

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY LINKAGE SPECIAL MEETING
BELLINGHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

May 3, 2023 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Sehome High School

Linkage Attendees:

- **Sehome High School Students, Parents/Guardians**
- Directors present: **Kelly Bashaw, Douglas Benjamin, Camille Diaz Hackler, Jenn Mason, Katie Rose.**
- Superintendent of Bellingham Public Schools **Greg Baker.**
- District Leadership and Staff: Executive Director of Communications and Community Relations **Jackie Brawley**; Deputy Superintendent **Mike Copland**; Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning **Jay Jordan**; Executive Director of Family Engagement **Isabel Meaker**; Executive Director of Educational Technology **Kurt Gazow**; Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources **Matt Whitten**; Executive Director of Human Resources **Ari Feeney**; Director of Special Education **Courtney Ross Webb**; Sehome High School Principal **Sonia Cole**; Sehome High School Instructional Coach **Kim Kirk**; and Sehome High School Special Education Teacher **Erin Furda.**

Call to Order/Welcome and Introductions: School Board President Camille Diaz Hackler welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. She introduced Superintendent Greg Baker who welcomed attendees and invited all to introduce themselves.

Meeting Purpose – Explanation of Community Linkages: Dr. Baker thanked everyone for taking the time to be here this evening.

Community linkage meetings give the school board an opportunity to strengthen the connection with our students, and the school board is excited to hear what students and their families have to say about their experiences. The three table groups will now have time for conversations and respond to the guiding questions provided:

- How have our schools and school district supported you? Or not?
- In looking at The Bellingham Promise, what stands out for you as important?
- Thinking about your daily schedule, what is your favorite part of the day?
- What works best to support your learning?
- Tell me about a time when you felt loved at school.
- What do you want to b37.87 36. thre BT 612 792 reW*nBTF6 12 Tf1 0 0 1 108.02 142 Tm0 g0 G2 00 G

- What are some of the things we could be doing differently to help you or your friends?
- What are some things that you would like adults to know about being served in Special Education?

- Mr. Benjamin shared that one of his children attended the Life Skills program and now works at Fred Meyer. Each year the Washington State School Directors Association (WSSDA) selects