

# WE ARE FERNDALE:



A FERNDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PUBLICATION



## ISSUE 1: AUGUST 2018

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*Welcome Back from Ferndale School District Superintendent Dr. Linda Quinn.*

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*The District releases the 2018-2019 calendar and info about back-to-school so that you can start planning for your school year!*

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*Get info and find out how you can learn more about the proposed school bond.*



# DEAR FERNDALE FAMILIES -

From the 4th of July to the Old Settlers' weekend, we have enjoyed exceptional weather in Ferndale this summer.

Like our families, our wonderful teachers and some of our staff have enjoyed a much-deserved summer break. Other staff, like our maintenance and custodial crews, have been working hard all summer long cleaning, repairing, and caring for our buildings and grounds. By the time this letter reaches your mailbox, many of our teachers and office staff will also be back in their classrooms and offices preparing for the year ahead. We are so grateful for the dedicated service of the exceptional people who work in the Ferndale School District!

On behalf of our staff team, I want to take this opportunity to welcome you to the 2018-2019 school year, and also to share with you some of the major priorities we will be working on this year:

- Allocate more dollars towards preventative building maintenance
- Continue to grow the new Community Connections (home school) support program that we started last April.
- Double down on our district-wide safety campaign, maintaining our strong (and state-recognized) focus on emergency preparedness and focus on prevention through greater attention to students' social and emotional needs.
- Partner with the Ferndale Chamber of Commerce to strengthen our students' career readiness education.
- Expand early learning programs.
- Continue to support students earning a diploma in order to realize our goal of 100% graduation rate.
- Provide voters in our community with the data and rationale behind the 2018 school bond measure on ballots this coming November. And so much more...

After 44 years as a teacher, principal, and now a superintendent, I still look forward to the start of a new school year. I love watching families and students returning to our buildings and classrooms, and I look forward to the chance to meet many of you.

***From Left: Husband Ken Quinn, Daughter-in-Law Willa, Son Tyler, Daughter Caitlin, Linda, Son-in-Law Blue***

Best wishes for a wonderful end to the summer and an even better school year ahead.

Linda Quinn  
Superintendent  
Ferndale Schools



# LETTER TO FIRST-TIME KINDERGARTEN FAMILIES

Guest Column by Connie Faria



## Dear First-Time Kindergarten Families –

It is August and the start of school is around the corner. As you prepare to send off your child to Kindergarten, I am preparing myself to send my oldest off to his Senior year of high school. It is just as exciting, scary and emotional this time around. Our children are growing up, and we are here to provide them the wings they need to fly. Kindergarten is the beginning for our little ones.

My family has sent three children to Kindergarten and, as we begin another school year, I wanted to write to parents of Kindergarten students to welcome you to the Ferndale School District and to pass along a little advice:

1. Be an involved parent.
2. Use a calendar to track school events, due dates and activities.
3. Introduce yourself to their teacher – either in person or even just via email.
4. Meet their friends. Encourage playdates at home, the park, the library or a local activity venue.
5. Don't compare them. Every student learns differently and at a different pace. It's okay.
6. Ask for help when you need it. The school and our community have resources for a variety of needs.

*(Letter, cont'd)*

7. Find support for yourself as a parent. Introduce yourself to other parents at pick-up or drop-off, attend parent-teacher meetings and school activities.
8. Volunteer. Whether you help make copies, bring in craft items, chaperone a field trip, help in the classroom or support the PTO at an activity – it's all appreciated.
9. Ask questions to your child after school. What did you learn today? Who did you play with? Who did you sit with at lunch?
10. Give yourself permission to make mistakes. No parent is perfect. No child is perfect.
11. Take a deep breath. Take lots of deep breaths. Pause. Be in the moment.

I am sending you best wishes as you begin this journey. It's going to be okay. They will learn, they will stumble, they will pick themselves back up, they will find their own path and it will be okay.

