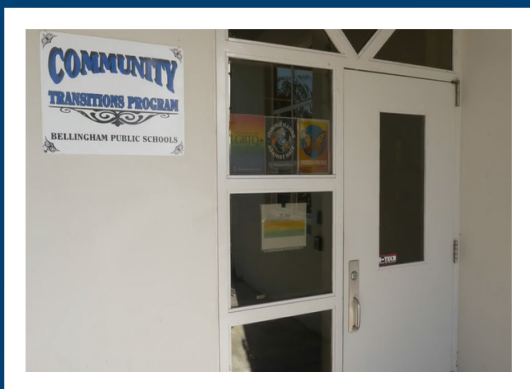


ABOUT BOND 2022

Thanks to past community support, Bellingham Public Schools has many outstanding school facilities, including our newest rebuilds of Alderwood and Parkview elementary schools that opened in September 2021 and of Sehome High School that opened in February 2019.

The \$122 million 2022 bond is the next step in our long-range plans to improve and rebuild schools and facilities for our students, staff and community. We believe our community deserves safe, functional and efficient learning environments. We balance that belief by being good stewards of our public assets and developing strategic plans to improve our schools today and into the future based on the highest needs.



The Community Transitions program currently serves approximately 80 students in a small wing of Bellingham High.



REMEMBER TO VOTE FEB. 8, 2022

Why is the bond needed?

In fall 2021, Bellingham Public Schools convened a Facilities Planning Task Force representing staff, students, parents and community members from across our school district. The task force met regularly throughout the fall to continue the important work of identifying buildings with the highest need for replacement, as well as reviewing projected growth in our district boundaries. Task force meeting minutes, presentations and data, as well as full details of the recommendation are posted at bellingshamschools.org/facilities-taskforce

The task force recommended Bellingham Public Schools place a bond on the ballot for the upcoming special election on **Feb. 8, 2022** to address five areas of investment.

1 COMMUNITY TRANSITIONS (CT)

Buy property, design and build a new facility for Community Transitions (CT) and maximize flexibility/opportunity for possible use by other district programs. CT is a program for students receiving Special Education services through the age of 21.

2 NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Build a 15th elementary school on the district-owned King Mountain property on the northside of town where growth is occurring. Building this school would be a significant step in developing a higher sustainability standard for our schools and initially used as a temporary swing space for students as other schools are rebuilt. (See next area of investment.)

3 CARL COZIER, COLUMBIA, ROOSEVELT DESIGNS

Begin the design for the replacement of these three current elementary schools and set the stage for a future bond to fund their construction.

4 CURRENT PROJECTS

Support completion of previously-approved bond projects in response to refinements and increased construction costs including:

- Sunnyland Elementary School
- Gordon Carter environmental education site
- District Office
- Bellingham and Squalicum High fields

5 SAFETY, SUSTAINABILITY, ACCESSIBILITY

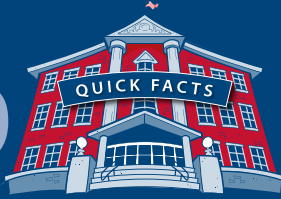
Invest in improvements at numerous schools that include:

- Adding inclusive playgrounds and play fields
- Expanding Kulshan Middle School by four additional classrooms and replacing existing grass field with turf
- Improving Cordata Elementary School traffic and parking
- Increasing efficiency and minimizing the effects of energy and water consumption
- Creating more visible sustainability practices in schools to increase education and stewardship

What is the impact?

SEE REVERSE SIDE

BOND 2022



What is the impact?

If voters approve this bond, the rate per \$1,000 assessed value will go from \$3.47 in 2022 to \$3.72 in 2023 and 2024. This means the combined tax rate for schools (levies and bonds)

will increase by an estimated \$16.90 per month in 2023 (compared with 2022) for a median homeowner* in Bellingham.

☐ PAST/CURRENT BOND AND LEVY RATE

☐ PROJECTED BOND AND LEVY RATE (APPROX.)**

2018 ACTUAL	2019 ACTUAL	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
\$4.54	\$3.57	\$3.61	\$3.48	\$3.47	\$3.72	\$3.72

* We are using an estimated median assessed home value of \$550,000 for 2022 and \$566,500 for 2023. Your home's assessed value is determined by the county.

** Estimated total school district combined bond and levy rate per \$1000 assessed value. The rates are estimates based upon preliminary data from the Whatcom County Assessor's Office, official data will be available in January 2022.

How can I vote?

Voters within Bellingham Public Schools' attendance area will receive a ballot in the mail in January 2022 to vote on this school bond. Ballots must be mailed and postmarked or returned to the drop-box at the Whatcom County Courthouse South Parking lot, 201 Grand Avenue by 8 p.m. Feb. 8, 2022.



Senior Citizens Exemption Information

Qualifying senior citizens and persons with disabilities may be exempt from paying school taxes. For more information, please call the County Assessor's office at (360) 676-6790 or visit whatcomcounty.us/265/Property-Tax-Exemption

Questions?

bellingshamschools.org/bond2022
(360) 676-6520

Design planning



Carl Cozier Elementary School



Columbia Elementary School



Roosevelt Elementary School

Included in the 2022 bond, two schools will be planned, designed and permitted to shovel ready; the third school will start initial programming and planning. Construction for all three schools will be proposed and funded on a future bond.