

Bellingham School District

Enrollment Forecasts 2026–27 to 2035–36

Prepared for:

Greg Baker

Superintendent

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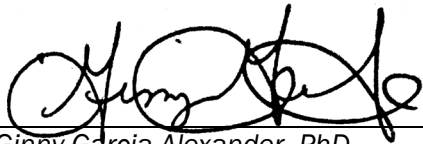


Bellingham School District

Enrollment Forecasts 2026–27 to 2035–36

The material and data in this report were prepared under the supervision and direction of the undersigned.

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Abbreviations

| | |
|----------|-----------------------------------|
| AA | attendance area |
| AAGR | annual average growth rate |
| ASBR | age-specific birth rates |
| County | Whatcom County |
| District | Bellingham School District |
| ES | elementary school |
| ESAA | elementary school attendance area |
| FLO | FLO Analytics |
| GPR | grade progression ratio |
| HS | high school |
| HSAA | high school attendance area |
| K | kindergarten |
| MF | multifamily |
| MS | middle school |
| MSAA | middle school attendance area |
| SF | single-family |
| SGR | student generation rates |
| SIS | student information system |
| TFR | total fertility rate |
| TK | transitional kindergarten |

Summary

At the request of Bellingham School District (BSD/District), FLO Analytics (FLO) prepared enrollment forecasts for grades transitional kindergarten (TK) through 12 for the 2026–27 to 2035–36 school years, as well as a district-wide 30-year enrollment forecast by grade. The study was completed through three main tasks: (1) demographic and residential development analysis, (2) enrollment assessment, and (3) enrollment forecasting. FLO developed three scenarios (low, middle, and high) of district-wide enrollment forecasts, representing the total number of students living within and outside of the district boundary and attending District schools and programs. These forecasts are provided as district-wide totals and by individual grade. FLO also prepared more granular forecasts of the number of students enrolled at each of the District’s schools and programs, as well as the number of students residing in each of the District’s attendance areas (AAs).

Key Findings

Demographic and Residential Development Analysis

The district population has grown by more than 33,000 residents since 2000, including growth of over 16,000 between 2000 and 2010, just over 10,000 between the 2010 and 2020 censuses, and nearly 7,000 since 2020.

The school-age population (ages five to 17) grew by 707 between 2010 and 2020—an annual average growth rate (AAGR) of 0.6 percent—just over half the rate of total population growth. In contrast, the population under age five declined by 371 during the same period, resulting in an AAGR of negative 0.8 percent.

The District is projected to add 25,461 residents, an average of 1,273 per year, in the 20-year period between 2020 and 2040.

The number of BSD K–12 students in October 2025 living in new homes built in the previous ten years (from 2015 to 2024) ranged from 0.076 per multifamily (MF) to 0.313 per single-family (SF) home. The amount of planned or proposed development in the forecast period is consistent with that observed in the prior ten years and therefore not anticipated to offset enrollment declines.

Using data provided by the City of Bellingham and supplemented by other sources, FLO identified 47 residential developments currently under construction, planned, or proposed, including three affordable MF developments in the pipeline that may become home to about 150 BSD students in the future.

Enrollment Assessment

K–12 enrollment fell by 408 students between 2019–20 and 2020–21, largely due to the impacts of COVID-19, then recovered somewhat with increases of 41 students in 2021–22 and 136 in 2022–23, when the total first included TK. This was followed by TK–12 declines of 214, 155, and 57 students between 2022–23 to 2025–26.

The District enrolled 657 (5.7 percent) fewer students in 2025–26 than in 2019–20.

The largest numeric and percentage enrollment loss between 2019–20 and 2025–26 among grade groups (TK–5, 6–8, and 9–12) occurred in TK–5th grade. TK–5 enrollment fell by 524 students (10.0 percent). Grades 6–8 also had enrollment losses over the 2019–20 to 2025–26 period amounting to a decline of 166 students (6.3 percent). Enrollment in grades 9–12 saw a slight increase of 33 students (0.9 percent) over the 2019–20 to 2025–26 period.

