Bond Advisory Committee Question of the Week #4 Summary

> **What specific building needs are required to effectively support key programs, such as Career and Technical Education, Dual Language, or Preschool?** Should these programs have their own dedicated buildings, or would it be more beneficial to reconfigure an existing building to better accommodate their unique needs and foster a cohesive school culture?

Survey Responses (attached below)

The Puyallup School District recently conducted a "Question of the Week" survey from October 16 to October 22, 2024. This survey aimed to assess the building needs of key programs such as Career and Technical Education (CTE), Dual Language (DL), and Preschool and whether these programs should have dedicated buildings or reconfigured existing spaces. The responses reflect a broad spectrum of ideas on how best to support these programs while balancing the practical and financial realities faced by the district. The three main themes emerging from the responses include the need for **dedicated spaces**, **reconfiguring existing buildings**, and **hybrid solutions** that combine both approaches. Transportation, staffing, safety, and equitable access to specialized programs were important concerns.

Key Themes and Preferences:

1. **Dedicated Buildings vs. Reconfiguration:**
    a. **Dedicated Buildings:** Several respondents favor dedicated buildings for CTE, performing arts, and Dual Language programs. They argue that these programs benefit from specialized resources and spaces tailored to their needs. For example, respondents believe shop classes (woodworking, metal shop, auto shop) and performing arts (e.g., music, theater) require specialized facilities, and offering dedicated spaces would enhance program delivery.
    b. **Reconfiguration of Existing Buildings:** Some participants support reconfiguring current buildings to accommodate these programs. They see this as a more efficient use of resources, allowing for modifying existing

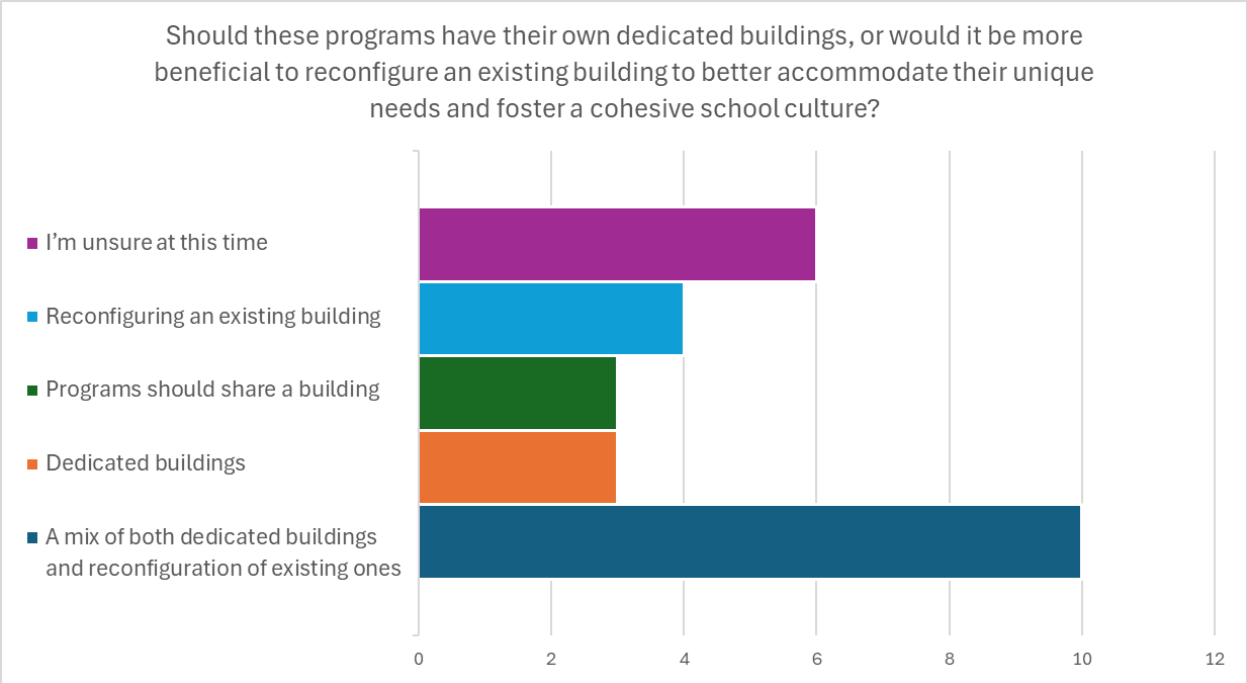
structures to meet the needs of multiple programs while reducing the need for new construction. Additionally, some view reconfiguration as beneficial for safety, reducing the need for students and staff to travel between multiple buildings.

c. **Balanced Approach:** A considerable number of respondents suggest a mixed approach, in which a combination of dedicated buildings and reconfigured existing facilities could meet program needs based on their specific requirements.

