Fiscal Advisory Council
Thursday, January 9, 2025
Community Resource Center, Port Gardner Room B
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

During the first small group discussion, the following questions were asked and comments made:

- What is the physical, social, emotional staffing compliance that is shown in the Powerpoint?
  - Newer requirement – Everett meets the compliance in staffing and dollars
  - Includes staff like nurses, social workers, psychologists, Health Room Assistants (HRAs), counselors, Campus Security Officers (CSOs)
- The detail of the levy allocations was appreciated
  - Levy is only 15% of the budget but responsible for 2/3 of the expenditures
  - Levy funds anything not funded by the state
- It was surprising how schools are so underfunded – the state does not fully fund schools
- Were there any changes to the Levy Lid Cap?
  - No changes as of last cycle
- What is the action of the legislative priorities set by the board?
  - To advocate for K-12 funding where there are gaps
  - This year is a focus on the big 3 – Materials, Supplies & Operating Costs (MSOC), Special Education, and Transportation

During the second small group discussion the following questions were asked and comments made:

- Need more clarity on legislative priorities – who goes to Olympia from the district?
  - If there are similar priorities with the bargaining groups, why don't we collaborate on lobbying more?
  - Legislative chair on the school board helps the board with the legislative priorities
- Does 'purchased services' include agency costs for special services?
  - This discussion brought up the Safety Net program in Washington that provides funding to school districts with demonstrated special education funding need, including the threshold of spending before reimbursement can be claimed
- With all the good work done 2 years ago to right-size the budgets, what are we doing now to build efficiencies so we don't have big deficits in the future?
  - Taking a hard look at positions (not including the core teaching and learning positions) to be filled or are needed