Estimates based on Census Bureau surveys conducted between 2019 and 2023 indicate that 10.2 percent of K–12 students living in the district are enrolled in private schools.

Enrollment Forecasts

Births to district residents are compiled by school cohorts (September to August) to facilitate comparison to K enrollment. After averaging 954 births per year from 2013–14 to 2017–18, including a peak of 1,011 in 2014–15, birth totals have fallen to 762 in 2023–24, the most recent cohort for which data are available.

The K-to-birth ratio is a key metric representing a combination of net migration between birth and age five and the share of five-year-old residents enrolled in BSD K classes. Comparing 2025–26 K enrollment with 2019–20 births, FLO derived a K-to-birth ratio of 0.80, meaning that, for every 100 children born to district residents, there were 80 children enrolled in BSD K five years later.

The middle scenario assumes a K-to-birth ratio of 0.81 that climbs to 0.82 in 2027–28 and 2028–29 and returns to 0.81 for the remainder of the ten-year forecast. Even as the ratio remains steady, the birth declines observed in 2021–22 and 2022–23 result in smaller K cohorts in 2027–28 and 2028–29. K enrollment remains close to its 2025–26 level in 2029–30 and beyond, averaging 621 students.

The low scenario K-to-birth ratio decreases to 0.79 in 2026–27, then 0.78 in 2027–28 through 2029–30, and stabilizes at 0.79 in 2030–31 and beyond, resulting in an average of 586 K students per year. The high scenario, averaging 650 K students per year, results from a forecast K-to-birth ratio reaching 0.86 within the first three forecast years and then stabilizing at 0.85 in 2029–30 and beyond.

The growth or decline in enrollment among cohorts from one year to the next in the middle scenario reflect averages that exclude the 2020–21 and 2021–22 school years impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, each year's forecast 1st and 9th grade enrollment is expected to be larger than the previous year's K and 8th grade enrollment, while a net loss of 7 percent is expected for cohorts progressing from 10th to 11th grade, largely due to students who enroll full-time in Running Start and are excluded from historical and forecasted enrollment totals.

Table 1 summarizes the results of the three enrollment forecast scenarios by five-year increment.

Table 2 details the middle scenario forecast by grade group. Detailed annual forecasts by individual grade and by school/program consistent with the middle scenario are presented in Appendix A.

Table 1: Bellingham School District TK–12 Enrollment Forecasts

| School Year | Low Scenario | Middle Scenario | High Scenario |
|---|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 2020–21 historical | 11,089 | 11,089 | 11,089 |
| 2025–26 historical | 10,840 | 10,840 | 10,840 |
| 5-year change | -249 | -249 | -249 |
| 2030–31 forecast | 9,551 | 9,879 | 10,407 |
| 5-year change | -1,289 | -961 | -403 |
| 2035–36 forecast | 8,557 | 9,126 | 10,070 |
| 5-year change | -974 | -753 | -337 |
| Sources Bellingham School District 2020–21 and 2025–26 (October headcount) enrollment. FLO Analytics 2030–31 and 2035–36 enrollment forecasts. | | | |

Table 2: Bellingham School District Middle Scenario Enrollment Forecasts by Grade Group

| School Year | TK–5 | 6–8 | 9–12 | TK–12 |
|---|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 2020–21 historical | 4,943 | 2,564 | 3,582 | 11,089 |
| 2025–26 historical | 4,723 | 2,467 | 3,650 | 10,840 |
| 5-year change | -220 | -97 | 68 | -249 |
| 2030–31 forecast | 4,072 | 2,249 | 3,558 | 9,879 |
| 5-year change | -651 | -218 | -92 | -961 |
| 2035–36 forecast | 4,190 | 1,921 | 3,015 | 9,126 |
| 5-year change | 118 | -328 | -543 | -753 |
| Sources Bellingham School District 2020–21 and 2025–26 (October headcount) enrollment. FLO Analytics 2030–31 and 2035–36 enrollment forecasts. | | | | |

Demographic and Residential Development Analysis

Understanding the population and housing trends within the geographic area of the district and surrounding region (Appendix B, Map 1) is an integral part of the enrollment forecasting process. FLO mapped the distribution of student residences (Appendix B, Map 2); reviewed historical, current, and projected demographic characteristics of the region; and analyzed current land use policies and anticipated residential development.

