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Bellevue Schools Foundation Hosts a "Garden" of Philanthropic Support

The 34th annual event funds critical resources for over 18,000 students in the Bellevue School District

BELLEVUE, Wash. – The <u>Bellevue Schools Foundation</u> is hosting its annual Spring for Schools fundraising event on Saturday, March 30, from 5:00-8:00 p.m. at the Meydenbauer Center in Bellevue. This year's event is themed as a garden party, centering attendees around the Foundation's goal to cultivate the next generation of leaders enrolled in Bellevue public schools.

The evening will feature the organization's signature Education Showcase and remarks from Bellevue School District Superintendent Dr. Kelly Aramaki. Bellevue Schools Foundation Trustee Jerry Nguyen will serve as master of ceremonies, guiding attendees through a dynamic program of awards and speakers.

Dr. Aramaki says, "The Bellevue Schools Foundation plays a critical role in enhancing funding for programs and services that are important to our community. This is particularly important given the significant budget deficits facing our district - now and into the future. Although our ability to raise funds through our local levy is limited, our ability to raise funds through the Bellevue Schools Foundation is unlimited. I encourage district families, community members, and business leaders to come and witness the amazing things happening in Bellevue's schools at BSF's Spring for Schools, and then help us close the budget gap by donating to the Bellevue Schools Foundation."

"Spring for Schools uniquely offers guests the chance to engage directly with educators and students who benefit from programs and opportunities made possible through the Foundation's funding. Attendees have a chance to learn about the breadth and depth of the support BSF provides throughout the year and to connect with other attendees who are inspired and motivated to make a philanthropic impact in the education sector," shares the Foundation's Executive Director, Juliet Buder. "We look forward to welcoming anyone in the community who wishes to learn more and amplify the Foundation's mission."

BSF is hoping to raise \$500,000 from Spring for Schools to fund essential District programs including <u>Mental Health</u>, <u>Computer Science</u>, <u>Early</u> <u>Learning</u>, <u>Fentanyl Prevention</u>, and <u>Arts</u>, <u>Enrichment</u>, <u>and Innovation classroom grants</u>.

Spring for Schools Chair and President-Elect of the Bellevue Schools Foundation Susan Ishii-Yin offers, "This is a wonderful opportunity to see first-hand how families' donations impact students. I encourage the community to join together to secure funding for our enrichment programs."

To register for the event and donate to the Bellevue Schools Foundation, visit www.bsfdn.org.

ABOUT THE BELLEVUE SCHOOLS FOUNDATION: Established in 1979, Bellevue Schools Foundation (BSF) is the first foundation dedicated to supporting public K-12 initiatives in Washington State. Its mission is to promote and fund the best possible learning opportunities for all students in Bellevue's public schools. This year, the Foundation is supporting \$979,500 of programming in the Bellevue School District.