

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE STUDENT ROUNDTABLE SPECIAL MEETING
BELLINGHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
November 6 2019 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Linkage Attendees:

- x Students from Kulshan Middle School
- x Directors present Douglas Benjamin, Camille Diaz Hackler, Jenn Mason
- x Superintendent of Bellingham Public Schools Greg Baker
- x District Leadership and Staff Assistant Superintendent Steve Clarke, Executive Director Jay Jordan; Assistant Superintendent Bob Kuehl; Executive Director Kurt Gazow; Executive Director Kristi Dominguez; Executive Director Jackie Brawley; Assistant Superintendent Simone Sangster; Kulshan Middle School Assistant Principal Kevin Terpstra; Director of Teaching and Learning Charisse Berner; Early Childhood Specialist

4. Have you joined a club or sport? How is that going?
5. What can we do to improve the middle school experience?
6. What was it like going from elementary to middle school? Please share reflections about WEB, challenges, supports, and any orientations/events that you attended.
7. Thinking about your daily schedule, what is it like in your class?
8. How does our 1:1 (laptop) initiative support your learning?

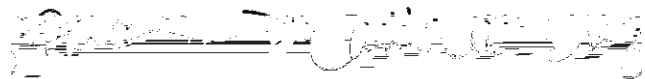
At the end of the small group time, Dr. Baker will join each table group to hear a brief summary of their small group discussions. Following is a summary of responses to the guiding questions:

- x Sixth graders have more ability to create their own schedule.
- x The transition to middle school was a big step for many students, particularly the WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) program.
- x There are additional freedoms in middle school, such as the ability to pass between classes. Some sixth graders are still adjusting to this freedom.
- x Teachers can credit students for 2 Q H 1 R (Quality Homework) and OneNote entries.
- x There is more opportunity for involvement in extracurricular activities.
- x The WEB group is helpful for sixth graders as it provides a safe space for students to interact with and they understand the challenges they are facing.
- x Middle school is a place where students can learn to be more independent.
- x It feels like there is more trust in the sixth graders in the WEB program.
- x Not convinced that homework is a good thing.
- x Challenges associated with the move to middle school include homework and stress about the laptop in good. The upside is that Q q 0.00000917 1 0 0 1 334.99 427.63nT /F6 12 Tf 1 0 0 1 247.37 598.42 Tm 0 g 0 G6 12 T598.42
- x Additional support would be good.
- x The WEB program is very helpful, and additional activities for students would be great at the beginning of the school year.

Dr. Baker thanked everyone for being here this afternoon. Student voice is important and helps the school board and district determine how to make things better.

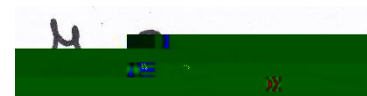
Ms. Diaz Hackler also thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 2:56 p.m.

Approved:



Camille Diaz Hackler School Board President

Attest:



Greg Baker, Secretary to the Board

Minutes approved November 20, 2019