2. **Program-Specific Needs:**
    a. **Career and Technical Education (CTE):** Respondents highlight the growing need for expanded CTE programs. Some suggest that CTE programs should have buildings supporting multiple classrooms and specialized spaces for career paths such as medical careers and science labs. Vocational credits and updated tech infrastructure should also be prioritized for these programs.
    b. **Dual Language (DL):** Opinions about the Dual Language program vary. Some believe a separate "hub" building would foster a stronger program identity and culture. In contrast, others express concern about separating younger siblings from attending the same schools as older siblings.
    c. **Preschool and Special Education (SPED):** Participants suggest that preschool programs could benefit from dedicated classrooms with built-in Occupational Therapy (OT) and Physical Therapy (PT) spaces. These rooms should include specialized equipment, restrooms within the classroom, and designated spaces for various activities to support the student's unique needs.
3. **Safety and Accessibility Considerations:**
    a. Safety is a recurring concern for programs serving SPED students, with calls for larger classrooms, better support structures (e.g., Paraeducators), and access to classroom restrooms to preserve student dignity. The need for these features stems from each student's unique and individualized learning plans, which often require more space and specialized equipment.
    b. Transportation staffing shortages raise concerns that some specialized programs may not be accessible if they are in specific buildings or locations which require bus transportation.
4. **Focus on General Education Needs:**
    a. Some responses emphasize the importance of addressing the needs of general education students before focusing on smaller, specialized

programs. Overcrowding in classrooms and the reliance on portables are significant barriers to student progress, with respondents advocating for larger, more functional spaces for general education students.

5. **Technology and Infrastructure Upgrades:**
    a. The need for improved technology infrastructure is raised, with suggestions to assign tech teachers as specialists and reduce screen time for elementary students in favor of hands-on learning in junior high and high school. Technology and tech education are essential for preparing students for future careers.



Uncertainty and Further Information:

Several participants expressed a need for more information before committing to specific recommendations. Some are unsure about the potential impacts of new building designs and configurations on the broader school community and would like to see detailed plans that outline how each program would be supported.

Conclusion

The Bond Advisory Committee's "Question of the Week" survey reveals a district community recognizing the opportunities and challenges of accommodating growing and diverse educational programs. The top three ideas—**dedicated spaces**, **reconfigured buildings**, and a **hybrid approach**—reflect a thoughtful consideration of the district's resources and student needs. Respondents emphasized that while dedicated buildings would allow for specialized environments, reconfiguration could offer a cost-effective and practical solution. Moving forward, the district must balance these needs with logistical considerations like transportation, staffing, and safety to ensure that all students have access to the facilities and resources necessary for a quality education.

FOUNDATIONS FOR OUR FUTURE

Bond Advisory Committee Question of the Week #4 Survey Results

ID	Date	What specific building needs are required to effectively support key programs, such as Career and Technical Education, Dual Language, or Preschool?	Should these programs have their own dedicated buildings, or would it be more beneficial to reconfigure an existing building to better accommodate their unique needs and foster a cohesive school culture?	Submitted By
4732	10/16/2024 13:10	Dedicated schools offer smaller specialty focused schools and school cultures which can build on shared practices.	A mix of both dedicated buildings and reconfiguration of existing ones could provide a balanced approach, depending on the specific needs of each program.	Anonymous User
4746	10/16/2024 17:13	Shop classes. Wood working, metal shop, auto shop	Dedicated buildings would best meet the needs of these programs, allowing them to fully develop specialized resources, staff, and spaces tailored to their students.	Anonymous User
4752	10/16/2024 18:14	Any school that has Best, WRAP, Developmental Kindergarten or support centers should have the teams from those classes look at each school to address all safety matters & building needs. Those that primarily work in a general education setting aren't necessarily going to know or think about what's needed. One of the biggest needs is getting enough staff support within these settings. Hire more Paraeducators! The older schools seem to put the sped programs in the smaller rooms since their class roasters are smaller. They need bigger rooms. Every student has a completely different set of goals, needs, and materials they need access to. Now multiply that by 10-14. Some students need a variety of chairs and those take up space. These programs need access to their own restrooms within their class. We need to uphold the dignity of our students. Having them stand in a hallway waiting to be changed while being soiled is not ok!	Programs should share a building but with designated, tailored spaces that address their unique requirements while fostering collaboration between different programs.	Anonymous User
4755	10/16/2024 19:14	Reconfigure existing buildings to accommodate programs	Reconfiguring an existing building would be more efficient, providing the programs with needed spaces while maximizing the use of current facilities.	Anonymous User

