



## MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Dr. Greg Baker, Superintendent

DATE: December 9, 2020

SUBJECT: **Monitoring Report for EL-9, Asset Maintenance and Protection**

I certify that the following is accurate as of August 31, 2020. The reporting period is from September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2020.

**Policy Type:** Executive Limitation

**Policy:** EL-9, Asset Maintenance and Protection  
(A copy of the Executive Limitation is attached)

**Adopted:** September 10, 2009; revised July 19, 2012, January 15, 2015 and January 14, 2016; reviewed April 20, 2017

### Interpretation of Items:

- **Bolded words or phrases** within the text of this report have been used to signal new information, initiatives, strategies or work.
- Resource conservation methods are comprised of waste reduction, reduced energy usage and sustainable building practices, with connections to the classroom instructional program as appropriate.
- The five-year plan for managing, developing, and improving facilities is comprised of projects associated with the \$160 million bond issue approved by voters on November 5, 2013 and the \$155 million bond issue approved by voters on February 13, 2018.
- The Loss Experience Factor is a number calculated by the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries indicating the effectiveness of our Workers Compensation Safety Program.

**Background Information:** This report pertains to Executive Limitation 9, Asset Maintenance and Protection. It was prepared in collaboration with staff from Finance and Operations, (Resource Conservation, Risk Management and Pupil Transportation), School Safety and Emergency Management, Educational Technology, and Capital Projects and School Facilities. Information indicating compliance for each of the areas is presented below. A related Data Set is attached.

## Description of Evidence of Compliance:

- 1. The superintendent shall not fail to take all reasonable and prudent actions with respect to maintaining and protecting district property that are typical for similar and highly effective organizations.**  
In compliance.

The Director of Buildings and Grounds, along with the Maintenance and Custodial Supervisors, lead a team of 77 custodial positions, 11 grounds staff positions, and 11 maintenance journeymen (3 carpenters, 3 plumbers, 3 electricians, 1 painter and 1 building automation technician), to ensure our 1.7 million square feet of building space, 280 acres of district property and all related systems and equipment are effectively maintained.

Non-routine maintenance activities are identified through site inspections as well as meetings with site custodians and building administrators. There were **4,476** annual work requests submitted through our Asset Planner facility management software during **2019-20**. By contrast 6,527 work requests were submitted the prior year. **There were several contributing factors related to this reduction. First, in-person instruction was suspended on March 13, 2020 meaning that for the remaining five-plus months there were very few people onsite to generate work requests and there were no school day issues to respond to. We also began allowing the Lighthouse Mission the use of Bellingham High School in April of 2020 and many of the repairs there during the reporting period were completed by the Mission staff or by outside vendors. In addition, Buildings and Grounds staffing was significantly reduced during much of the reporting period, especially between March 13, 2020 and August 31, 2020. Specifically, we lost several of our regular maintenance staff to high-risk COVID-related absences at one time or another and other employees related to long-term medical leaves. We also delayed filling open positions. Our response to the loss of employees and fewer work requests was to dedicate some of our work to projects we might not ordinarily be able to spend time on. One major project was replacing higher cost fluorescent lamps with energy efficient LED lamps at Fairhaven and Kulshan Middle Schools and Roosevelt Elementary School. This resulted in reduced energy usage and substantial energy cost savings (see below). We were also able to focus on more preventative maintenance work including heating and ventilation system filter changes, boiler tuning, lubricating fan motors, etc. Our carpentry staff also began altering spaces, making them more resistant to virus transmission, and to accommodate an eventual reopening of school by adding counter barriers at all office spaces. We also spent considerable effort putting Bellingham High School back into school-ready condition after its temporary use by the Lighthouse Mission.**

**Ninety-eight percent** of all work requests were completed within a 21-day window, the same number as in 2019 and an improvement from 94% two years ago. **The average time to complete work requests was 12 days at high schools, 12.5 days at middle schools, 13 days at elementary schools, and eight days at other locations.**

Of the **4,476** work requests generated, **1,074** were from the high school level, **926** at the middle school level, **2,084** from the elementary school level with another **392** from our support facilities including the District Office, Transportation, Warehouse, Environmental Education Site, etc. By trade, **1,335** work orders were related to carpentry, **1,335** to grounds, **445** to electrical, **516** to plumbing, **191** to building automation, **228** to equipment repair, **257** to painting and **169** to “others” (e.g., confidence testing, elevators, storm water monitoring/maintenance, indoor air quality issues, water testing, moving equipment and supplies, etc.).

