



News release

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Gov. Jay Inslee Visits Ingraham High School ***Meets with students, staff***

Seattle -- Seattle Public Schools (SPS) and Ingraham High School were pleased to host Governor Jay Inslee today as he met with students and staff during a roundtable discussion.

Gov. Inslee, a graduate of Ingraham, initiated the meeting to connect with some of those impacted by last month's tragic event, when a student was killed by gun violence at the school.

At the governor's request, the meeting was designed to be small and somewhat personal, with a focus on learning the concerns of those who were so deeply impacted.

Ingraham Principal Martin Floe and SPS Superintendent Brent Jones made brief remarks prior to introducing the governor.

Mr. Inslee did not present prepared remarks but, instead, conducted a frank discussion with the 14 students and four staff in attendance.

In addition, Seattle Mayor Bruce Harrell also attended the meeting.

The discussion, which lasted approximately 45 minutes, was concluded by Gov. Inslee, who said, "The sense of sorrow... this tragedy... has resonated across the state. It was a shock to the system, it was a shock to me. Your grief is shared across the state of Washington.

"The Ingraham story is not just this tragedy. It is much more than that...you have a right to feel positive about being a part of the Ingraham family.

"What has impressed me the most is that you have suggested comprehensive things that you think the community can do to reduce the risk of this type of tragedy."

Principal Floe: "We have been focusing on supporting and healing for all of us, and we will keep that focus. I am grateful that the governor came to talk about these urgent, important matters."

Dr. Jones: "I appreciate Governor Inslee's focus on healing and moving forward. We want to work with the governor on solutions. We must respond to the moment, and that's why – as previously announced -- I've lifted a three-tiered district-wide initiative for safety and security."

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