



Parent Advisory Committee to the Superintendent (PACS)
Key Communications

Lauren Bunke & Jon Junell (co-chairs)
Thursday, April 18, 2024
District Office, Upper Level Professional Learning Center (PLC)

Each school has two representatives on this committee.

Welcome and Introductions

- Dr. Baker

Data share: At our last PACS meeting, we answered some questions about declining enrollment, both in Bellingham and across the state, and declining birth rates. Dr. Baker shared stats that show birth rates have declined over the last five or more years across Whatcom County, which is consistent with what we are seeing in lower kindergarten enrollment. Dr. Baker also shared enrollment numbers in local private schools, especially since COVID. He noted that there is an uptick in enrollment in private schools over the last few years, and we can only speculate on the reasons why some families may or may not have been enrolled ever in public schools. Some anecdotal reasons people choose private include perceived politics, religious reasons

