



LAKE STEVENS
School District

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS' SPECIAL MEETING
January 24, 2024

**Board
Members:**

Mari Taylor, President
Nina Hanson
David Iseminger
Vildan Kirby
Paul Lund
Ken D. Collins, Superintendent/Board Secretary

**Student
Advisory
Council
Officers:**

Riley Boerger
Hayden LaCelle
MacKenzie Conniff

The Lake Stevens School District Board of Directors met in a Special Session at Hillcrest Elementary. A Zoom option was available for this meeting that President Taylor called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Executive Director of Operations Robb Stanton gave an update on the recommendations of the Community Facilities Needs Advisory Committee Recommendations. He spoke about the process and what was involved. This includes gathering and analyzing data, sharing analysis, developing priorities, developing potential solutions, estimating costs, choosing solutions, and planning actions. He then spoke about the facility improvements communicating needs to the board. His board presentations include an annual building condition assessment, a residential development report, a summary of the 2016 Capital Bond Improvement Campaign, facilities challenges, needs, assets, and opportunities, and Facilities Needs Advisory Committee Recommendations. He talked about the Facilities Needs Advisory Committee and how they developed this committee. Volunteers were recruited through outreach and the ThoughExchange facilities survey, 45 members represented students, families and caregivers, school and district staff, the board, and the community. The committee was led by community member Andrea Wright. They met five times from October through December 2023. Andrea and a team from the district led members through the district facilities' challenges, needs, assets, opportunities, and potential solutions. The group reviewed data on safety, security, and health; enrollment projections and residential development growth; educational programs; and building capacities and conditions.

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The committee developed recommendations through prioritization and consensus. The committee values included safety, decisions that positively affect student learning, flexibility, financial stewardship, equity, security, health and comfort of schools, resources, and facilities to meet the needs of students, capacity, stability of experiences at all schools, durability and longevity, programmatic needs, student needs over adult comfort. The committee then prioritized their challenges placing them in high, medium, and low priorities. Then they had a needs fair activity where members visited tables and asked program and subject-matter experts deeper questions about challenges and the facility's needs. Table subjects and experts included safety and security, alternative learning, educational program support, special education, food and nutrition services, school construction funding, transportation, building conditions, and enrollment projections. The committee took a tour and visited the production kitchen, Lake Stevens Middle School, Glenwood Elementary, and Skyline Elementary to talk with staff about the needs of their buildings. Next, the committee categorized everything as recommended and deferred. Members then prioritized recommended needs into groups that were essential, important, and recommended. Essential projects are the highest priority, essential to meeting the goals of the district. Important projects also are a priority for meeting the goals, but not as important as the essential ones. Recommended projects that are needed but should be addressed as part of the projects above, or afterward, if possible. Executive Director of Operations Robb Stanton presented a graph that showed projected enrollment and capacity from 2023, 2028, 2032, and maturity and spoke about a second high school. He said a second high school is projected to be in the district's future. However, the future is not here yet. The current capacity needs are at the elementary and, to a lesser extent, the middle school levels. If Cavelero were a high school today, there would be approximately 25 unused classrooms at Lake Stevens High School and Cavelero. To convert Cavelero to a high school, a third middle school will be needed. The current need is to prepare for a second high school while addressing the capacity needs at the elementary and middle school levels.

Executive Director of Operations Robb Stanton spoke about the essential projects which included the modernization of Glenwood and Skyline Elementaries. State funding assistance would be used to improve, renovate, add to, replace, or a combination of these to address the many safety, health, security, program sufficiency, capacity, and condition needs of these schools that were built in 1992. He talked about the community comments on taking care of the numerous needs at Glenwood and Skyline, two schools that have existed the longest without modernization, which was the most essential need for the committee.