Asset Planner has a preventive maintenance module, which automatically assigns reoccurring preventive maintenance work including annual boiler inspections and tuning, annual fire system inspections, annual programming of heating ventilation and air conditioning systems, motor lubrication, belt and pulley inspections, and air filter changes. **Over 200 preventive maintenance measures were completed during the 2019-20 school year.**

**We are continuing our work creating and maintaining healthy and sustainable school environments. We have identified sustainability as a district program within our department under the supervision of the Director of Buildings and Grounds. We are initiating and continuing this work by: continuing our use of Green Earth chemicals for cleaning and caring for buildings; elimination of all toxic pesticides and herbicides on district grounds; a continued focus on creating clean air and improving building filtration systems; a continued reduction of fluorescent lighting energy use by replacing them with LED technology; continued participation in the Food to Flowers program, and continued use of all recycled paper products for school restroom use.**

**For most of the year** our 78 school buses and 53 non-bus vehicles continued to be maintained by a four-person team comprised of a shop foreman and three mechanics. **We had one mechanic resign mid-year and have not yet filled the position.**

Due to the passage of the Transportation Levy we have replaced a total of 42 older buses. Repair costs continue to remain low with the newer fleet. The new buses are more fuel efficient and run cleaner, reducing both costs and the carbon footprint in our community.

All buses are equipped with audio/video camera systems and GPS tracking. We continue to use the GPS tracking in all student transport vehicles as well as the mail delivery truck and the food service delivery vehicles. GPS tracking allows us both real time and historical information pertaining to vehicle location, time, speed and run/idle time.

Z-pass is a student tracking system allowing us to determine which students got on a specific bus, where the student got off the bus and at what time. The system is currently operational on all elementary school buses and buses that serve Kulshan Middle School. **We did not implement Z-pass at any additional schools during 2019-20.**

We continue to use our non-school bus vehicles to transport students eligible for McKinney-Vento (homeless) services, Foster care, Special Education programs, GRADS, smaller member sport teams and to support other educational programs (Robotics, Debate, etc.). Utilizing these vehicles reduces both driver and fuel costs, providing more dollars to directly support The Bellingham Promise. **We also used these vehicles to assist with deliveries to families in need of food and school supplies when schools were closed due to COVID.** Seven vehicles are used to support our Traffic Safety Education (TSE) Program.

We continue to receive ‘excellence’ ratings in the bi-annual Washington State Patrol inspections and ‘100% Transportation Efficiency Ratings’ from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. This shows continued success in maintaining our transportation related assets as well as being responsible stewards of public resources.

District property is protected utilizing keyed and electronic access control as well as intrusion and fire alarms at all sites. District facilities and assets are further protected by electronic monitoring and notification systems which inform appropriate administrators of power and network system outages. In the event these systems fail, district property is insured for typical hazards such as fire, wind, flood, earthquake, theft, vandalism, collision, etc. The adequacy and effectiveness of our insurance program is evidenced by legitimate property and casualty claims being managed and, if warranted, paid.

## **2. Ensure that the Superintendent may not fail to:**

### **a. Ensure that district facilities are maintained, safe, clean, conducive to teaching and learning, and responsive to users’ needs; In compliance.**

Observations and inspections are conducted by the Director of Buildings and Grounds, the Maintenance Supervisor, Custodial Supervisor and building custodians. In addition, principals and building occupants provide valuable facility condition information to the director and his team to help ensure district facilities are maintained, safe, clean and conducive to student learning.

Third party onsite and desk inspections from various regulatory agencies such as the Bellingham Fire Department, City of Bellingham (Public Works, Building Services, etc.), Whatcom County Health Department (Food Services and Playgrounds), Department of Ecology (stormwater, wetlands, etc.), Northwest Clean Air Agency, (indoor air quality), Department of Labor and Industries (elevators and electrical systems), and our insurers (shops, general education, science and art classrooms, playgrounds, etc.), help ensure and provide evidence that district facilities are maintained, safe, clean and conducive to student learning.

