

Celebrations and Partnerships

With October coming to a close, I want to share some highlights from the month. We began the month with exciting Homecoming events at B-EHS. One of my favorite evenings is the annual Tiger Games where the freshmen, sophomore, junior and senior classes compete against each other in a variety of wacky competitions and relays. Hopefully you had the chance to attend or at least see photos from the parade down Fairhaven Ave. That's always a special event!

We remain especially grateful for our tremendous community of supportive alumni. We were fortunate to begin this school year with an insightful alumni panel, each who shared personal stories about their experiences as students within our school district.

Like this panel, B-ESD alumni continue to support our school district in a variety of ways including as employees, as district and



community partners, as civic leaders, and as contributors to student scholarships.

We also had a Professional Learning Day in October. There were some fantastic sessions connected to our work around equity, inclusive practices, and student voice. Our B-ESD Teaching and Learning Team helped facilitate a fantastic day, with a variety of learning opportunities on topics related to equity, culturally responsive teaching, inclusionary practices, and social emotional learning. We received very positive feedback on this learning opportunity!

Continuing to seek opportunities to better understand student perspective and engage with student voice, I spent a day as a high school student at B-EHS and then a day later in the month as a middle grade student at Lucille Umbarger. Students and staff were incredibly welcoming and accepting throughout these visits as I followed my schedules and visited classrooms. I also met with the Superintendent's Student Advisory Committee and the Parent Advisory Committee this month, to gather feedback on each of our Strategic Plan Landmarks. These groups will continue to meet throughout the school year and help to inform decision-making and strategic vision.





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This October, as we celebrate National School Principal month, let us all take a moment to recognize and appreciate the incredible work our principals do day in and day out. Their role is not merely administrative; it is about shaping the future of our community through the education and guidance they provide to our children.

Thank you to the principals of the Burlington-Edison School District for your unwavering commitment to education, your resilience in the face of adversity, and your dedication to the betterment of our community. You are the backbone of our schools, and your contributions are truly invaluable.



This month we also celebrate the tremendous accomplishment and recognition of the Lucille Umbarger staff. LU was recently named a School of Distinction by Jostens Renaissance and is one of three schools in Washington state and one of only 36 schools nationwide to receive this recognition. The team at LU was spotlighted this week in the Skagit Valley Herald, recognizing their hard work and dedication to supporting a strong school culture.

November 3rd marks the end of the first quarter. The high school will host family conferences on November 7th from 12pm-2pm and from 4pm-7pm. Additionally, K-8 will hold targeted conferences for specific students later in the month. As a heads-up, Thanksgiving break is November 23rd and 24th. It will be December before we know it!

Thank you for your ongoing support of B-E schools.

My best,

Chris Pearson

Chris