Putting doors on classrooms was the highest priority, but the list of safety, health, security, program sufficiency, and building condition needs made bringing these two schools up to current building and educational program standards the most important needs to address. Creating equity of experiences for students and staff in the district's newer school was also a reason that modernizing Glenwood and Skyline was essential to meet the needs of the district. Projects address the following challenges:

Projects meet the following Foundation for Excellence goals:

- Strengthen the Multi-Tiered System of Supports
- Safe and Inclusive Environments
- Innovative and Integrated Approaches to Learning
- Needs-Bases Facilities Improvement

Modernize Glenwood and Skyline Elementary Essential Projects

Projects address the following challenges:

- District safety and security standards evolve
- Educational programs evolve
- The number of students who qualify for special education services is increasing
- Temporary facilities have been needed to house students until permanent facilities are constructed
- Increased enrollment at schools, combined with available spaces for PE, have increased the number, length, and location of school lunches
- Playground capacity has not kept up with growth
- Parking has not kept up with growth in staff, enrollment
- More families drop off and pick up their students
- Our buildings, despite excellent maintenance, continue to age
- Some of our buildings, despite excellent maintenance, continue to age
- Buildings have systems with life spans that eventually end
- Health, energy, electrical and other regulations and codes change
- Environmental conditions change

Projects address the following needs.

- Doors in classrooms
- Secure perimeters
- Secure reception
- Relocate portables within the secure perimeter
- Add access control to portables
- Seismic improvements
- Heating, ventilation and air conditioning replacements
- Roof replacements

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- Replace exterior doors and windows
- Upgrade fire alarm systems
- Add cooling to classrooms and offices
- Replace intercom systems
- Replace generators
- Provide student support and support staff spaces
- Build dedicated special education services spaces
- Provide classroom audio/video systems
- Expand offices and libraries
- Replace lighting and add lighting controls
- Install measures to meet energy code
- Replace plumbing fixtures
- Additional classrooms for students in portables and growth
- Upsize utility services (gas, electricity, water, sewer)
- Address drainage and sewer issues
- Upgrade intrusion detection system
- Additional parking spaces
- Additional student pick-up queueing space
- Separate PE and cafeteria spaces
- Additional playground equipment
- Improve fields
- Interior and exterior paint
- Replace furniture

Executive Director of Operations Robb Stanton spoke about new elementary meal production space which is needed to provide adequate production and storage to prepare daily breakfasts and lunches for students at seven current elementary schools and plan for future growth. He added community comments including addressing the challenges to the district elementary meal production kitchen was the next most essential project for the committee. The kitchen's inability to keep up with growth in elementary enrollment and the number of schools it serves since it was opened in 2002 resonated greatly with the group. Tours that demonstrated the lack of storage space for dry, refrigerated, and frozen goods, how the equipment necessary to hold and deliver student meals created difficulty in moving through the space, and conflicts at the loading area with other school activities persuaded the committee that a new, larger facility was essential.

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Projects meet the following Foundation for Excellence goals:

- Needs-Based Facilities Improvement

New elementary meal production space. The project addresses the following challenges:

- The capacity of support facilities has not kept up with the needs of their growing district

Projects address the following needs:

- Adequate storage for commodities and supplies necessary to produce student meals
- Sufficient space to safely produce the number of meals needed
- Loading area/dock that supports multiple deliveries at the same time
- Location where the activities of the kitchen do not conflict or interfere with those of another facility or school
- Room to grow as enrollment continues to increase

Executive Director of Operations Stanton talked about improving school safety and security by providing secure perimeters around school buildings, reconfiguring reception areas to further limit access to schools, and relocating portables within secure perimeters while adding electronic door locks. They would like to continue to work to make schools and support facilities safer and more secure by applying security features from new campuses to all schools. The committee comments stated with safety as one of the committee's highest values, improving school and support facility safety and security was next on the list of essential projects. Improving perimeter security, moving portable classrooms to within this perimeter, and providing safer entry reception areas for students and staff at several schools were the highest needs in this area.