Population Trends

Table 3 illustrates population change for Whatcom County, BSD, Cities of Bellingham and Ferndale, and unincorporated areas that comprise the district. The County grew by 73,686 residents between 2000 and 2025, resulting in 44.2 percent growth over the 25-year period. The district grew at a slightly slower rate than the County. Adding 33,242, the district grew by 38.7 percent in 25 years.

Table 3: County, District, and City Population, 2000 to 2025

| Area | 2000 Census | 2010 Census | 2020 Census | 2025 Estimate | Average Annual Growth | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------|---------|
| | | | | | 2000–10 | 2010–20 | 2020–25 |
| Whatcom County | 166,814 | 201,140 | 226,847 | 240,500 | 1.9% | 1.2% | 1.2% |
| BSD | 85,831 | 102,105 | 112,253 | 119,073 | 1.8% | 1.0% | 1.2% |
| BSD Unincorporated Area | 19,573 | 23,335 | 23,593 | N/A | 1.8% | 0.1% | N/A |
| City of Bellingham | 67,171 | 80,885 | 91,482 | 98,340 | 1.9% | 1.2% | 1.8% |
| BSD Portion | 66,258 | 78,758 | 88,648 | N/A | 1.7% | 1.2% | N/A |
| City of Ferndale | 8,758 | 11,415 | 15,048 | 17,020 | 2.7% | 2.8% | 3.1% |
| BSD Portion | 0 | 12 | 12 | N/A | 0.0% | 0.0% | N/A |

Notes
 Indentation signifies the nesting of geographic areas. For instance, the school district and city totals are indented because they are part of the county. City totals and portions of the cities are further indented because they are within the school district boundary.

Sources
 U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census. 2001. "P001, Population," *Summary File 1*.
 U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census. 2011. "P1, Population," *Redistricting Data (PL94-171)*.
 U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Census. 2021. "P1, Population," *Redistricting Data (PL94-171)*.
 State of Washington, Office of Financial Management, April 1, 2025, Official Population Estimates, June 29, 2025.
https://ofm.wa.gov/sites/default/files/public/dataresearch/pop/april1/ofm_april1_press_release.pdf

Like many other school districts in Washington, the proportion of children residing in BSD has declined since 2000, which has hindered enrollment growth. The district’s adult population growth slowed somewhat between 2010 and 2020, while the population of children under age five declined. Table 4 depicts how the proportion of the population under the age of 18 has been changing in relation to the population over the age of 18. According to Decennial Census counts, the district added 25,014 residents (36.0 percent) age 18 and older between 2000 and 2020. In comparison, the school-age population (ages five to 17) grew by 1,378 (11.6 percent), and the number of children under the age of five grew by 30 (0.7 percent) in the same period. The proportion of district population under the age of 18 was 19.1 percent in 2000, 17.1 percent in 2010, and 15.8 percent in 2020.