Data pulled 10/23/2024

4756	10/16/2024 19:54	Space for students and teachers is an absolute necessity for any program, regardless of CTE, DL, or PreK. However, programs such as QUeST, Page, Young Scholars, Highly Capable program should absolutely not be left out in the district's goals and commitment to the community. There needs to be necessary space and teachers made available at every school for those that require challenge and encouragement.	I'm unsure at this time and would need more information about the specific needs of the programs and potential impacts on existing buildings and students.	Anonymous User
4758	10/16/2024 20:08		Reconfiguring an existing building would be more efficient, providing the programs with needed spaces while maximizing the use of current facilities.	Anonymous User
4761	10/17/2024 7:45	Gateway program needs to go up to the Kessler Center. This was one of the purposes of the Kessler Center. PHS Is desperate for space and Gateway still at PHS. Gateway and Advance works so closely together why are they not at the same location! PHS Needs the classroom space. Teachers are sharing spaces.	A mix of both dedicated buildings and reconfiguration of existing ones could provide a balanced approach, depending on the specific needs of each program.	Anonymous User
4763	10/17/2024 14:17		A mix of both dedicated buildings and reconfiguration of existing ones could provide a balanced approach, depending on the specific needs of each program.	Anonymous User
4767	10/17/2024 16:41	Until there are a sufficient amount of bus drivers for transporting all the different programs, housing them in the buildings they are in is best. Transportation needs to be part of the equation and not an afterthought.	I'm unsure at this time and would need more information about the specific needs of the programs and potential impacts on existing buildings and students.	Anonymous User

4769	10/17/2024 16:45	The performing arts spaces must be considered during the bond process. Many spaces are out of date, were not updated during other renovations/remodels, and do not support the growing programs in the district. Due to the overwhelming popularity of elementary band and orchestra, numbers will skyrocket soon, leaving most schools beyond legal capacity. PACs, or Performing Arts Centers, are also in need of remodeling or complete rebuilding (Rogers HS). These considerations could also lead to a possible development with CTE to add and enhance our arts programs, such as adding spaces for music and audio production, recording, piano and composition labs, and allow Puyallup to become a leader in the arts as well as leading partnerships with CTE. Please consider reaching out to music and drama teachers for more specific feedback and ideas; they are experts in their field and have a great deal to offer to the bond process.	Dedicated buildings would best meet the needs of these programs, allowing them to fully develop specialized resources, staff, and spaces tailored to their students.	Anonymous User
4771	10/17/2024 17:04		I'm unsure at this time and would need more information about the specific needs of the programs and potential impacts on existing buildings and students.	Anonymous User
4772	10/17/2024 17:04	These programs should be housed in separate buildings throughout the district : CtE at high school needs own building to house multiple rooms such as med careers and science labs, streamline the career paths and add vocational credits for all CtE and language classes. Each should be multi level and add parking garage with levels for high schools too leaving space to add buildings. How about a new high school? Fix tech capabilities at each school, take computers for kids out of elementary for every intermediate class and hire a tech teacher added as a specialist for each elementary school, then the computer we now have could be used for jh/ he without purchasing new ones every two years. 1oo computers per elementary is doable. They don't need to be on screens all day, but high school needs acess to computer 💻 tech as does junior high. Tech teachers assigned as specialist like Pe music and librarians - benefit our district more than class teachers trying to teach computers!	A mix of both dedicated buildings and reconfiguration of existing ones could provide a balanced approach, depending on the specific needs of each program.	Anonymous User

