



## SPRING FOR SCHOOLS

# Event Talking Points

This year, Spring for Schools (SFS) will be an evening event at the Meydenbauer Convention Center. Table Captains drive participation at SFS.

**Here are some talking points to share with invitees:**

### 1) WHY ATTEND?

Bellevue Schools Foundation is distributing nearly \$1,000,000 to over 18,000 Bellevue students and educators this year. The funding supports a wide array of programs, from mental health and the arts to computer science and early learning. Funding comes from nearly 1,000 generous donors each year. Without those donations, many families would not be able to afford early learning tuition, musical instruments, or get the social-emotional support they need. Without that funding, many teachers would not attain National Board Certification or have the opportunity to innovate their curriculum.

### 2) WHAT'S THE GOAL?

a) To raise \$500,000+ from sponsors and attendees. b) To showcase the impact of previous years' donations. c) To have a good time with tasty bites, alcohol for purchase, and friends.

### 3) WHAT IS THE THEME & SCHEDULE?

A Garden Party: Please dress as you wish for the "Garden Party," with any and all floral attire highly encouraged! Doors open at 5PM. The program is at 6PM and after the program there will be more time to socialize and visit the showcase.

### 4) WILL THERE BE TABLES?

Yes! Each table captain should have 10 people at a table. You may fill more than one table. Some captains have had 3! People will sit at tables during the program portion to listen to speakers on stage (6PM). This is also when people will make donations.

### 5) WILL THERE BE CHILDCARE?

Yes, for ages 3-12 and potty trained. Space is limited Sign up through the registration portal.

### 6) REGISTRATION & DONATIONS

Registration is at [bsfdn.org](http://bsfdn.org). Start to gather names for your tables and look for more information to come. While registration is free, it is our hope that attendees celebrate our students, educators, and mission by making a donation either at registration or the event, or both!

### 7) OTHER INFORMATION

There will be a complimentary buffet of heavy appetizers and alcohol for purchase. The food and drink lines will be closed during the program while everyone is sitting at their tables. There will be student music performances on stage, and a showcase of over 30 different student programs sponsored by BSF.



Questions?  
Email Michael Smith at [michael@bsfdn.org](mailto:michael@bsfdn.org)  
or call the foundation at (425) 456-4199.





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# Table Captain Tips

Ready to fill your star (10+ people) but not sure how? **Check out our tips below:**

### ASK NOW!

Calendars fill up quickly and it's important that everyone you want to attend has March 30, 2024 saved for Spring for Schools. Tell PTSA members, principals, parents, friends, family members, coworkers, neighbors—anyone who would be interested!

### ASK NEW PEOPLE

We LOVE our returning attendees—and we love first-time attendees, too. Don't be afraid to invite parents you haven't met yet or who are new to the District. You never know who is going to say "Count me in!"

### ASK FOR SUGGESTIONS

Sometimes you don't know who you don't know. Ask your principal and teachers who they think you should invite. Chances are they'll know of someone who would like to attend.

### ASK ALL GENERATIONS

We often think to invite parents to events, but what about grandparents, aunts, and uncles? These family members can be just as involved and passionate about Bellevue schools as parents. Be sure to invite them!

### LOOK BEYOND YOUR SCHOOL

While it's often easiest to ask those closest to you, don't hesitate to invite others who you think may care about public education in Bellevue. Attending Spring for Schools is a great way for people to learn about how the community comes together to make amazing things happen in our public schools!

### SHARE YOUR PASSION

Passion is contagious! Think about why you care about Bellevue Schools Foundation and the schools in our district. Share your reasons with your potential guests and chances are, you'll get them excited too!

### CHANGE YOUR TECHNIQUE

Email is a great, convenient communication tool. But relying solely on email can result in poor response rates. If you aren't getting a great response from the people you've invited, try changing your approach. How does your circle of influence communicate? How can you reach them to get a good response? Call them, ask them in person, or send a handwritten note. If you personalize your invitation, chances are they'll have a hard time saying "No" to you.

### MAKE IT A REAL PARTY!

Brainstorming who you should invite? How about your book club? Or your cooking class? Soccer team parents. Invite the people you write holiday cards to every year. Have a men's table or invite that group of friends you meet with once a month. Not only will you have a great time together, you'll be making a difference for Bellevue students.

### USE YOUR RESOURCES

Use the materials that have been created for the event to make your life easier! BSF will have posters, invitations, and emails all at your disposal. Share these with the people you are inviting, leave them in your staff work room, hang posters in your favorite coffee shop. Work smarter not harder!

### DON'T STOP ASKING

You may need to ask a LOT of people. Start brainstorming who you'd like to invite and even ask your friends if they have people they'd like to attend with you. The more people you ask, the more success you will have.

### GIFTS FOR GUESTS

Table Captains are welcome to bring a gift of appreciation for guests at their tables, but it is not required. BSF will have a thank you card for each guest.



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