Projects meet the following Foundation for Excellence goals:

- Safe and Inclusive Environments
- Needs-Based Facilities Improvement

Projects address the following challenges:

- District safety and security standards evolve
- Many campuses have multiple buildings and portables

Projects address the following needs:

- Fences and electronically locking gates to connect buildings and guide visitors to the front entrance
- Secure reception areas separating visitors from the office
- Electronic locks on portables
- Relocating portables from public spaces in front of schools to within the new school perimeter

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Executive Director of Operations Stanton discussed providing new space for alternative learning, including an alternative high school. They would like to create the spaces necessary to better meet the needs of all district students and return their alternative high school students to Lake Stevens. The committee comments were bringing their alternative high school students back to Lake Stevens from Granite Falls is essential to achieving the goal of serving all district students. Building a new center for secondary alternative learning that includes space for these students would also provide a location for both current alternative programs located across the district and for student-centered programs that have not been implemented because of a lack of space.

Projects meet the following Foundation for Excellence goals:

- Strengthen the Multi-Tiered System of Supports
- Safe and Inclusive Environments
- Innovative and Integrated Approaches to Learning
- Needs-Based Facilities Improvements

Projects address the following challenges:

- New programs are needed to better serve students
- Educational programs evolve
- The community continues to grow

Projects address the following needs:

- Space for the return of the district's alternative high school
- Location for other current alternative secondary programs
- Space for other programs that will enable the district to better serve all students

Executive Director of Operations Stanton spoke about another essential project providing sufficient, improved space for the Maintenance and Grounds departments which includes providing replacements for some of the district's oldest buildings to meet the needs of these important support functions. The committee comments were that the facilities that house the Maintenance and Grounds departments were built in the 1940's. Their age and condition rate poorly in the district's annual Building Condition Assessment. Repairs are costly and, in most cases, no longer feasible. Settling and flooding have significantly impacted the Maintenance building, while the Grounds building has simply worn out. Creating facilities for important district support functions while providing safe, healthy, and secure working environments for these staff members is an essential project.

Projects meet the following Foundation for Excellence goals:

- Safe and Inclusive Environments
- Needs-Based Facilities Improvement

Provide sufficient, improved space for the Maintenance and Grounds departments.

Projects address the following challenges:

- The capacity of support facilities has not kept up with the needs of our growing district

- Parking has not kept up with the growth in staff, enrollment
- Spaces to support the vehicle fleet have not kept up with growth
- Buildings, despite excellent maintenance, continue to age
- Some of the buildings are old and haven't been updated
- Buildings have systems with life spans that eventually end
- Health, energy, electrical and other regulations and codes change
- Environmental conditions change

Projects address the following Needs:

- Provide current, code-compliant buildings
- Sufficient, efficient space for storage of materials, equipment and vehicles used to maintain schools, support facilities, athletics fields and landscaping

Important Projects include building new permanent elementary classrooms by providing permanent classrooms to accommodate current and projected students who, because of growth, are taught in temporary classroom facilities (portables). The community comments that it is important to create more classrooms at the elementary level to accommodate both the current students who are taught in portables and project students from residential housing growth over the next few years. However, the committee was flexible about how these additional classrooms could be delivered. One way would be to expand the number of classrooms at Glenwood and Skyline as part of their modernizations. Another would be to build a new elementary school, especially if this additional school could be used to house students who might be displaced from Glenwood and Skyline during their modernization. Or new classrooms could be built at existing schools to both expand their capacity and provide more equitable spaces. The committee left the method for providing these classrooms to others and asked them to do so in efficient and effective ways.

Projects meet the following Foundation for Excellence goals:

- Strengthen the Multi-Tiered System of Supports
- Safe and Inclusive Environments
- Innovative and Integrated Approaches to Learning
- Needs-Based Facilities Improvement

Building new permanent elementary classrooms.