All my best,

Connie Faria  
Mother of three Ferndale School District  
Students (Alex, Isabella, and Cameron)



From Left: Brian, Isabella, Alex, Connie, and Cameron Faria.



# BACK TO SCHOOL: Calendar

<b>Sep 3</b>	Labor Day
<b>Sep 4</b>	First Day for Teachers
<b>Sep 5</b>	First Day for Students
<b>Oct 26</b>	Elementary Conf Prep K-5 Early Dismissal
<b>Nov 5 - 9</b>	Elementary Conferences K-5 Early Dismissal
<b>Nov 12</b>	No School, Veteran's Day Observance
<b>Nov 16 -21</b>	Secondary Conferences 6-12 Early Dismissal
<b>Nov 21</b>	K-12 Early Dismissal
<b>Nov 22-23</b>	No School Thanksgiving Break
<b>Dec 20 - Jan 2</b>	No School, Winter Break
<b>Jan 18</b>	K-5 Early Dismissal, Elementary Report Card Prep
<b>Jan 21</b>	No School, M.L. King, Jr. Day
<b>Jan 28</b>	No School Semester Break
<b>Feb 15</b>	No School
<b>Feb 18</b>	No School, President's Day
<b>Mar 29</b>	K-5 Elementary Report Card Prep, Early Dismissal
<b>Apr 1 - 5</b>	No School, Spring Break
<b>May 27</b>	No School, Memorial Day
<b>May 31</b>	Elementary Rep Card Prep, K-5 Early Dismissal
<b>Jun 14</b>	Last Day for Students K-12 Early Dismissal

## 2018-2019 Key Dates:

First day  
of school = Sept 5

Elementary  
conferences = Nov  
5-9

Secondary  
conferences = Nov  
16-21

Thanksgiving Break  
= Nov 22-23

Winter Break = Dec  
20 - Jan 2

Spring Break = April  
1-5

Last Day for  
Students = June 5





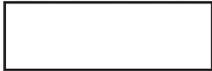
# School Calendar 2018-2019

Aug/Sept 2018					October 2018					November 2018					December 2018				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
3	4	[5]	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	26	27	28	29	30	31						
January 2019					February 2019					March 2019					April 2019				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4					1					1	1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12
14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19
21	22	23	24	25	18	19	20	21	22	18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26
28	29	30	31	25	26	27	28	25	26	27	28	29	29	30					
May 2019					June 2019					<p><b>Please join us in thanking WECU for donating our 2018-2019 magnetic fridge calendars!</b></p> <p><b>Calendars will be available to all Ferndale School District families at your student's school beginning in September.</b></p> 									
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F										
		1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7										
6	7	8	9	10	10	11	12	13	[14]										
13	14	15	16	17	17	18	19	20	21										
20	21	22	23	24	24	25	26	27	28										
27	28	29	30	31															

Early Release:

- Grades K-5  
BES 11:50AM  
All Other 1PM
- Grades 6-12  
HMS 11:15AM  
VMS 11:10AM  
FHS 11AM  
WWHS 10:45AM
- All grades

- [ ] First/Last Day
- No School
- Conference



# SCHOOL SUPPLIES FREE FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS & SECONDARY STUDENTS WHO QUALIFY

Ferndale School District Superintendent Dr. Linda Quinn says that providing supplies is the right thing to do, **“We want our students and families to look forward to the start of school without worrying about how to purchase school supplies.** We are happy to say that all school supplies at the Elementary level will be covered by the District again this year – no need for families with elementary aged students to shop for additional supplies.”

As in past years, the Ferndale School District will also provide free supplies to secondary students based on need. All secondary students who qualify for free and reduced lunch also qualify for free school supplies.

**Supplies will be distributed to  
secondary students who qualify:**

**August 28th 3:00 – 6:00 PM  
Vista Middle School Gym, 6051 Vista Drive.**

Dr. Quinn goes on to say, “It may be August, but we are already looking forward to welcoming our students back in the fall. We want to make sure our families know that we are providing supplies for K-5 students and to students at the secondary level who qualify.”



