



# Meeting Agenda

3/07/2018

## Meeting #8

6 p.m. to 9 p.m., March 7, 2018  
North Bellingham Elementary School  
5275 Northwest Rd. Ferndale, WA 98226

### Project overview:

A comprehensive facilities assessment in 2010 noted that many of Ferndale School District’s schools need either renovation or replacement. The District has been listening to citizens and considering various scenarios to address the district’s school facilities based on their feedback. In April 2017, the School Board decided to develop a bond package, primarily focused on renovating Ferndale High School to put before voters in November 2018. A Bond Task Force has been convened to provide community input into development of the total bond package.

### Meeting objectives:

- Reach agreement on final recommendations

### Key takeaways:

- Decision on the recommendations the Task Force will present to School Board on March 27

### Example community questions:

- *Do our final recommendations align with your thinking about the district’s facilities needs?*

## Agenda

Time	Item	Presenter(s)
6:00 PM	<b>Optional Tour, North Bellingham Elementary</b>	
6:30 PM	<b>Welcome and introductions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of meeting agenda, meeting materials and ground rules</li> <li>• Round robin – what are people hearing in the community?</li> </ul> <b>Outcome:</b> <i>Get oriented to the meeting and check in on outreach</i>	Penny Mabie, EnvirolIssues, Facilitator



6:45 PM	<p><b>Developing final recommendations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ School Board meeting observations</li> <li>○ Project budget refinements</li> <li>○ Responses to questions from Task Force Meeting #7</li> <li>○ Task Force website community survey outcomes</li> <li>○ Overview of Task Force survey responses</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Small group discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Develop proposed package</li> <li>○ Identify most critical driver for package</li> <li>○ Demonstrate alignment with guiding principles</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Large group discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Report out from small groups</li> <li>○ Develop agreement</li> <li>○ Consensus check-in</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Outcome:</b> <i>Task Force reaches agreement on project package recommendation and key drivers for the School Board</i></p>	Bond Task Force Penny Mabie
8:45 PM	<p><b>Wrap Up and Next Steps</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review report development schedule</li> <li>• Identify presenters for March 27 School Board meeting</li> <li>• Congratulate each other on excellent and dedicated work</li> </ul>	Penny Mabie
9:00 PM	<b>Adjourn</b>	

**Ground rules**

- Start and end on time.
- Silence electronics.
- Ask questions of each other to gain clarity and understanding.
- Express yourself in terms of your preferences, interests and outcomes you wish to achieve.
- Listen respectfully and try sincerely to understand the needs and interests of others.
- Come with curiosity and willingness to learn.

# Meeting Handout

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## **PROs and CONs For Including the Renovation of NORTH BELLINGHAM In the Recommended Bond Package**

### **PROs of putting North Bell in the Bond package**

- Fulfill a promise the district made to the North Bell community 10+ years ago
- Create a neighborhood elementary school in a neighborhood that no longer has one
- Reduce traffic in town by eliminating as many parent drivers
- Reduce the time some students are on buses
- Garner support from the North Bell community, which has traditionally voted favorably for school measures
- Garner support from other elementary school communities who see the district including “one of theirs” in the package
- Demonstrate the district does not believe tearing down buildings is the only way to go; present a package that is part new and part remodel
- Create a more diversified bond package
- Provide additional classrooms to reduce class size at the early grades across the district
- Free up space in all elementary schools for programs like pre-school (rather than putting all pre-school at one location)
- Save money on busing pre-schoolers from their neighborhoods to one location
- The District is not going to get another shot at fixing North Bell for a long time; can’t run another bond in a few years
- Build trust with the community

### **CONs of putting North Bell in the Bond package**

- Adds to the expense of the bond package; makes the number too large
- Makes the bond package more complicated; research shows complication loses votes
- Takes focus away from the high school, which is the greatest need
- Mt. View supporters may vote against the bond because they aren’t included
- Other school communities may feel left out
- Re-opening an elementary school at North Bell will mean having to draw new school boundaries; some families will have to move their school attendance again
- The planned renovation may not create an adequate elementary school
- We should wait to run a bond to build a whole new elementary school and do it right
- Adding North Bell would spread the district too thin with too many projects going on at once
- We should focus on one school and do it right to rebuild trust
- The School Board has not discussed re-opening North Bellingham as an elementary school this year, therefore adding North Bellingham to the next bond could be a surprise to many Ferndale voters.