

BOND UPDATE #105

04.30.21

Here's what's going on with our bond projects:

1. Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Groundbreaking Ceremony on April 27. It was wonderful to see so many of the community members who have played parts in turning our dream of a new high school into a reality -- members of the Bond Task Force who planned the bond package; the Citizens' Committee who worked so hard to get it passed; the Bond Oversight Committee who are helping to ensure the project is delivered on time, on budget, and as promised; and the School Board who have provided unwavering leadership through all of it. It was exciting to be joined by so many current and former staff and current and former students, including six FHS ASB Presidents/Officers, representing all the way from the Class of 1960 to the Class of 2022; the amazing Golden Eagle Band; and the always-spirited FHS Cheer Squad. It was an honor to entertain such community leaders as the Mayor of Ferndale and the Chairman of the Lummi Nation. It was a pleasure to be able to acknowledge publicly our partners from Dykeman Architects, Cornerstone General Contractors, and Construction Services Group. Together, we marked an important milestone, and we didn't get rained on in the process! I have included the agenda for the Groundbreaking at the end of this week's update, along with two photos taken by Ferndale City Councilperson and photographer extraordinaire Erin Gunter. The Ferndale Record also ran a color picture of the groundbreaking in their April 28 edition under the headline "Starting fresh at FHS."
2. As we begin the construction phase of our Ferndale High School project, you can watch the action happen! The webcam installed on the roof of the current building is now broadcasting a live video feed to the District website, which can be accessed at this link: https://app.truelook.com/?u=cf1619482381#tl_live
3. The Cornerstone team is officially set up in their construction trailer on the FHS site, and they are working on preparation of the construction entrance through the BNRR (railroad) property at the southeast corner of campus.
4. The paving on the track around Memorial Field was bulldozed into a pile of rubbish the day after the Groundbreaking Ceremony. Since that old track has not been safe enough for us to host a track meet on it for over a decade, we were not sorry to see it go!
5. Workers will begin abating the grandstand and concessions building on Monday (May 3), with demolition to follow soon after. Our onsite webcam will capture the action, and we will do our best to let everyone know when the first "knock down" is going to take place.

6. Workers are continuing to reroute the electrical service, with some of that work occurring across sidewalks and driveways. If you are on campus, please be mindful of the barricades and temporary pathways in place. Safety is always our top priority!
7. I need to note that the *actual* start of construction is dependent on the City's giving us permission to begin a portion of the work early, before the complete LDP (Land Disturbance Permit) has been issued. Such permissions are routinely given in other jurisdictions, but we are still working out details with our local officials. Based on the strong support we have received from the City throughout the process, we are confident they will help find a solution that allows construction to proceed on schedule.

If you have questions or comments about any of the content of this update, please feel free to reach out to me or one of my colleagues.

Linda

Groundbreaking Ceremony

Tuesday, April 27, 2021
4:00 pm on Memorial Field



Master of Ceremonies: Ferndale School District Superintendent Dr. Linda Quinn

Musical Prologue.....Ferndale High School Band
Please use this opportunity to sign the keepsake golden shovel.

National Anthem.....Josiah Aho, Ferndale High School Senior

Land Acknowledgement.....Andrew McLaurin, Ferndale School Board President

Welcome Song.....Lawrence Solomon, Chairman of the Lummi Nation

Welcome to Our Groundbreaking Ceremony.....Diverse Voices
Kevin Erickson, Ferndale School Board Vice President and FHS Alumni (English)
Herb Porter, Ferndale City Councilman and Long-time FHS Teacher (Spanish)
Ilya Shportko, Current FHS Teacher and FHS Alumni (Russian)
Victor Boulos, Businessman and FHS Booster Club Member (Portuguese)
Gurpreet Dhillon, Businessman and FHS Alumni (Punjabi)

Cheer.....Ferndale High School Cheerleaders

Remarks.....Community Leaders
Joe Lupo, Member of Bond Oversight Committee, Former Chair of Bond Task Force, and FHS Alumni
Greg Hansen, Mayor of Ferndale and FHS Alumni

Cheer.....Ferndale High School Cheerleaders

RemarksFerndale High School Student Leaders
Pete Granger, Past (1965) ASB President
Hope Jose-Day, Current ASB President
Bre Bouldin, Future ASB President

Tribute to Memorial Field..... Written by Gary Jensen and Read by Jeremy Vincent

FHS Fight Song.....Ferndale High School Cheerleaders and Band

RemarksDesign and Construction Team Leaders
Tim Jewitt, Dykeman Architects
Sam Comer, Cornerstone Construction

Ceremonial Breaking of the Ground.....Presentation of Shovels by Student Leaders
Lawrence Solomon, Chairman of the Lummi Nation
Greg Hansen, Mayor of Ferndale
Andrew McLaurin, President of the Ferndale School Board
Riley Cornelsen, Co-Chair of the Bond Oversight Committee
Jeremy Vincent, Principal of Ferndale High School
Pete Granger, Past Ferndale High School ASB President
Hope Jose-Day, Current Ferndale High School ASB President
Bre Bouldin, Future ASB President
Linda Quinn, Ferndale School District Superintendent

Final Musical Number.....Ferndale High School Band

"The buildings we create inspire us and reflect who we are as a society."



Photos courtesy of Erin Gunter