



Elementary Partners in Funding Meeting Sept. 10, 2019

Silver Beach Elementary School

Introductions

Everyone introduced themselves and shared their connections with our elementary schools.

Elizabeth Boyle, development director with the Bellingham Public Schools Foundation, shared history and inspiration for the equity pilot project.

12 of our elementary schools are interested in being involved in this pilot project. We are here tonight to discuss details and get feedback on the aspects of the toolkit. How can the Foundation and district help you?

Toolkit for elementary parent groups

The toolkit, including the video, was shared with the group, and feedback was given. Parent group representatives will be sharing parts of the toolkit with families, and there was a strong interest in having the district share the messaging more widely to ensure all elementary families receive the same information.

The district plans to share a message on behalf of the PTAs and parent groups in late September.

There is a strong interest to ensure the word “pilot” is used to describe this project.

Next steps

Parent group representatives shared they need the “nuts and bolts” information, which will help them share the details of the project.

- The 10% given will be based on last year's total income. By using last year's numbers, this allows for better planning for all involved.
- There will be two turn in dates: Oct. 31 and Feb. 1. It's ideal if a group can submit their contribution in full at the first turn in date as it allows money to get back out to support students more quickly. The free and reduced meal numbers for each school are available by Oct. 31. With those numbers in hand and the contributions to the fund, the checks will be then disbursed to each school by Nov. 15.
- The Foundation will support this project as a trusted fiscal partner. Checks will be sent to the Foundation and all money will be returned to the schools, no money stays with the Foundation. Checks can be sent to BPSF, P.O. Box 1132, Bellingham, WA 98227.

The next meeting will be Oct. 15, 2019 at Roosevelt Elementary.