# Annual Notices:

Child Find—Federal Public Law, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), requires that disabled children in the Ferndale School District, ages birth to 21, be identified, located and evaluated. If anyone suspects that a child (age birth to 21) has a disabling condition, and if that child resides in the Ferndale School District, please refer the child to Director of Special Services, Ms. Rebecca Champagne, at 360.383.9231. Upon referral, the student services staff will make the appropriate follow-up.

State and Federal Rules—Ferndale School District complies with all state and federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of gender, age, race, religion, creed, color, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any physical, sensory, and/or mental disability, or the use of a trained guide dog or service animal by a person with a disability, honorably-discharged veteran or military status or any other basis prohibited by law. The district will provide equal access to school facilities to the Boy Scouts of America and all other designated youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school district's Title IX/RCW 28A.640 Officer Mr. John Fairbairn at 360.383.9206, and/or Section 504 ADA Coordinator Dr. Paul Douglas at 360.383.9221.

Public Participation—Any application and any required policies, procedures, evaluations, plans and reports are readily available to parents and other members of the public through the district's special education office and the office of the superintendent. A notice regarding the availability of such documents will be placed on the district's webpage and in the district's newsletter. Please call the human resources department at 360.383.9206 if you have questions or requests about this information.

Right to Request Teacher Qualifications—Ferndale School District receives federal funds for Title I programs that are part of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. You have the right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teacher(s). If you request this information, the district or school will provide you with the following as soon as possible: 1) if the teacher has met state licensing requirements for the grade level and subjects in which the teacher is providing instruction; 2) if state licensing requirements have been waived for the teacher on a temporary basis; 3) the type of college degree major of the teacher and the field of discipline for any graduate degree or certificate; and 4) if your child is receiving Title I services from paraprofessionals and, if so, his/her qualifications. To request this information or for inquiries please contact Executive Director for Human Resources, Mr. John Fairbairn, at 360.383.9206.

## INTERVIEW WITH FHS GRAD

### ELLIE BAADER

**LQ:** Ellie. It's been my pleasure to know you over this last year as a student board member on the Ferndale School Board. You graduated this past June and I wanted to take this opportunity to talk with you about your experience.



**EB:** For me, it's still very strange to have graduated. I still feel as though I am a freshman. To be done is kind

of sad – I'm leaving a family. It was my second home. In a small town like Ferndale you get to have great one-on-one relationships with teachers. I will miss this when I get to college – the personal relationships with teachers. This really benefited my education.

**LQ:** Tell me a little about the activities you were involved in while a student.

**EB:** I was a Student Board Member during my senior year. The position was very influential to me. It made me re-think career choices – I learned a lot.

**EB (cont'd):** I was also part of the pit orchestra during Fiddler on the Roof – this experience was incredible – I met so many people.

I was a part of the track and swim teams, and played volleyball, tennis, and basketball. I did all I could to be involved. That is one thing I tell people – take whatever classes you think are interesting. Don't wait for life to happen to you – make high school your own experience.



**LQ:** Tell me a little bit about your plans after high school starting with fall 2018?

**EB:** I am going to the University of Washington. I

plan to major in Biology or Neurobiology to go down a pre-med path. I am intrigued by endocrinology and orthopedics. It's all fascinating to me – I have to work to narrow it down.

**LQ:** Wow, that's great, Ellie. We are wishing you much luck as you begin your studies. Talk to me a little bit about some of the ways that your time in the Ferndale School District prepared you for your study at the University of Washington.