Projects address the following challenges:

- The community continues to grow
- Temporary facilities have been needed to house students
Until permanent facilities are constructed

Projects address the following Needs:

- Additional permanent classrooms
- Reduce the number of portables necessary for instruction
- Create equitable opportunities for students and staff through comparable facilities

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Modernization of Lake Stevens Middle School was another important project from the committee recommendations. Use state funding assistance to improve, renovate, or provide additions to this facility, built in 1961 and last modernized in 1995. The committee comments were equal in importance to new elementary classrooms. Addressing the number of safeties, health, security, program sufficiency and building condition needs at LSMS is as important as those at Glenwood and Skyline. Lake Stevens Middle School, built in 1961 and last modernized in 1995, is eligible for state construction assistance in 2025. Providing specialized spaces for science and technology, as well as a coordinated group of spaces for students receiving special education services were the top concerns of the group. Improving heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment and providing a more secure campus and reception area were also important.

The project meets the following Foundation for Excellence goals:

- Strengthen the Multi-Tiered System of supports
- Safe and Inclusive Environments
- Innovative and Integrated Approaches to Learning
- Needs-Based Facilities Improvement

Modernization Lake Stevens Middle School

The project addresses the following challenges:

- District safety and security standards evolve
- Many campuses have multiple buildings and portables
- The number of students who qualify for special education services is increasing
- Our community continues to grow
- Temporary facilities have been needed to house students until permanent facilities are constructed
- Parking has not kept up with growth in staff, enrollment
- The number of students eligible to receive special education services is increasing
- More families drop off and pick up their students
- Our buildings, despite excellent maintenance, continue to age
- Some of our buildings are old and haven't been updated
- Buildings have systems with life spans that eventually end
- Health, energy, electrical and other regulations and codes change
- Environmental conditions change

The project addresses the following needs:

- Secure perimeters
- Secure reception
- Relocate portables within the secure perimeter
- Add access control to portables
- Seismic improvements
- Heating, ventilation and air conditioning replacements
- Replace exterior doors and windows

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- Upgrade fire alarm system
- Add fire sprinkler system
- Add cooling to classrooms and offices
- Replace intercom system
- Replace generators
- Provide student support and support staff spaces
- Build dedicated special education services spaces
- Provide classroom audio/video systems
- Replace lighting and add lighting controls
- Install measures to meet energy code
- Replace plumbing fixtures
- Additional classrooms for students in portables and growth
- Address drainage and sewer issues
- Upgrade intrusion detection system
- Additional parking spaces
- Additional student pick-up queueing space
- Interior and exterior paint, flooring, ceilings
- Replace furniture

Provide additional space for special education programs by providing sufficient, improved, and coordinated groups of spaces for Life Skills, Structures Learning and Behavioral special services for students at Highland, Hillcrest, Mt. Pilchuck, Sunnycrest, and North Lake Middle School. The committee comments address the growth in the number of students receiving special education services, and schools' lack of spaces designed for these specialized programs, services and needs, which was an important project for the committee. Touring special education services spaces at Lake Stevens Middle School and at Skyline and Glenwood Elementary illustrated how existing spaces have been forced to work for self-contained and life skills programs. As enrollment in these programs increases, additional spaces and spaces at additional schools are needed. Recently built special education facilities at Stevens Creek and Lake Stevens High School can serve as a template for spaces that meet the needs of the programs and create belonging for the students in the programs with the rest of their schools.

Projects meet the following Foundation for Excellence goals:

- Strengthen the Multi-Tiered System of Supports
- Safe and Inclusive Environments
- Innovative and Integrated Approaches to Learning
- Needs-Based Facilities Improvement

Projects address the following challenges:

- Educational programs evolve
- The number of students who qualify for special education services is increasing
- Our community continues to grow

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- Temporary facilities have been needed to house students until permanent facilities are constructed

Projects address the following needs:

- Create spaces that are designed for students who are served and the programs that serve them
- Co-locate classrooms and support spaces that serve special education services
- Provide spaces that are integrated within the larger school community
- Create spaces that can serve the general school population (sensory spaces) as well

As part of other projects, or as stand-alone projects the following improvements, where possible. Committee Comments were with so many facility needs and limited resources to address them, the committee decided that the above projects were crucial to solving the district's most pressing building requirements. However, the committee placed importance on the following projects above others and recommended that these be considered when designing solutions for the Essential and Important projects, or if resources were available after solutions to the preceding were adopted.