Asset Preservation Program (APP) scores are another indicator of the maintained condition of certain district facilities. The APP employs a system of processes including predictive and preventative inspections, repairs, maintenance, and re-conditioning of

major building systems. Those building systems include foundations, walls, roofs, windows, doors, electrical, plumbing, heating and fire suppression.

In order to continue to be eligible for state construction assistance funding we must comply with the APP at facilities that were built after December 31, 1993, and for which the district received state construction funding assistance. The affected facilities in our district are Bellingham and Squalicum high schools; Fairhaven, Kulshan, and Shuksan middle schools; and Birchwood and Happy Valley elementary schools. **Sehome High School was added to our list of APP facilities this year but is not required to be until next year.**

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) prescribes Building Condition Standard APP scores for facilities based on their age. Specific scoring information is included in the attached Data Set. **In 2019-20 scoring was done by an independent, certified agency (in our case several architects from a local architectural firm) as required by OSPI every sixth year. Scores for this year are included in the attached Data Set accompanying this report. Note: Because of the number of individuals involved in this year's scoring the district does not agree that the scores for Fairhaven and Kulshan Middle Schools accurately reflect the condition of those facilities.**

The district employs a part-time risk management specialist who initiates risk management activities to help prevent accidents; monitors and assesses student, staff and visitor accidents; and coordinates associated claims activities.

Staff accident reports are reviewed daily. A summary report containing non-personal information about staff accidents is shared with the District Occupational Safety and Accident Prevention committee (district safety committee), which makes recommendations for safety education and training. This information is also provided to Special Education directors. There were **24 more** staff accidents reported in **2019-20** compared to **2018-19**. Staff accidents are primarily related to student/staff interactions in the Life Skills Program. Reducing accidents in this area continues to be a challenging priority for us.

A statewide measure of the effectiveness of our Workers Compensation Safety Program is our Loss Experience Factor (LEF). The LEF is assigned to us by the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) and is based on the number and severity of worker injury claims filed during a rolling three-year period. A LEF of 1.00 is average, meaning the frequency and severity of actual losses equals the expected losses for the classification of workers. **Our LEF in 2019-20 increased to 1.200 from 1.001 in 2018-19. The continued increase in our LEF appears to be due to two areas that have been increasingly evident over the past two to four years. One is the Department of Labor and Industries allowing an increased number of work-related claims that appear to be due, at least in part, to non-work-related physical activities, recreational activities, as well as emotional and mental health issues. When these claims are allowed by the Department of Labor and Industries it creates prolonged**

treatment plans, surgical procedures, time loss and partial permanent disability payments, all which negatively affect our LEF. The second area is that the Department of Labor and Industries has a lengthy turn-around time for processing claims. This may promote some employees to become comfortable with time loss payments and not working. Some claims are remaining open for one to three years with continued treatment options, changing health care providers, and adding diagnoses onto the original diagnosis.

Following staff accidents, the risk management specialist works with injured workers, attending physicians, as well as building and department supervisors to initiate return to work options, including light duty, whenever possible. In addition, the risk management specialist utilizes the Department of Labor and Industries Stay at Work Program to help pay some of the costs associated with light duty return to work. During **2019-20**, Stay at Work reimbursements totaled **\$6,516** compared to **\$3,001** the prior year. Getting staff back to meaningful work continues to be a high priority and requires significant time.

**b. Maintain an appropriate five-year plan for managing, developing, and improving facilities;  
In compliance.**

The current five-year plan is comprised of the projects included in the 2013 Bond which was approved by district voters on November 5, 2013 by a 67% affirmative vote and the 2018 Bond approved by voters on February 13, 2018 by a 70% affirmative vote.

Specific bond projects include the following, with progress as of August 31, 2020 noted.

