

February Frenzy: Celebrating Achievements and Success in B-ESD

Even though February is the shortest month on the calendar, it overflowed with exciting events and achievements throughout our B-ESD community. Amid celebrations of student accomplishments, staff recognitions, School Board tours, and important discussions on district budget sustainability planning, the month unfolded with excitement and enthusiasm.

The month began with a powerful Professional Learning Community (PLC) day for instructional staff (technically, in January - but who's counting), the third in a four-part series dedicated to enhancing student learning and support strategies. Teachers actively engaged in professional growth opportunities, exploring innovative teaching methodologies, integrating technology into the curriculum, and fostering inclusive learning environments. This commitment to continuous improvement is integral to our mission, playing a pivotal role in the overall success of our students.

Highlighting our commitment to transparency and collaboration, February featured the first School Board tours



of the year at Bay View School and Burlington-Edison High School. These tours provide an essential platform for educators to showcase their day-to-day efforts to School Board members. Principals and staff shared insights into school-based improvement goals, providing valuable information to inform board decisions and leadership.

Other highlights from the month include our four B-EHS students who journeyed to Washington D.C., engaging with legislators to discuss their work with the newly-formed B-E Well club, focusing on mental health and youth substance use reduction. B-E Well students presented to the School Board this month, as well.



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Congratulations to all our B-EHS athletes and competitors who showcased their talents in various sports throughout the month. The B-EHS Girls Bowling Team achieved a historic 7th-place finish at the State level, marking a significant milestone. B-EHS Boys Wrestling and Swim also had remarkable performances at the state level. The boys wrestling team secured an impressive 7th place finish at the State competition, with five athletes earning a spot on the podium. Special recognition goes to our B-EHS ESports Team, crowned the 2024 Washington State Champions. These achievements reflect the dedication and hard work of our student-athletes, coaches, and the entire school community.



February also provided an opportunity to celebrate our counselors during National School Counseling Week, acknowledging their tireless efforts in supporting students' academic and personal growth. We also celebrated our amazing Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs in February, spotlighting programs like welding, business and marketing, floral design, computer science, agricultural science, video production, and various other robust offerings. These programs play a crucial role in preparing students for both college and career success and we celebrate the dedicated CTE educators who support student learning across these fields.

Budget sustainability presentations continue to be a central focus, with myself and Director of Finance and Operations, Valori Vargas, visiting buildings throughout the month to share information and engage staff in crucial budget conversations. We are currently scheduling opportunities to present our budget sustainability plan to parents and community members. Please look for upcoming dates at your school and within the community.

Looking forward to an amazing March, I express my gratitude for the hard work and dedication of everyone involved in ensuring student success across B-ESD.

Best regards,

Chris Pearson

Dr. Chris Pearson,
Superintendent

