



Parent Advisory Committee to the Superintendent (PACS)

Key Communications

Kate Wearn & Lorrie Melton (co-chairs)

Thursday, Jan. 15, 2026

BPS Central Kitchen

Welcome and Introductions Co-chairs – Lorrie Melton & Kate Wearn

PACS took a school bus to the Central Kitchen for their meeting and a tour.

Superintendent's Update

- Dr. Baker shared an update on budget planning for the 2026-27 school year. He will be sending an update to the community in the coming weeks.
- He talked about the work of and recommendation from the High School Schedule Ad hoc committee, which calls for shifting from our current eight-period schedule to a seven-period schedule. This would save the district between \$1-2 million while still allowing the most choice and instructional time for students. [See more about the high school schedule.](#)
- Dr. Baker also talked about declining birth rates and enrollment across the state and in our district and answered questions.

Tour of Central Kitchen

Director of Food Services Lindsay Ahrens led PACS on a tour of the Central Kitchen, which opened in 2018.

The tour focused on an intentional shift in our food services model in 2019 to bring more locally sourced/grown and scratch-made food to students through our school cafeterias.

Learn more about [school menus and the Good Food Project](#).

Parent groups (PTAs/PTOs) may request Central Kitchen tours through Lindsay: lindsay.ahrens@bellingshamschools.org

Future meetings: Feb. 19; April 23; May 14