- *A new gymnasium, cafeteria and elevator at Lowell Elementary School – Complete*
- *A new school to replace Happy Valley Elementary School – Complete*
- *A new gymnasium or cafeteria and other building/site improvements at Parkview Elementary School – Complete*
- *A new school to replace Options High School – Complete*
- *A new school to replace Sehome High School – **Dawson Construction completed work on the football, softball and soccer fields as well as other hardscape and landscape elements of the project during 2019-20, bringing the project to full completion.***
- *New synthetic turf fields at Bellingham and Squallicum High Schools – Complete*
- *Renovating the existing district offices – **A design advisory committee was assembled during 2019-20 to provide guidance for the project architect, RMC Architects, in the design of the new district offices to be located at Barkley***

**Village. The design process will continue during 2020-21 with construction scheduled to start in the fall of 2021.**

- *Improvements to the transportation garage facility – Zervas Group Architects and our contractor HB Hansen completed renovations to the facility during 2019-20.*
- *2013 Bond Safety, energy, and major system improvements to facilities throughout the district –*
  - All energy and major system facility improvements associated with the 2013 Bond have been completed.
  - **2013 Bond Safety projects completed during the reporting period include:**
    - **Installing interior classroom lockdown shades at several schools**
    - **Replacing the legacy radio system used by the Buildings and Grounds Department with a push-to-talk cellular system**
    - **Clearing vegetation at Squalicum High School for security and visibility enhancement**
    - **Completing the remote access control entry system at Carl Cozier Elementary School**
- *Infrastructure improvements and a new large-group structure at the Gordon Carter Environmental Education Site – Ongoing maintenance activities at site entrance and roadway were completed. In addition, a site for a well has been located and plans are in place to drill a well in hopes of developing a reliable water source for future site development.*
- *A new central kitchen for the district – Complete*
- *A new school to replace Alderwood Elementary School – The contract for the construction of the new Alderwood Elementary School was awarded to RAM construction during the summer of 2020 and construction began shortly thereafter. The new school is expected to be complete for the start of the 2021-22 school year.*
- *A new school to replace Parkview Elementary School – The contract for the construction of the new Parkview Elementary School was awarded to Spee West construction during the summer of 2020 and construction began shortly thereafter. The new school is expected to be complete for the start of the 2021-22 school year.*

- *A new school to replace Sunnyland Elementary School* – Dawson Construction was selected as the General Contractor/Construction Manager (GCCM) for the construction of the new Sunnyland Elementary School during the summer of 2020. The Educational Specifications process as well as other design and permitting activities commenced near the end of the reporting period. Bidding and construction are anticipated in the spring of 2021 with occupancy of the new school expected for the start of the 2022-23 school year.
- *Shuksan Middle School Auxiliary Gym* – The contract for the construction of the Shuksan Middle School Auxiliary Gym was awarded to Tiger construction during the summer of 2020 and construction began shortly thereafter. The gym is expected to be complete in the Spring of 2021.
- *Sehome High School Fields Phase 2* – Work on all Phase 2 fields (baseball, football, softball and soccer with LED lighting) was completed during 2019-20.
- *Bellingham High School Fields Phase 2* – DA Hogan and Associates was selected to design the new fields and Coast to Coast Turf was selected as the contractor for the new fields. Work began on the new baseball, softball and combination soccer and football field complete with LED lighting. The fields are scheduled to be complete in the spring of 2021.
- *Squalicum High School Fields Phase 2* – Work on all Phase 2 fields (baseball, softball and soccer with LED lighting) was completed during 2019-20.
- *Elementary Field Improvement Projects* – DA Hogan and Associates was selected to begin doing assessments on our elementary fields. The assessment work and subsequent design work will continue during 2020-21.
- *2018 Bond Safety, Energy and Major System Improvements* –
  - Energy and major system improvements completed during the reporting period include:
    - Replacing the old boiler at Fairhaven Middle School with a new more energy efficient boiler
    - Removing the underground diesel storage tank and installing a new above ground diesel storage tank at Bellingham High School to make room for additional tennis courts
    - Purchasing two new double portables for Kulshan Middle School
    - Relocating one portable from Alderwood Elementary School to Roosevelt Elementary School

