



**PUYALLUP SCHOOL DISTRICT
ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST
Project # 32-03-25**

A. BACKGROUND

1. **Name of proposed project, if applicable:**
Ballou Junior High School Track Renovation
2. **Name of applicant:**
Puyallup School District
3. **Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:**
Lester Gerstmann
Assistant Director of Construction Management
Puyallup School District
323 12th St NW
Puyallup, WA 98371
(253) 435-6673
4. **Date checklist prepared:**
April 2025
5. **Agency requesting checklist:**
Puyallup School District
6. **Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):**
Construction is proposed June-September 2025.
7. **Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.**
Further expansion is not planned.
8. **List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.**
Storm Water Technical Information Report (LPD Engineers 2025)
9. **Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.**
No.
10. **List any governmental approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.**
Pierce County Site Development Permit
State of Washington Department of Ecology NPDES

- 11. Give a brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page.**

In summary, the project seeks to convert the existing cinder track into a rubberized running track over asphalt paving with additional field event improvements. The existing grass field will remain. A trench drain will be added to the interior of the track, and rubberized field event area at the south end of the track. A below ground storm drainage detention system will be constructed southwest of the existing track. Access will be provided to the track surface.

- 12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.**

The project is located at 9916 136th St E, Puyallup, WA 98373, Pierce County Washington.

See the Stormwater Site Plan Report for a Vicinity Map, Site Plan, Legal Description and Tax ID.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. EARTH

a. General description of the site:

The site is currently a natural grass field with a surrounding cinder running track, with grass areas around the perimeter of the track.

Circle or highlight one: flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other:

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope?)

The project site has been engineer graded previously. The field and track have a 1% longitudinal slope descending from north to south and the track is currently sloped 1% towards the field. There is a 30% perimeter slope northeast of the track, this slope is outside the project limits.

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them, and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.

From Puyallup School District Archives:

Based upon the Geotechnical Engineering Services Report, prepared by GeoEngineers, dated November 17, 2016, the underlying soils within the project area generally consist of existing fill or reworked soils (fill), lacustrine ice-contact deposits (lacustrine soils), and glacial till like soils (glacial till).

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

No.

e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

The proposal includes offsite disposal of existing cinders and perimeter soils and import of structural fill aggregate materials required for the track construction along with detention basin. The following values are approximate:

Excavation & Offsite disposal of organic and detention area soils: 1200 cu yds.
Import of fill and paving aggregate base materials: 1000 cu yds.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

Surface erosion may occur as a result of clearing and grading operations, however due to the shallow slopes of the impacted area of site disturbance proposed (under 2% slopes), potential erosion is limited. Use of on-site erosion control measures including silt fences, construction entrances, catch basin protection, interceptor swales, and other standard construction erosion control practices, and seasonal limitations of construction will control potential on-site erosion.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

The project proposes approximately 11,000 sf of additional impervious surface. The existing site is 38.65% impervious surface. The addition will increase the impervious surface 0.63% for a total of 39.28% impervious surface for the site. Further discussion is provided in the Storm Drainage Report.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

To the extent possible the disturbed area of the project site will be limited to minimize erosion potential. To reduce erosion, some or all of the following vegetative cover practices may be implemented as site conditions dictate: seeding, mulching and matting, and/or clear plastic covering. Structural practices to control erosion include a stabilized construction entrance, filter fabric fence for perimeter siltation control, pipe slope drains and/or check dams. All catch basins in the vicinity of the work will have erosion protection throughout the construction period.

All work will be performed in compliance with local and state code and permitting requirements.

2. AIR

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

Emissions to the air would result from the movement of earth, and exhaust from construction equipment. There will be a minor increase of vehicles to the site during the construction work week, which will be at a time when the school is not in session. No additional emissions other than currently exist on the site would result following completion of construction.

b. Are there any off-site sources of emission or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

None

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

All work will be performed in compliance with local and state code and permitting requirements.

