

RE-IMAGINING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

THE SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Superintendent Community Advisory Council (SCAC) is a standing committee of BSD. Each year, a diverse and representative group of 20-24 district stakeholders help the district think differently and design better solutions for students. The SCAC makes recommendations to the Superintendent on a variety of topics from year to year.

2022 - 2023 AREA OF FOCUS

This year's Council focused on reimagining community engagement. BSD has a rich diversity of community resources – family, non-profit, business and other partners – who want to contribute to the student experience.

WELCOMING NEW SUPERINTENDENT DR. KELLY ARAMAKI

We enthusiastically welcome Dr. Kelly Aramaki as BSD's next Superintendent, and applaud his commitment to establishing BSD as the gold standard in engagement. We are eager to support and partner with him in this effort.

"The most meaningful and authentic community engagement takes place in our relationships as a way of being with each other, beyond actions and tasks."

Debbie Lacy, Eastside For All



OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

ESTABLISH A COMMUNITY ROADMAP FOR BIG DECISIONS

When it comes to big decisions that affect a lot of families, or that affect some families deeply, we recommend the district establish a roadmap that clearly defines how decisions will be made and who will inform them.

CENTER ON EQUITY IN DECISION MAKING

Center decision making on equity. Consider how any given action may benefit or harm students and families with special attention paid to the needs of those farthest from educational justice.

LEAN INTO COMMUNITY AMBASSADORS

Create a cadre of Community Ambassadors who can bridge relationships between the district and community groups, especially those not being served well. Lean into these ambassadors to help facilitate meaningful two-way communication and engagement.

BE CLEAR WHAT FEEDBACK IS SOUGHT

With any engagement process, make clear to people what type of feedback is being sought and what will be done with it. Help people understand - am I being informed of a decision? Involved in making a decision? Or something else?

MAKE THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS MORE UNDERSTANDABLE

Make the criteria for partnership with BSD more transparent. Help community members understand the differences between formal and informal partnerships including when an MoU is required and how that process works.

INVEST RESOURCES

Within the constraints of the budget, dedicate the staff necessary to managing and supporting community partnerships.

COMMIT TO EVEN DEEPER STUDY IN 2023 - 2024

Extend the Council's focus on this work into a second year to support incoming Superintendent Kelly Aramaki in the creation of *The Bellevue Standard* of engagement.

To read the full report, visit [link here]