- Relocating one portable from near the Bellingham High School baseball field to the northwest corner of the property allowing for the construction of a new synthetic turf field
  - Planning, permit and contract work associated with the renovation of the Columbia Elementary School kitchen
  - Replacing flooring at Columbia Elementary School and Kulshan Middle School
  - Renovating a classroom and adjacent restroom at Roosevelt Elementary School
  - Replacing over 4,000 fluorescent lamps with energy efficient LED lamps at Roosevelt Elementary School as well as Fairhaven and Kulshan Middle Schools.
- The major safety initiatives completed during the reporting period include:
  - Completing video surveillance system designs and plans for all district sites
  - Completing initial evaluations for access control system migration and electronic key usage
  - Evaluating door lock hardware for classroom lockdown purposes
  - Replacing interior door locks at Carl Cozier Elementary School
  - Completing the initial phase of a district emergency radio system project which included the removal of legacy technology
  - Replacing digital radio system infrastructure in coordination and in partnership with the City of Bellingham Public Works Department
- *Technology Infrastructure Improvements* – **Technology Infrastructure Improvements** completed during the reporting period include:
  - Completing the network integration at the renovated transportation garage
  - Updating network infrastructure for portable classrooms at Roosevelt, Alderwood and Birchwood Elementary Schools as well as Kulshan Middle School

- **Completing infrastructure updates at Bellingham High School for temporary camera locations and a new interactive display**
  - **Deploying a Skype for Business 'soft phone' solution for staff to originate phone calls from their laptops**
  - **Extending services at Squalicum High School to support controls at the newly constructed synthetic turf fields (e.g. restroom locks, etc.)**
  - ***Reader Board Projects* – The City of Bellingham recently adopted code revisions to the sign ordinance which allow for electronic signs. Design work is now underway for electronic reader boards at Alderwood, Parkview and Sunnyland Elementary Schools to be followed by cost estimating and installation.**
- c. **Inform the board of new, discontinued or material changes in district practice with respect to #1 above;  
In compliance.**

There are no known material changes to the above.

- d. **Provide an affirmative (or negative) statement the following actions have been taken:**
- i. **Purchased appropriate and adequate insurance; Affirmative.**  
The district is a member of the Schools Insurance Association of Washington (SIAW), a 37-member insurance consortium through which it procures property and casualty insurance. All insurance claims are managed by the SIAW third party administrator, Clear Risk Solutions, and legitimate claims are paid from member deductibles, consortium self-insured retentions, or reinsurance.  
  
**In 2019-20, we filed 10 standard claims** with our insurer compared to six the prior year. **Seven of the ten claims were related to our vehicles (\$30,165) and three claims were related student incidents (\$6,506) totaling \$36,671,** compared to \$27,335 in 2018-19.  
  
**The district filed a claim under the Special Education Administrative Proceedings, Appeals, or Due Process Hearings liability coverage portion of our policy. We were reimbursed \$50,000 for that claim, the maximum payment allowed.**
  - ii. **Assessed energy usage and implemented resource conservation methods. Affirmative.**  
The district implements a multi-faceted, holistic approach to resource conservation methods comprised of waste reduction, reduced energy usage and

sustainable building practices, with connections to the classroom instructional program as appropriate.

In terms of overall energy usage assessment for the **2019-20** school year, the district (all buildings considered as one) continued to meet the EPA Energy Star criteria with a combined rating of **92 (compared to 90 the previous year)**, meaning our district is in the top **8th** percentile compared to hundreds of other school districts nationally. All of our schools continue at or above EPA Energy Star level (in the top 25<sup>th</sup> percentile nationally). This national recognition is something the district can again be very proud of.

In **2019-20** we continued our participation in the Food to Flowers program (our participation started in 2006) which diverts our food waste from the landfill to the compost pile where it can be reused instead of buried. We fill about 200 food compost totes per week at our schools. With each tote weighing about 50 lbs. that is approximately 180 tons of food waste per school year that does not go into landfills. **Since 2006, including this shortened year, we have diverted about 2,035 tons (4,070,000 lbs.) of food waste from going into landfills.**

We have employed sustainable building practices in all of our major construction projects including Birchwood, Cordata, Happy Valley, Wade King, Shuksan, Whatcom, Options and Sehome **and will continue to do so on projects yet to be completed.**

**Examples of sustainable building practices being utilized at the new Shuksan Auxiliary Gym as well as the new Alderwood, Parkview and Sunnyland Elementary Schools include:**