Table 4: District Population by Age Group 2000 to 2020

| Age Group | 2000 | 2010 | 2020 | Average Annual Growth | |
|-------------------------|--------|---------|---------|-----------------------|---------|
| | | | | 2000–10 | 2010–20 |
| Total Population | 85,831 | 102,105 | 112,253 | 1.8% | 1.0% |
| Age 18 and older | 69,466 | 84,668 | 94,480 | 2.0% | 1.1% |
| Ages 5 to 17 | 11,851 | 12,522 | 13,229 | 0.6% | 0.6% |
| Under age 5 | 4,514 | 4,915 | 4,544 | 0.9% | -0.8% |
| Under 18 share of total | 19.1% | 17.1% | 15.8% | --- | --- |

Sources
 U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census. 2001. "P12, Sex by Age," *Summary File 1*.
 U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census. 2011. "P12, Sex by Age for Selected Age Categories," *Summary File 1*.
 U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Census. 2023. "P12, Sex by Age for Selected Age Categories," *Demographic and Housing Characteristics*.

The Washington Office of Financial Management published population projections (low, medium, and high series) for Whatcom County in December 2022. The medium series projection results in Table 5 show that the county population is expected to continue growing between 2020 and 2040, adding 53,428 residents, which is about 6,600 fewer than the number added between 2000 and 2020. Furthermore, as the population base increases each decade, the AAGR decreases. AAGRs of 1.1 percent in the 2020s and 1.0 percent in the 2030s indicate slower population growth in comparison to the 1.2 percent AAGR experienced from 2010 to 2020.

The Whatcom County Long Range Planning Department utilized population growth projections to allocate growth to school districts in June 2025. Their preliminary report¹ indicates that BSD is expected to grow between 2020 and 2040. Similar to the county, AAGRs indicate slower growth in the 2020s (1.1 percent) and 2030s (1.0 percent) compared to what was observed in 2010 to 2020.

Table 5: County and School District Population Projections

| Area/Scenario | 2020 | 2030 | 2040 | Average Annual Growth | |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------|-----------|
| | | | | 2020–2030 | 2030–2040 |
| Whatcom County Medium Series | 226,847 | 254,158 | 280,275 | 1.1% | 1.0% |
| Bellingham School District | 112,253 | 125,024 | 137,714 | 1.1% | 1.0% |

Note
BSD Values for 2030 and 2040 derived from 2023-2045 annual growth rate in Technical Report.

Sources
State of Washington, Office of Financial Management, Growth Management Act County Projections, 2022.
Whatcom County, Population and Employment Projections, May 22, 2024.
<https://www.whatcomcounty.us/DocumentCenter/View/85199/Whatcom-Population-and-Employment-Projections-Final-Report-May-22-2024>

Housing Types and Student Generation Rates

Housing type is an important indicator of the expected average number of students generated per housing unit. For instance, on average, SF housing units generate more students per unit than MF housing units. Student generation rates (SGRs) also vary by housing subtypes (e.g., SF detached, SF attached, MF market rate, MF income-restricted). Factors that impact SGRs include the number of bedrooms, housing costs, neighborhood demographics, age of housing, and family-friendly amenities such as playgrounds and proximity to schools.

We used spatial data including assessor parcels and building permits from Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham to compile an inventory of approximately 5,840 housing units on more than 1,900 residential parcels in the District as of 2024. Characteristics in the parcel data include the year built, number of units, and housing type. To estimate the number of expected students per unit in new residential development, we calculated SGRs for new residential construction between 2015 and 2024. Homes built in 2025 are excluded from the analysis, because they may not have been completed and occupied by October 2025. Housing specifically designated for persons ages 55 and older is also excluded. Results of the SGR analysis for the District are in Table 6.

¹ State of Washington, Office of Financial Management. June 2025. *Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan, Allocations for Special Districts by Growth Alternative*, June 18, 2025. <https://www.whatcomcounty.us/4222/Population-Employment-Projections>

Of the 10,346 students residing in the district, 505 live in the 1,615 SF units that were built between 2015 and 2024. New SF units, which include detached homes, and attached or detached townhomes, housed an average of 0.313 K–12 BSD students, or about one student for every three units. When all MF units are measured as a group, 323 students live in the 4,255 MF units that were built in the same period. On average, each MF unit yields 0.076 K–12 students, about eight students for every 100 units. Generally, SGRs are higher in SF units compared to MF units as the latter category contains smaller units catering to single persons who make up 44 percent of BSD renter-occupied households². On the other hand, MF units that are income-restricted yield 0.935 K–12 students, on average, or just under one student per unit.

