Construction Updates

Lake Washington School District



May 2020

Facility Advisory Committee hears community voice on future projects



The Facility Advisory Committee (FAC) has been meeting since November to develop recommendations to accommodate the district's rapid enrollment growth and continue to provide quality learning environments. The FAC has continued to meet virtually during our school closures. Three meetings have been held via Zoom since mid-March.

As part of this work, in February, the FAC solicited feedback from the community through a Thoughtexchange survey.

The FAC gathered community input around this question: What are the most important perspectives to consider as we plan for future facilities to accommodate growth in our district?

Thank you to the 1,259 participants who shared 1,421 thoughts and gave 42,854 ratings to the thoughts shared! We invite everyone to explore the feedback.

The FAC shared and discussed this community feedback at their February 27 meeting. The input gathered in this exchange will be considered as the committee continues to develop their recommendations to accommodate the district's rapid enrollment growth and continue to provide quality learning environments. The Superintendent and School Board will consider these recommendations as it plans for future ballot measures to fund construction.

Learn more about the Facility Advisory Committee's work.

LWSD refinances bonds to save taxpayers \$18.6 million

On April 30, 2020, Lake Washington School District (LWSD) sold a total of \$118.85 million of taxexempt refunding bonds, which will refinance \$134 million of its existing debt, to take advantage of lower market interest rates. The refinancing will save the district's taxpayers more than \$18.6 million over the next nine years.

The bonds will refund \$14 million of the district's unlimited tax general obligation (UTGO) bonds, 2009, \$110 million of the district's UTGO bonds, 2010A, and \$10 million of the district's UTGO bonds, 2010B.

Dr. Jane Stavem, Superintendent, said, "One of our strategic goals is the effective use of resources, including fiscal responsibility. Opportunities like this allow us to save taxpayer dollars while still continuing the critical expansion work of our growing district."

Read more about how LWSD saved taxpayers \$18.6 million.

New schools awarded PSE grants of \$261,978 for energy efficiency

Energy-efficient design saves money in the long run. To implement energy-efficient features into its construction projects, Lake Washington School District (LWSD) applied for grants from Puget Sound Energy (PSE). The projects received grants that totaled \$261,978.

The PSE commercial new construction grants recognize energy-saving features such as ground-



source heating, high-efficiency boilers, extra insulation, efficient windows and LED lighting. LWSD's new construction projects have performed about 15-20 percent more efficiently than Washington state's energy code requires. Washington has some of the most stringent requirements in the United States.

Construction crews stay safe while preparing for the first day of school

It might seem like a long way off, but construction crews are busy preparing for the first day of school this fall. To keep everyone safe and healthy, our construction partners have updated their safety plans to include physical distancing measures. We are also working virtually with our partners to continue activities such as design, procurement and permitting.

As always, if you have any questions about one of our construction projects, please let us know on Let's Talk.

Did you know?

Lake Washington School District (LWSD) staff regularly meets with representatives from Kirkland, Redmond and Sammamish to determine what new housing projects have been permitted and what that will mean for enrollment growth in our schools.

In addition, this year, LWSD worked with Flo Analytics, an outside planning, GIS and data-analytic consulting firm, to prepare long-range enrollment projections. Flo Analytics staff were complimentary of the district's enrollment projection work to date, including the level of planning and detail they maintained.

2019 Capital Projects Levy Updates

Construction on elementary additions begins this summer



Construction at **Ben Franklin Elementary**, **Mark Twain Elementary** and **Rose Hill Elementary** is scheduled to begin this summer. The three schools are receiving classroom additions funded by the 2019 <u>Capital Projects Levy</u>.

Updated construction schedules, designs and supply routes will be posted on each school's project page later this month.

Construction at Rachel Carson Elementary will begin in 2021.

Lake Washington High School addition







Exterior brick veneer is complete and painting is about halfway complete inside the Lake Washington High School classroom addition. Crews completed installation of the exterior glass window panels this spring as well as the elevator. The 20-classroom addition is scheduled to open this fall.

Lake Washington High School

2016 Bond Project Updates

Juanita High School







At Juanita High School, construction on Phase 2 is on schedule. The Phase 2 wing has now been connected to the main building. All interior painting is complete and the concrete floor is polished. Carpets and rubber tile flooring are being installed and classrooms are receiving whiteboards and tackable wall panels. Underground utility work is complete. Curbs and sidewalks for the new east parking lot are complete. Landscaping has begun at the site. The second and final phase of the high school is scheduled to open to students this fall.

Juanita High School

Old Redmond Schoolhouse







At Old Redmond Schoolhouse, the new roof is complete. Construction crews are also finishing restoration of windows and masonry. Installation of new siding is nearly complete. Inside, painting is complete. Work continues on other aspects of construction, including floors, ceilings and casework. The renovated building is scheduled to open with 10 preschool classrooms this fall.

Old Redmond Schoolhouse

Have a question about a project? Let's Talk!

Have a question about any of these projects? <u>Ask us through our "Let's Talk"</u> <u>system</u>. This system allows you to share comments or ask questions to members of our team.



Connect with us!









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