



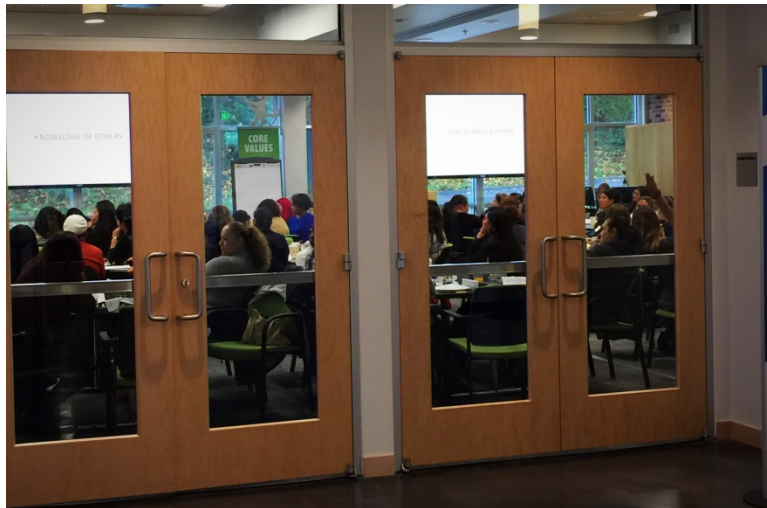
*Our students will shape and lead the future*

## News release

**Nov. 17, 2015**

### **Natural Leaders serve as “multi-cultural bridges”**

*Washington Alliance for Better Schools helps train volunteers to work with families, communities and schools*



*The Community Resource Center board room was packed for the training*

Family and community engagement consultant [Sandra Mejia](#) said, “Our Natural Leaders meet monthly here at the CRC. There are representatives from each participating school sharing ideas and stories. They are learning to find ways to engage culturally and linguistically diverse families with their schools and PTA’s. We are all learning together.”

Washington Alliance for Better Schools ([WABS](#)) played a major role Nov. 9 with the

training of these volunteers. WABS defines Natural Leaders as warm, caring social persons who serve as multi-cultural bridges between students, families, communities and schools. Trainings at the CRC will include parent training on a wide range of topics: goal-setting, listening to the needs of the community; navigating the education system; and finding your voice, managing conflicts and several others.

“In Everett, we want to provide opportunities for parents to engage at the center of the learning agenda,” Assistant Superintendent Peter Scott mentioned. “Participation in events is very important, but a challenge for our schools is how to engage parents in meaningful school improvement priorities. The Natural Leaders program equips parents to engage at that level.”

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#### **For more information:**

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