The use of watering trucks will be employed during construction to keep dust to a minimum. Construction equipment will be kept in good operating condition to minimize exhaust.

3. WATER

a. **Surface Water:**

1. **Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year- round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.**

From Puyallup School District Archives:

There is an existing wetland and buffer located within a recorded NGPA along the west boundary of the school property, per the NGPA Wetland Verification Report, prepared by The Watershed Company, dated December 30, 2016.

2. **Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.**

No. The wetland is 900 ft away from the track.

3. **Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.**

Not Applicable.

4. **Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

Not Applicable.

5. **Does the proposal lie within a 100-year flood plain? If so, note location on the site plan.**

There is a 100-year floodplain elevation, as mapped by Pierce County, along the west side of the school property. However, the project does not propose any improvements within this 100-year floodplain area.

6. **Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.**

No.

b. **Ground Water:**

1. **Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

Construction-related groundwater that enters utility trenches during construction will be pumped to portable tanks or equivalent for settling and discharge in accordance with the applicable water quality standards in the NPDES Construction Stormwater General Permit.

Stormwater will not be discharged to ground water.

2. Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals...; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

No waste materials will be discharged into the ground due to this project.

c. **Water Runoff (including storm water):**

1. Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters, If so, describe.

The Applicant has commissioned a Surface Water Technical Information Report and Construction Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to address questions of this nature in great detail.

The source of stormwater will be rainfall. The new track will sheet flow toward the field and be collected by a new trench drain. The trench drain will connect to catch basins and the storm system. The piped system will be routed into a detention basin and regulated with a flow control structure to reduce outflow.

2. Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

It is not anticipated that waste materials would enter surface or ground waters.

3. Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.

The proposal includes stormwater detention which will slow the release of water from the site. The collection locations for the field and track will be improved to eliminate flooding of the track surface and field surface. The connection to the existing storm system will be maintained.

d. **Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any:**

The surface runoff from the track surface will be collected via a trench drain. Surface runoff from the existing field will be directed to the trench drain. The piped system will be routed into a detention basin and regulated with a flow control structure to reduce outflow.

4. **PLANTS**

- a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site:

_____x deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other

_____x evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other

_____x shrubs

_____x grass

_____ pasture

_____ crop or grain

_____ orchards, vineyards, or other permanent crops.

_____x wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other

_____ water plants: water lily, eel grass, milfoil, other

_____ other types of vegetation

- b. **What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?**
Removal is limited to the existing maintained grass surface totaling about 25,000 sf.
- c. **List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.**
None known or observed.
- d. **Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:**
All disturbed areas on the site not receiving surfaces as described previously will be restored with erosion control hydroseeding or natural grass sod. The storm detention system was located to avoid impact to existing fir trees to the south.
- e. **List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.**
None known or observed.

5. ANIMALS

- a. **List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.**

Examples include:

Birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:

Mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:

Fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

- b. **List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.**
None known or observed.
- c. **Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain**
The project site is located along the Pacific Flyway, one of three major migratory routes in North America. The Pacific Flyway stretches 4,000 miles north-to-south and 1,000 miles east-to-west, from the arctic to the west coast of Mexico and the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean.

There is no evidence that site is of any specific value to migrating birds.
- d. **Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:**
None.
- e. **List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.**
None known or observed.

6. ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

- a. **What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.**

The completed project includes no specific power needs other than occasional powered maintenance equipment.

- b. **Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.**
No.
- c. **What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:**
None.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

- a. **Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.**
None.
 - 1. **Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.**
None.
 - 2. **Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid natural gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.**
None.
 - 3. **Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.**
Fuel for construction equipment would be used on site during construction.
 - 4. **Describe special emergency services that might be required.**
Police, fire, and ambulance, as they currently service the site.
 - 5. **Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any.**
None.
- b. **Noise**
 - 1. **What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?**
Existing noise includes traffic and user noise generated through use of the school site. Use will remain as currently exists on the site.
 - 2. **What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.**

There would be short-term noise impacts from grading activities and construction. Initially, noise would be created by heavy equipment such as backhoes, graders and trucks. Once the base is in place, noise would be created primarily from pneumatic power tools, saws, hand tools and occasional trucks delivering building materials.

