New Phase New Ways

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## CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING

## A Learning Experience Hosted by CKHS Teachers

Last Thursday, the faculty of Central Kitsap High School, in a cultural proficiency training session led by two of their own, J.D. Sweet and Elizabeth Blandin, reached out to community leaders to better understand other cultures and the demographic changes in the area.

It is far too easy to become complacent about this topic. Intellectually, we believe in the benefits of being openminded toward one another, but do we really know how to currently apply this concept on a case-by-case basis?

As we gathered to discuss cultural experiences from guest speakers, we discovered we had more to learn from each other. We can bridge cultural gaps that may occur between students, parents and educators. Will the youth in this community learn the basic tools to accept people different from themselves? Will they carry on their abilities when they progress in their educational career and enter the work force?

I commend the tireless efforts of the teachers of Central Kitsap High School who are engaging to become active listeners with local minority groups. They have far more stamina than I ever could to turn these kids into responsible citizens. Please help them continue in these endeavors by supporting their cause in the school district.

Rose Bechtold
GUEST SPEAKER FROM SEATTLE