**EB:** Well, all of my time in Ferndale really shaped me but I will say that Mr. Reier’s AP Psychology class changed my life. It changed the way I learned, the way I studied, the way I took my classes. I wish I had taken it freshman year, 1st semester. That class taught me about myself and helped me mature. There are two other things that meant a lot to me and helped me plan my future:

1. Mrs. Zender’s Bio 100 UW in the High School Class: Addiction and the Brain. This was one of the most fascinating classes I have ever taken.
2. Spanish. I was going to take two years and be done. I pushed on. I took a third year and didn’t do as well as I wanted to do. I decided to push on into 4th year where we spoke only Spanish in class and it was so fun. That is what pushed me to take year 5. I will probably minor in Spanish in college.

**LQ:** Let’s transition and talk a little about current Ferndale students. What advice would you give to students who are coming up through Ferndale Schools?

**EB:** You will become more involved in the things you are doing if you make it a personal connection. Talk to your teachers. Talk to your coaches. Ask personal questions – even something simple like, “where is your favorite restaurant to eat dinner in Ferndale? I also wish I had taken more CTE/Voch Tech classes. I would have met kids I hadn’t previously and had taken advantage of all the special things going on in the CTE Department.

**LQ:** Thanks, Ellie! Please accept my congratulations and very best wishes as you set out on your next adventure. We’re rooting for you!



# 2018 BOND

## PROPOSAL FAQ:

**Q:** When do we vote?

**A:** The 2018 General Election is set for November 6, 2018. In Washington State, ballots will be sent to registered voters starting on or around October 17th.

**Q:** Why do we need a new school?

**A:** As with anything that is used and loved for years, Ferndale High School has reached a point beyond ability to repair. Current conditions affect and limit student learning.

Safety is also an ever-increasing concern. Ferndale High school has 80-100 different access doors – a situation that makes it virtually impossible to create a secure campus.

We have stewarded the Ferndale High School Facility for many years and we are now asking the community to help us build a new space for students that helps us provide a great start to every student's future.

**Q:** Does the bond cover new furniture?

**A:** Yes, the bond will cover fixtures, furniture, and equipment (FF&E).

**Q:** Where do excess funds go if not used for planned projects?

**A:** If projects come in 'under-budget' the Community Oversight Committee will review budget and make recommendations for best use for the remaining funds.

**Q:** What will happen to buildings that are not being used as a school?

**A:** The Ferndale School District maintains buildings not currently used as schools for the purpose of providing opportunities for future growth. If the District requires additional space to support student growth, those buildings will provide cost effective options.

**Q:** What happens to the property already purchased for a new high school on Church Road?

**A:** The Ferndale School District has no immediate plans to sell or surplus owned property on Church Road. The plan is to maintain the property until such time as additional building space may be needed.

**Q:** N Bellingham & Custer have not been fixed / replaced. Why are they being put on the back burner?

**A:** Custer Elementary will be included in plans for critical maintenance and safety & security projects. Those projects include:

- Relocate secure entrance to west face of Administration Office
- Add ADA ramp and stairs
- Cut new entrance opening in existing wall and new door
- Relocate 2 existing windows to south
- Relocate Reception desk to east adjacent to hallway with new sliding glass or overhead coiling shutter
- Remove 3 existing trees
- Add fencing and vehicle and personnel gates at northeast and southwest corners of building
- Close off existing front entry
- Add access control and camera at north entry

ALL TOTAL: \$106,700

The building that once housed North Bellingham Elementary does not currently serve as an Elementary School and it is not included as part of the 2018 Bond package.

**Q:** What is the purpose of the Community Oversight Committee?

**A:** The purpose of an oversight committee is to provide accountability for 2018 bond spending.

**Q:** What are the basic criteria for Community Oversight Committee members?

**A:** The basic criteria include:

- Committee members must be Ferndale School District residents
- Cannot be a FSD
- Employees, vendors, contractors, or consultants
- Cannot be a current City of Ferndale employees or consultants
- Must be willing to commit to the Committee throughout the scope of the bond spending process

