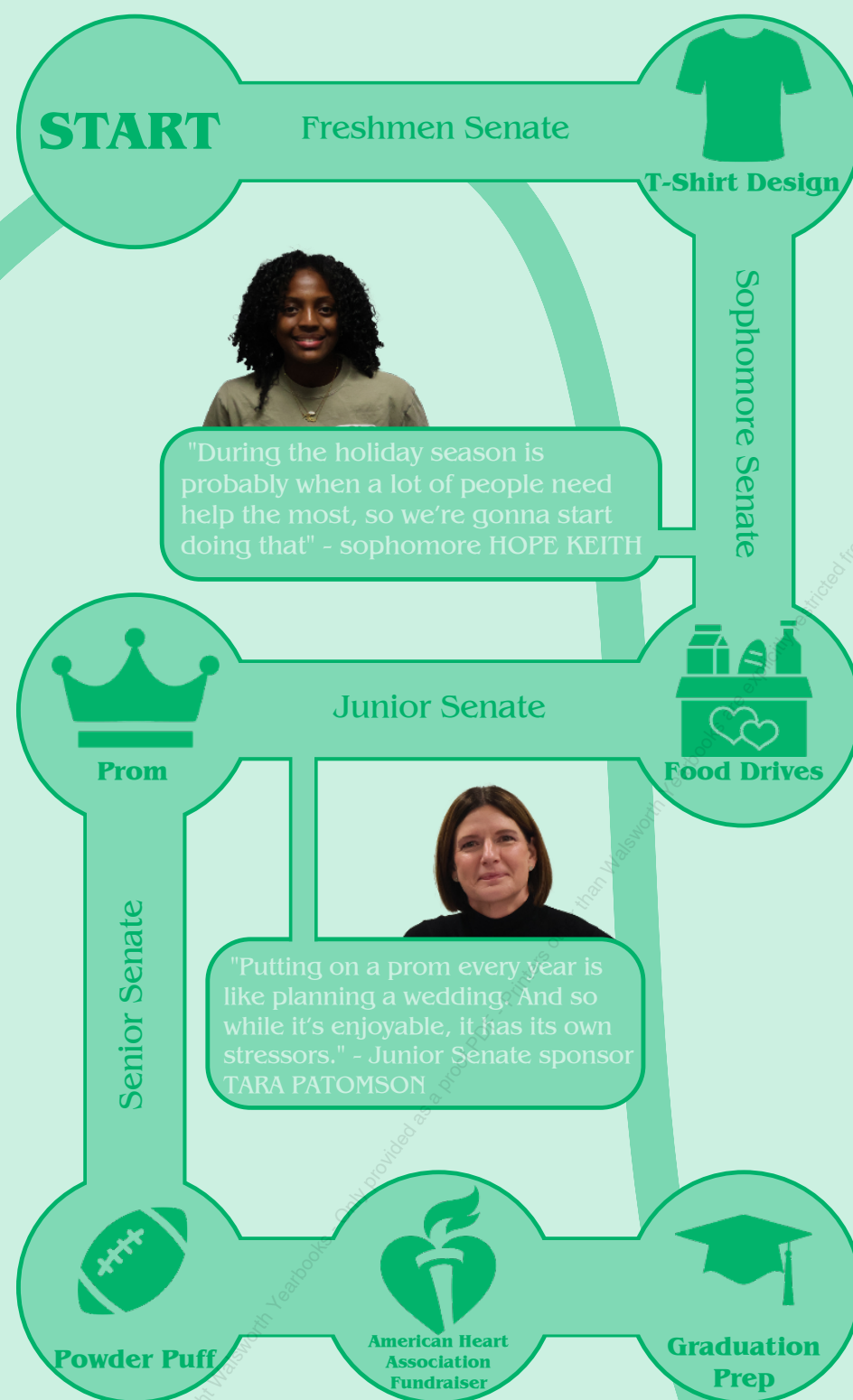




Student Senate Progression

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Designed by
Isaiah Nomiya

Students took the wheel by leading student senate projects.

Students led a lively group discussion, and eagerly tossed out their ideas to the others. After having carefully considered each idea, they presented the options to the club sponsor. Yet even then, the adult didn't choose from them. Rather, they gave the students the chance to vote on the best way to proceed forward. Student Senates are clubs for students, led by students.

"Teachers are kind of just a backup, like they'll provide for you," junior **KENNEDY RIDDLE** said. "Students take control and come up with all ideas, and the teachers just listen."

That's by design, too. The club sponsors saw their role as one of a helping hand, rather than leadership.

"My officer team is really the ones who are kind of running the show, but I kind of facilitate it, and I'm there as their support staff," Senior Senate sponsor **CHAD HUSETH** said.

Leadership skills aren't the only thing students learned, though. Rather than an up-tight, business-only attitude, students engaged in friendly discussions and got to know each other well.

"I've learned to make new friendships with people I've never talked to before," sophomore **GENESIS VAZQUEZ** said.

This friendship created an open environment of collaboration and amicability, shown by students' willingness to consider all ideas pitched. They provided constructive feedback to each other, helped to iron out any flaws, and improved ideas to the best they could be.

"We all found ways to come to agreements on what we wanted on the shirts," freshman **PANDORA LAPP** said.

The atmosphere created in the Student Senates extended beyond the meetings, spreading to the school as a whole.

"All of our senates are doing the best that we can to make not only the student experience, but just the community experience of Bellevue West, the most positive that it can be," Freshmen Senate sponsor **AMY SMITH** said.

Senates Spotlight Student Leaders



HAPPY. Sophomore **BELLA WESTMAN** smiles while getting herself a bagel at a Sophomore Senate meeting. *I. Nomiya*



TASTY. Junior **TESSA ZAVALA** eats a doughnut at a Junior Senate meeting. *I. Nomiya*



HABA. Senior **ADAM WILLIAMS** laughs while telling a fellow student senator a story. *I. Nomiya*



WATCH. Senior Senate sponsor **CHAD HUSETH** shows senior **CONNER STROBEL** a video on his computer. *I. Nomiya*



JOY. Junior **ELLIE WALKER** laughs at a comment from one of her peers at a Junior Senate meeting. *I. Nomiya*

Reasons for Joining

"I love the people in the class of 2026." - senior **MADALYN CROTEAU**



"I want to really work on team collaboration alongside my peers." - junior **SIERRA HANSON**

"Leadership is really important."

- senior **BRADY LESTER**



Senates

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