Safety, Health, and Security

- Upgrade fire alarm systems at Highland, Hillcrest, Mt Pilchuck, Sunnycrest, North Lake MS, Cavelero MHS, Transportation
- Add fire sprinkler systems at North Lake MS, Maintenance, Grounds, Transitions Building
- Replace heating and ventilation equipment at North Lake MS, Lake Stevens HS (1995 additions), Maintenance, Grounds, Transitions Building
- Provide cooling in classrooms and offices at Highland, Hillcrest, Mt Pilchuck, Sunnycrest, North Lake MS, Lake Stevens HS (1995 additions)
- Replace end-of-life intercom systems at Highland, Hillcrest, Mt Pilchuck, Sunnycrest, North Lake MS, Cavelero MHS, Lake Stevens HS, Educational Service Center
- Upgrade or replace emergency generators at Highland, Hillcrest, Mt Pilchuck, Sunnycrest, North Lake MS, Cavelero, MHS, Lake Stevens HS (1995 additions), the Educational Service Center, Maintenance, Grounds, Transportation, Transitions Building

Educational Program

- Provide classrooms for the Transition to the Kindergarten program
- Provide classrooms for dual-language instruction

- Provide space for student support and pull-out instruction at Highland, Hillcrest, Mt Pilchuck, Sunnycrest, North Lake MS, Cavelero MHS
 - Provide classroom audio systems at Highland, North Lake MS
- Capacity
- Provide additional space for student support staff at Highland,
 - Hillcrest, Mt. Pilchuck, Sunnycrest, North Lake MS, Cavelero MHS
 - Provide additional classrooms for art, science, and technology at North Lake MS, Cavelero MHS
 - Provide additional classrooms at the Early Learning Center
 - Provide additional parking at Highland, Hillcrest, Mt Pilchuck, Sunnycrest, North Lake MS
 - Provide additional student pick-up waiting areas at Highland, Hillcrest, Mt Pilchuck, Sunnycrest, North Lake MS
 - Provide space for elementary music and PE instruction at Hillcrest, Mt Pilchuck
 - Add or replace playground equipment at Highland, Hillcrest, Mt Pilchuck, Sunnycrest
 - Add cafeteria space at Sunnycrest
 - Provide additional space for support functions at the Educational Service Center and Transportation
 - Build capacity for future growth

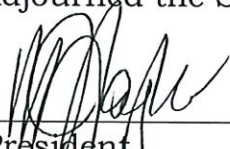
Condition

- Modernize the Performing Arts Center at Lake Stevens High School
- Replace failing roofs at Hillcrest, Mt Pilchuck, Cavelero MHS, Lake Stevens HS
- Upgrade or replace technology infrastructure at Hillcrest, Mt Pilchuck, Sunnycrest, North Lake MS, Cavelero MHS
- Repaint facilities at North Lake MS, Lake Stevens HS, Maintenance, Grounds, Transitions Building
- Executive Director of Operations ended with Facilities Improvements Concepts:
 - Elementary modernizations
 - Lake Stevens Middle School modernization
 - New elementary classrooms
 - Security upgrades
 - Maintenance, Grounds, and Central Kitchen
 - Alternative Learning
 - Special Education spaces

Executive Director of Operations Stanton presented several site plans and concept drawings showing either new or modernization ideas. He shared information on efficient and effective concepts on elementary modernization, Lake Stevens Middle School modernization, new elementary classrooms, security upgrades, maintenance, grounds and central kitchen, alternative learning, and special education spaces.

ADJOURNMENT

With no objections by the other directors, President Taylor adjourned the Special Session at 6:00 p.m.



President



Secretary