- Reducing the building footprint to reduce storm water impacts and increase green spaces
- Installing high efficiency boilers and hot water heaters to reduce energy use
- Utilizing displacement ventilation systems which introduces 100% outside air at a much lower velocity and higher volume for superior air quality, while also reducing energy usage and noise
- Utilizing Direct Digital Control (DDC) systems to maximize efficiency and reduce energy use associated with heating and ventilation
- Utilizing high R Value insulation for the exterior envelopes to reduce energy use
- Installing low flow plumbing fixtures to reduce water usage
- Building with low-emitting materials which contribute to healthier spaces for our students and staff
- Utilizing regional and local materials
- Reusing materials

- Recycling demolition materials
- Utilizing operable windows and sunshades providing more thermal comfort, less uncontrolled solar gain and glare thereby enhancing productivity
- Lots of daylight through skylights and large windows which helps reduce energy costs and improves student concentration
- LED lighting for both the school and playfields
- Light sensitive controls which turn off or dim lights when natural day lighting is sufficient to meet required lighting levels
- Drought tolerant plants eliminating the need to irrigate and thereby reduce water consumption
- **Wood frame design where appropriate to utilize local and sustainable materials**
- **Solar ready roofs for the future implementation of solar panels**

The district has collaborated with Puget Sound Energy (PSE) since 2008 to implement energy conservation strategies through a formal Resource Conservation Management (RCM) program, now referred to as the Commercial Strategic Energy Management (CSEM) program. The partnership involves PSE providing training, energy management software and financial incentives to the district if we realize certain levels of energy reduction.

**On September 5, 2018, the district entered into a three-year incentive grant agreement with PSE that ran through June 30, 2020 (year one was retroactive to September 1, 2017). Over the three-year period actual electrical savings confirmed by PSE totaled 1,568,366 kWh which is the equivalent of \$154,334 in avoided costs. These savings also generated incentive payments totaling \$49,037 to the district.**

**PSE recognized Bellingham Public Schools for their continued commitment to being great stewards of energy resources and gave the district their assurance of a renewed incentive grant in the near future.**

One standard for measuring energy efficiency at a facility is the Energy Use Intensity (EUI). A facility's EUI is expressed as energy used per square foot per year. It is calculated by dividing the total energy consumed by the facility in one year [measured in kBtu] by the total gross floor area of the facility. The EUI median for K-12 Energy Star schools is 57.

**During 2019-20, the first full calendar year of operation, Option High School's EUI was 49.26. While this is below the median for Energy Star schools it is not as low as we had hoped for. One possible reason has to do with running electrical equipment 'around the clock' for an extended period of time to remove excess moisture from the gym floor. Once the school**

reopens, we will work with the school staff on possible operational issues to try to improve energy efficiency (heating and ventilation system run times, the use of large overhead doors in the cafeteria, the use of doors that open to the second floor roof area, etc.) Because the old Options High School was comprised of portable classrooms there is no way to compare either EUI or cost data between the old and new schools.

The new Sehome High School's EUI was 36.77 during 2019-20. While that is a great number for a high school, our goal is to reduce it in the coming years. We know the new 6,000-plus square foot solar array will help reduce that number once fully operational (the array became operational on July 24, 2020). We will also work with school staff on possible operational issues to try to improve energy efficiency at Sehome. We spent \$55,936 less on energy at the new Sehome High School during 2019-20 than we did at the old school in 2017-18, the last full year of operation, and the new school is over 18,000 square feet larger.

The EUI at Happy Valley decreased from 24.64 to 21.64; a great energy efficiency story that continues. We spent \$24,739 less on energy at the new Happy Valley in 2019-20 than we did at the old school in 2015-16, the last year of operation, and the new school is approximately 15,000 square feet larger.

Districtwide, our energy costs were \$212,759 less in 2019-20 compared to 2018-19.

It is important to note that while the annual EUI and energy costs were reduced because of schools closing on March 13, 2020 through the end of the school year in June, that timeframe does not represent a high energy use period.