4773	10/17/2024 17:07	Please meet the needs of the ever growing general student population before addressing specific small groups of students. There are too many general education students crammed into too many classrooms and portables that are not making progress because of their environment.	Reconfiguring an existing building would be more efficient, providing the programs with needed spaces while maximizing the use of current facilities.	Anonymous User
4774	10/17/2024 17:33		I'm unsure at this time and would need more information about the specific needs of the programs and potential impacts on existing buildings and students.	Anonymous User
4776	10/17/2024 18:45	Career and technical education should greatly be expanded and have its own building! This is an amazing program that we need to invest in.	A mix of both dedicated buildings and reconfiguration of existing ones could provide a balanced approach, depending on the specific needs of each program.	Anonymous User
4778	10/17/2024 20:19	I'm only familiar with our preschool programs. I believe that they could use dedicated classrooms, with built in OT and PT spaces and equipment for push in specially designed instruction. Maybe bigger spaces for indoor activities when the weather doesn't permit or attached playgrounds to keep them safer due to lack of playground space.	Programs should share a building but with designated, tailored spaces that address their unique requirements while fostering collaboration between different programs.	Anonymous User
4781	10/18/2024 7:02	These programs and the arts program need a space to be able to teacher with their unique tools and curriculum items. These programs not having a dedicated space is not allowing them to equitably teach the student population they serve.		Anonymous User
4782	10/18/2024 8:31	I'm not in favor of new, separate buildings purely from a safety standpoint. I think the current climate dictates a priority of safety over any other consideration. Building new, separate structures would require facilitating staff and students migrating between buildings during the day, creating more opportunities for a bad actor to enter a secured location.	Reconfiguring an existing building would be more efficient, providing the programs with needed spaces while maximizing the use of current facilities.	Anonymous User
4786	10/18/2024 10:39		Dedicated buildings would best meet the needs of these programs, allowing them to fully develop specialized resources, staff, and spaces tailored to their students.	Anonymous User
4796	10/18/2024 20:05		A mix of both dedicated buildings and reconfiguration of existing ones could provide a balanced approach, depending on the specific needs of each program.	Anonymous User
4799	10/19/2024 7:03	I would like to know what the district's key programs are. The three programs listed have very different needs.	I'm unsure at this time and would need more information about the specific needs of the programs and potential impacts on existing buildings and students.	Anonymous User

Data pulled 10/23/2024

4800	10/19/2024 9:33	Keep preschools how they are at several elementary schools. Keep the littlest kids on the bus the shortest amount of time. Preschool students benefit from seeing and learning from the bigger kids. The preschool teachers work well with the gen ed teachers. They also work well with preschool teachers from other departments. PSD sped does a great job. Dual language needs it's own building to build it's own culture. There is a lot of animosity between DL teachers and gen ed teachers. The culture and leadership of the DK program is not good. The General ed teachers feel like things are unfair and sometimes they really are. The whole DL program needs to be re-evaluated with a focus on keeping the good teachers teaching. I do not have enough experience with CTE to fully answer. I think it is nice to have it accessible at the high schools. It is unfortunate that it feels like PHS has more opportunities. I am not sure why PSD does not participate as part of Pierce County Skills Center.	A mix of both dedicated buildings and reconfiguration of existing ones could provide a balanced approach, depending on the specific needs of each program.	Anonymous User
4802	10/20/2024 13:06	As a major supporter of Dual Language much has been discussed to transition into one 'hub" building. I definitely see the perks of it but myself as others are considered about the separation of siblings that are currently enrolled in a school have the younger siblings into a new building and not being together.	A mix of both dedicated buildings and reconfiguration of existing ones could provide a balanced approach, depending on the specific needs of each program.	Anonymous User
4811	10/21/2024 9:35	The ceramics program at PHS is currently on hold due to the closure of the library science building. The ceramics program needs room for wheels, a kiln room, and most of all, running water. We have none of these.	Programs should share a building but with designated, tailored spaces that address their unique requirements while fostering collaboration between different programs.	Anonymous User
4812	10/21/2024 10:11		A mix of both dedicated buildings and reconfiguration of existing ones could provide a balanced approach, depending on the specific needs of each program.	Anonymous User
4815	10/21/2024 10:48		A mix of both dedicated buildings and reconfiguration of existing ones could provide a balanced approach, depending on the specific needs of each program.	Anonymous User
4827	10/22/2024 12:19	Additional dual language access would be wonderful for our students who speak languages other than Spanish. We are enrolling a lot of Ukrainian and Russian speaking students now.	I'm unsure at this time and would need more information about the specific needs of the programs and potential impacts on existing buildings and students.	Anonymous User