




Blaine School District #503

765 H Street ♦ Blaine, Washington 98230 ♦ 360-332-5881 ♦ Fax 360-332-7568 ♦ www.blainesd.org

Superintendent:
Dr. Christopher Granger
Board of Directors:
Charles Gibson, President
Laura McKinney, Vice President
Joan Lotze
Todd Nunamaker
Dougal Thomas

DATE: MARCH 19, 2021

FROM: DR. CHRISTOPHER GRANGER
SUPERINTENDENT 

PLEASE CONTACT: TINA PADILLA
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Email: tpadilla@blainesd.org
Phone: (360) 332-5881 x1711

TO: NORTHERN LIGHT
ALL POINT BULLETIN
BELLINGHAM HERALD

RE: PUBLIC NOTICE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Blaine School Board Adds In-Person Attendance Option for Meetings

As a reflection of the district's commitment to return all students to in-person learning, the School Board is committed to returning to in-person meeting participation only, after the current statewide emergency is lifted. The board values the important contribution of public engagement which is best facilitated in person. However, in compliance with Governor Inslee's [Proclamation 20-28.14](#), and for the duration of the statewide pandemic emergency, the Board of Directors will continue to provide the public with virtual access to observe its regular monthly business meetings in order to protect the health and safety of all participants during the COVID-19 pandemic.

With the North Region in at least Phase 2 of Governor Inslee's Roadmap to Recovery plan, Blaine School District is able to take an important step forward by adding an in-person component to the meetings of the School Board. Starting with the Work Session and Regular Meeting on Monday, March 22, 2021, the protocols on page 2 of this notice will be followed for in-person attendance.

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PROTOCOLS FOR IN-PERSON BOARD MEETING ATTENDANCE DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC:

- **Primary Meeting Location:** The Board of Directors will meet in the new boardroom space located at 770 Mitchell Avenue. Pursuant to the [Miscellaneous Venues COVID-19 Requirements](#), participants in the boardroom will be limited to five Directors, the Superintendent, the Executive Director of Finance & Operations, the Administrative Assistant, and up to five public observers.
- **Overflow Meeting Location:** If there are more than 5 public observers who wish to participate in person, they will be accommodated in an overflow physical location at the Middle School Cafeteria where the board meeting will be televised. Participants in the overflow location will include 1-2 staff members plus public observers. The requirements described below apply to both locations.
- **Pre-registration Required for In-Person Attendance:** Governor Inslee’s Proclamation suspends [RCW 42.30.040](#) for the duration of the pandemic emergency. Any public observers, who wish to participate in person at either the primary or overflow location, will be required to pre-register and provide contact information for the purpose of assisting public health authorities with contact tracing. Contact information provided by public observers will not be subject to public records disclosure. To pre-register, patrons should call the District Office at 360-332-5881 no later than 4:00pm on the day of the meeting.
- **COVID-19 Prevention Plan:** In both the primary and the overflow locations, ALL in-person participants must abide by the following requirements:
 1. Complete a symptom screening attestation, including temperature check, prior to entry;
 2. Sit 6-feet apart; and
 3. Wear a mask at all times.Anyone who is unable or unwilling to abide by these requirements may still participate in the meeting virtually. A virtual link to each meeting is provided on the district’s events calendar as well as on the meeting tab in [BoardDocs](#).
- **Public Comment:** Written comments may be submitted for the board’s review no less than 3 hours prior to the meeting to the following email address: comments@blainesd.org. Written comments can also be submitted to the District Office during regular business hours at 765 H Street in Blaine.

Both in-person and virtual attendees will have the opportunity to address the Board of Directors orally during the Public Comment section of the meeting agenda. Pursuant to Policy 1400, those who wish to speak must sign in between 6:45-6:55pm as described on the agenda in BoardDocs.
- **Accessibility:** Individuals with disabilities who may need a modification to participate in the board meeting should contact the District Office as soon as possible in advance so that special arrangements can be made.

For more information, contact the District Office at 360-332-5881.