Initiatives to increase energy efficiency and resource conservation specific to the reporting period include:

- Installing over 4,000 energy efficient LED lamps in classrooms, hallways, common areas and exterior locations at Roosevelt Elementary School, Fairhaven Middle School and Kulshan Middle School. These energy efficient lamps will reduce energy use by more than 4,000 kW and reduce energy costs by approximately \$25,500 per year. This work was accomplished by our electricians during the pandemic closure between March and August of 2020.
- Continuing to recalibrate our Direct Digital Control (DDC) Systems which efficiently control heating and ventilation systems in our facilities.
- Replacing the old boiler at Fairhaven Middle School with a new more energy efficient boiler

- **Replacing the old heating and ventilation control system at Fairhaven Middle School with a new Direct Digital Control (DDC) system which improves energy efficiency and increases occupant comfort.**
- **Replacing inefficient commercial water heaters at Squalicum High School with new highly efficient models.**
- **Completing the installation of the 6,000+ square foot solar panel array at Sehome High School and connecting the array to the electrical system.**
- **Installing the SolarEdge data collection system at Sehome High School enabling us to obtain energy use data from the new solar array. Next year we will have a full year of data from the new solar panels to share.**

The district continues in our community partnership with Sustainable Schools a program of RE Sources for Sustainable Communities to connect our resource conservation program to the classroom instructional program. Our efforts include the Green Classroom Certification Program in our elementary schools and similar programming in the middle and high schools. This free program helps teachers integrate conservation education into the curriculum to help students develop lifelong skills related to resource conservation.

Elementary teachers receive prepared project ideas for their classroom, up to 10 hours of in-class facilitation and materials for instruction. The curriculum meets state academic standards, is grade-level appropriate, and encourages students to take initiative for their own learning. In **2019-20**, the program saw participation by **39** elementary classrooms (42 classrooms in 2018-19), **reaching 845 students**. The classroom pledges and action projects highlight our students' engagement in the community including completing service-learning projects on their school grounds and surrounding community areas such as neighborhood litter clean up and recycling to help keep waterways clean. Other classrooms used their pledge to educate others through posters, videos, and energy or waste audit presentations. These are examples of our students demonstrating they are well-rounded community members engaged with the broader world.

The middle and high school program offered **25** workshops and support visits in **2019-20 (through March 2020)**. Seventy-eight workshops and support visits were offered during the 2018-19 school year. Based on the success of the Green Classroom model, curriculum for the older students takes a "deeper dive" into resource conservation. Students participated in various conservation initiatives - the most common being understanding the dilemma and consequences of the complex issues that surround food waste. Stormwater and water conservation experts from the Sustainable School Program were brought in to help guide students to take action at their school and in their neighborhoods to protect our most precious resource - water.

**In February 2020 Jessica Sankey, Executive Director of Operations, RE Sources and Common Threads Farm worked in collaboration to begin a cafeteria to garden waste reduction plan. Four schools were audited or began the auditing process before COVID school closures forced a halt to the project.**

**Sustainable Schools staff met with Food Services staff prior to the start of the school year during staff training to provide education related to the impacts of food waste and to assist in the implementation of Food Share Shelves in each of our cafeterias. Food Share Shelves is a program where students can put uneaten, wrapped, peel-on food so that other students can take it if they are hungry for a snack. The goal is to provide extra food for kids who want it and decrease waste at the same time. Food Share Shelves was to be implemented along with the cafeteria to garden waste reduction project but given COVID closures we plan to implement them in 2021-22.**

**RE Sources purchased Vermicompost kits through a Bellingham Public Schools Foundation Big Idea grant with the intent to assemble the kits with Whatcom Middle School students in the spring of 2020. Vermicomposting is a composting process using various species of worms to create a mixture of decomposing vegetables or food waste. After the school closures RE Sources assembled the bins on behalf of the district and delivered them to the school sites. We hope to implement composting activities once school resumes.**

**Implementation of composting will bring the benefit of reduced landfill waste and related garbage fees as well as reducing Food to Flowers bins and related fees as much of the food waste can be composted in the school gardens.**

**OSPI and NW ESD 189 continue to partner with RE Sources to offer a professional development series for teachers to learn how community-based organizations effectively teach Climate Science. Connecting local issues to Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) allows teachers to understand how to bring community partners into the classroom and teach climate change to their students.**

