps in the fundraising journey.

Update from the Bellingham Public Schools Foundation – Kim Lund, Executive Director Bellingham Public Schools Foundation

Kim Lund handed out meeting minutes from the Fundraising Summit last June and a draft of the Partners in Funding document. She said they are looking for clarity, purpose and intention of fundraising. Kim then shared a letter from the SMMUSD to their families and shared work the Foundation is doing with BPS middle schools.

Funding Matrix Group Activity – Kristy Dominguez, Executive Director Teaching & Learning

Kristy D reiterated that the BPS partners in funding matrix is a work in progress. Kristy also described the importance of defining what the schools, foundation and district should be fundraising for. She then introduced the Funding Matrix Group Activity. Groups shared takeaways from this exercise:

PTA

- PTA/PTO's support individual schools what would one schoolhouse look like with PTA/PTO?
- Guiding documents helpful.
- Does it make sense to pull off one project & dig in?
- Acknowledgement of teacher supply stipends – pull out, dig in, and see what we can do?

Foundation

- Currently that isn't captured: Establishing an endowment at the WCF. Will grow over time and not be touched.
- Much of the conversation focused on afterschool enrichment/community pieces. Many blurred lines. What elements belong where? If you look at the missions maybe providing field trip stipends for different reasons.
- FRC – how can it provide for our families?
- PTA of surplus funds. What is an appropriate level of surplus? Should they be on hand? Is there a way to have the funds bear interest? Or allocation of the endowment fund? Taking a critical look at why we keep?

Bellingham Public Schools



- Headed – integration within the classroom. Resources
- What is the role of music & arts? Across the school district it looks different – how to supplement.
- What happens outside the classroom? School garden/ conservation site/snack & breakfast program

Next Steps, Ideas for Future Meetings – Jackie Brawley, Executive Director of Communications and Community Relations

Jackie handed out a survey for the group as next steps are developed. Hope & assumption is that we will meet again – and regularly in the future.