In the long term, noise levels would be consistent with existing levels.

The use of the site will continue to be for school and educational use, as well as community use of the facilities.

3. Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any.

The District will limit the use of the field and track to comply with local noise ordinance. The field and track will continue to be used only during daylight hours, consistent with existing uses.

8. LAND AND SHORELINE USE

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe

The site is located on the campus of Ballou Junior High School, on the site of an existing athletic field and running track. Residential development is located to the South and West of the site. To the East are commercial business. To the north is a mix of residential and commercial use.

b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?

The site has not been used for agricultural or forestry uses.

1. Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how?
No.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

Currently there are school campus buildings to the West.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

No buildings are planned for demolition.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

The current zoning is Urban Corridor.

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

The site is noted South Hill Community Plan within the Corridor land use area.

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

Not Applicable.

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.

The property does have an existing wetland and floodplain along a portion of its western boundary. The site is also within an Aquifer Recharge Area.

- i. **Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?**
None.
- j. **Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?**
None.
- k. **Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:**
Not Applicable.
- l. **Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:**
The site is currently used as a public school, with various community recreational uses during non-school hours. The project consists of the renovation of the running track.
- m. **Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:**
Not Applicable.

9. HOUSING

- a. **Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low- income housing.**
None.
- b. **Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**
None.
- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:**
None.

10. AESTHETICS

- a. **What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?**
No structures are proposed.
- b. **What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?**
None.
- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:**
None anticipated.

11. LIGHT AND GLARE

- a. **What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?**
None.

- b. **Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?**
No.
- c. **What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?**
None.
- d. **Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:**
None.

12. RECREATION

- a. **What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?**
The project site is within an existing school site. The project site includes natural turf field and running track utilized as an educational and community recreational resource.
- b. **Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.**
Other than during the Construction Phase June-September 2025, no.
- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:**
The project is entirely educational (physical education) and recreational in nature. It is improving the track to ensure safety and an updated playing surface for all sports. The project will expand the use of the track through improved wet-weather reliability, providing expanded teaching opportunities for educational use, opportunities for practice and competition by organized interscholastic and youth recreational users, as well as the general public.

13. HISTORIC AND CULTURAL PRESERVATION

- a. **Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, specifically describe.**
None known.
- b. **Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.**
The project area has been previously disturbed with existing improvements. No cultural/historical resources have been identified on the project site.
- c. **Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.**
Not Applicable.
- d. **Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.**

The District will provide direction to the contractor that in the event an unanticipated archaeological or historic resources are encountered during construction, all ground-disturbing activity near the find will be halted, and Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation ("DHAP") will be promptly notified. If evidence of human remains is encountered, all ground-disturbing activity in the vicinity will be halted immediately and protected from further disturbance. DAHP, the Pierce County Medical Examiner's Office, and the City Police Department will be contacted. If the medical examiner determines the remains are non-forensic, then DAHP will take jurisdiction and notification to the appropriate Tribes will occur.

14. TRANSPORTATION

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans if any**
From the north the site is accessed by 136th Street East .
From the east the site is accessed by Meridian Avenue East.
- b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?**
The Pierce County Transit System serves the site with Route #402, Stop #1497.
- c. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle, or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).**
No.
- d. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.**
No.
- e. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and non-passenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?**
There would be no change in the peak number of vehicle trips generated, however the improved reliability of the facility during wet weather may result in more frequent use.

During school hours there are no trips generated.
- f. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.**
No.
- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:**
None.

15. PUBLIC SERVICES

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.
No.
- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.
Not applicable.

16. UTILITIES

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other
- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.
None.

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: _____

Name of signee: _____

Position and Agency/Organization: _____

Date submitted: _____