**Q:** How to join the Community Oversight Committee

**A:** An independent citizen group is coordinating the selection process for the Community Oversight Committee. For more information, please reach Riley Cornelsen at [riley.cornelsen@gmail.com](mailto:riley.cornelsen@gmail.com)

**Q:** Where can I get more information?

**A:** [www.weareferndale.org](http://www.weareferndale.org)

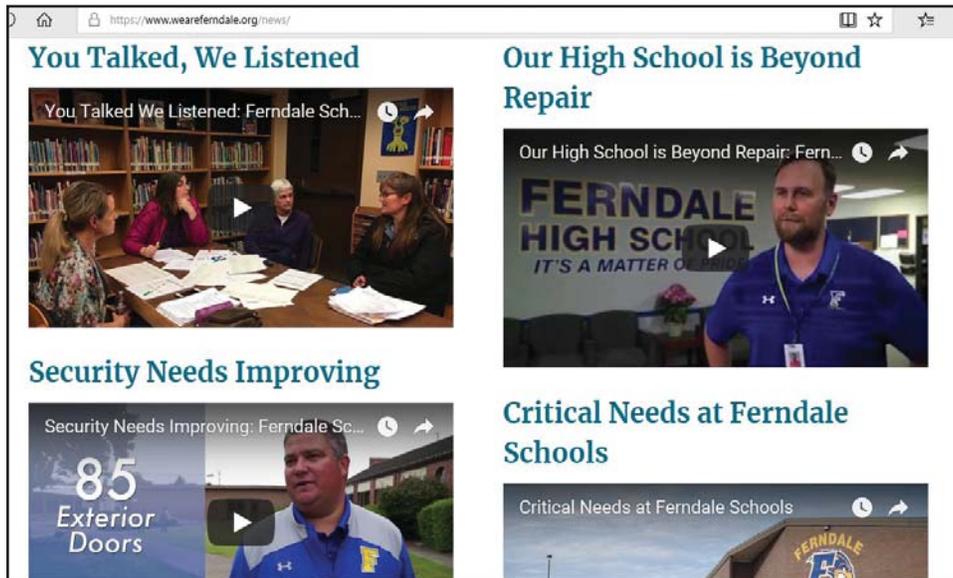
# NEW BOND INFO WEBSITE BRINGS INFO TOGETHER IN ONE PLACE

The Ferndale School District announces a new website with info about the 2018 Proposed School Bond.

Want to know about the Community Oversight Committee? That information can be found on the website [www.weareferndale.org](http://www.weareferndale.org). What to know about the process of developing the Bond or the expected Tax Impact? That information can be found on the website [www.weareferndale.org](http://www.weareferndale.org).

In addition to information, Ferndale School District Superintendent Dr. Linda Quinn says that she values the stories shared through the website, “When we created this resource, we knew we wanted it to be a reflection of the community process that went into building this bond proposal. We wanted stories and video to be part of the information package. The resulting website, [www.weareferndale.org](http://www.weareferndale.org), is dynamic and accessible and easy to navigate.”





*(Bond info website, cont'd)*

Ann Serwold, Executive Director of the Ferndale Chamber of Commerce agrees. “I think the Community will find this to be a useful tool. Our members want to know the details of tax impact, and information about construction plans. This website helps answer questions and that is really important.”

Dr. Quinn goes on to say, “The website will be great for some people but others may want to connect in person and we have created lots of opportunities for that type of connection as well. We want to make sure that people know they can find us in-person over the summer.”

### **In-Person Connection Opportunities:**

Wednesday Morning Coffee Meetings in August  
 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM  
 Woods Coffee, Ferndale

Wednesday Afternoon Info Booth through November  
 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM  
 Grocery Outlet, Ferndale



# **2018-2019 School Year Begins September 5!**

**Contact us:**

**[fsdinfo@ferndalesd.org](mailto:fsdinfo@ferndalesd.org)**

**360-383-9200**

**6041 Vista Drive**



**/FerndaleSchools**



**/ @ferndaleschools\_wa**