**Statement of Compliance:** The Superintendent is **in compliance** with EL-9.

**EL-9 Data Set  
December 9, 2020**

| Facility Related Data |                     |                     |                                            |                                              |                                                  |                                      |  |                                          |                                        |                                           |                                         |                                                    |                                                 |                                         |                                      |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Year                  | Total Work Requests | 21 Day Completion % | Number and Percent of High School Requests | Number and Percent of Middle School Requests | Number and Percent of Elementary School Requests | Number and Percent of Other Requests |  | Number and Percent of Carpentry Requests | Number and Percent of Grounds Requests | Number and Percent of Electrical Requests | Number and Percent of Plumbing Requests | Number and Percent of Building Automation Requests | Number and Percent of Equipment Repair Requests | Number and Percent of Painting Requests | Number and Percent of Other Requests |
| 2019-20               | 4476                | 98%                 | 1074                                       | 926                                          | 2084                                             | 392                                  |  | 1335                                     | 1335                                   | 445                                       | 516                                     | 191                                                | 228                                             | 257                                     | 169                                  |
|                       |                     |                     | 23.99%                                     | 20.69%                                       | 46.56%                                           | 8.76%                                |  | 29.83%                                   | 29.83%                                 | 9.94%                                     | 11.53%                                  | 4.27%                                              | 5.09%                                           | 5.74%                                   | 3.78%                                |
| 2018-19               | 6527                | 98%                 | 1583                                       | 1159                                         | 2938                                             | 847                                  |  | 1713                                     | 1796                                   | 690                                       | 715                                     | 267                                                | 255                                             | 266                                     | 825                                  |
|                       |                     |                     | 24.25%                                     | 17.76%                                       | 45.01%                                           | 12.98%                               |  | 26.24%                                   | 27.52%                                 | 10.57%                                    | 10.95%                                  | 4.09%                                              | 3.91%                                           | 4.08%                                   | 12.64%                               |
| 2017-18               | 6321                | 94%                 | 1423                                       | 1215                                         | 3009                                             | 674                                  |  | 1657                                     | 1860                                   | 681                                       | 642                                     | 452                                                | 302                                             | 267                                     | 460                                  |
|                       |                     |                     | 22.51%                                     | 19.22%                                       | 47.60%                                           | 10.66%                               |  | 26.21%                                   | 29.43%                                 | 10.77%                                    | 10.16%                                  | 7.15%                                              | 4.78%                                           | 4.22%                                   | 7.28%                                |

| Energy Conservation Data |                                           |                                                        |                                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Year                     | Elementary Green Classroom Certifications | Middle and High School Resource Conservation Workshops | Number of EPA Energy Star Schools |
| 2019-20                  | 39                                        | 25                                                     | 22                                |
| 2018-19                  | 42                                        | 78                                                     | 22                                |
| 2017-18                  | 37                                        | 78                                                     | 22                                |

| Risk Management Data |                                      |                                         |                                     |                        |                            |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Year                 | Number of Employee Injuries Reported | Number of Employees Injured By Students | Percent of Student Related Injuries | Loss Experience Factor | Stay at Work Refund Amount |
| 2019-20              | 448                                  | 350                                     | 78.13%                              | 1.200                  | \$6,516                    |
| 2018-19              | 424                                  | 314                                     | 74.06%                              | 1.001                  | \$3,001                    |
| 2017-18              | 340                                  | 235                                     | 69.12%                              | 0.884                  | \$8,977                    |

| Asset Preservation Program (APP) Scores |         |                |                |                |
|-----------------------------------------|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| School                                  | APP Age | 2017 APP Score | 2018 APP Score | 2019 APP Score |
| Bellingham HS                           | 18      | 79.03          | 78.75          | 77.57          |
| Squalicum HS                            | 19      | 89.12          | 87.87          | 87.87          |
| Fairhaven MS                            | 23      | 87.94          | 87.38          | 80.27          |
| Kulshan MS (Main)                       | 24      | 88.34          | 87.39          | 80.94          |
| Kulshan MS (Gym)                        | 24      | 89.81          | 89.01          | 80.94          |
| Shuksan MS                              | 9       | 95.23          | 91.78          | 91.78          |
| Birchwood ES                            | 4       | 98.84          | 98.84          | 98.27          |
| Happy Valley ES                         | 2       | 100.00         | 99.99          | 99.99          |

During the previous two years the district was also involved in the Toward Zero Waste initiative, with six schools participating each year. RE Sources has recently stepped in as our primary partner in this work and is working toward obtaining a designated funding source making it possible to expand the scope and sustainability of the program.