Table 6: Student Generation Rates, October 2025 Bellingham School District K–12 Students per Housing Unit Built 2015–2024

| Housing Type | K–5 | 6–8 | 9–12 | K–12 |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| All single-family | 0.140 | 0.071 | 0.102 | 0.313 |
| All multifamily ^(a) | 0.038 | 0.018 | 0.020 | 0.076 |
| Income-restricted multifamily | 0.442 | 0.225 | 0.268 | 0.935 |
| Market-rate multifamily | 0.025 | 0.011 | 0.012 | 0.047 |
| <p>Note ^(a)The multifamily category includes all structures with five or more housing units and structures with 3–4 housing units that are stacked.</p> <p>Sources Bellingham School District 2025–26 (October headcount) student locations. Whatcom County Assessor parcel data.</p> | | | | |

Planned Residential Construction

FLO gathered residential development data from the planning department of the City of Bellingham to assess housing trends in the district. Key development data are presented in Appendix B, Map 3 and Appendix A, Table A-1. Map 3 depicts the locations of SF and MF developments that are currently in active construction or in planning stages. Table A-1 includes details of residential development data gathered by FLO about these same developments, such as development name, anticipated number of units, and current status.

Based on available information from November 2025, just under 3,200 housing units are under construction, planned, or proposed in the ten-year period. Of those units, about 49 percent are SF detached units and 51 percent are MF units. This level of development and distribution of units is relatively consistent with that observed in the previous ten years. However, recent land use changes may provide an opportunity for an increased level of middle housing (e.g., townhomes and accessory dwelling units) that may increase the level of development going forward. Projects submitted under recently adopted interim development regulations are already showing an increase in the proportion of these middle housing forms in most attendance areas.

A notable project that is already under construction is Bellis Fair Family Housing (affordable), which is expected to result in 65 units. Other significant developments that are proposed or planned to be

² U.S. Census Bureau. 2024. Table B25009, Tenure by Household Size. American Community Survey 2024 1-Year Estimates. Accessed December 14, 2025.
<https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDT1Y2024.B25009?g=9700000US5300420.5307710>

completed within the forecast horizon include King Mountain Affordable Housing and Telegraph Townhomes, both affordable, along with King Mountain Phase 2, which are expected to result in 110 SF, 38 MF, and 131 SF units, respectively. Half of the affordable units in Bellis Fair Family Housing and all of those in Telegraph Townhomes will include two or more bedrooms and will potentially become home to many families with school-age children when completed, by 2029. On the other hand, a large share of the MF units that are planned, proposed, or under construction are studio and one-bedroom units, which are less likely to be home to school-age children.

The majority of new housing units is expected in the Cordata (ES) AA with 668 MF units and 341 SF units planned, respectively (47 percent of prospective housing units). Other ESAs that are anticipated to undergo housing growth of over 80 units include Birchwood and Parkview. Prospective housing units are unevenly distributed among the four middle school (MS) AAs—58 percent in Whatcom MSAA, 20 percent in Shuksan MSAA, 20 percent in Fairhaven MSAA, and less than 2 percent in Kulshan MSAA. The Squalicum (HS) AA includes 71 percent of prospective housing units, 21 percent are in the Sehome HSAA, while the remaining 8 percent are in the Bellingham HSAA.

Enrollment Assessment

To better understand recent enrollment trends, FLO analyzed historical enrollment (October 2019–20 to 2025–26 headcount) based on the enrollment reports and student information system (SIS) extracts provided by the District. Students enrolled in full-time Running Start, Re-Engagement, preschool, Sped Birth to Two, ECE, and ECE Grads were not included in FLO's analyses and enrollment forecasts. FLO evaluated historical grade progression ratios (GPRs), participation in special or nontraditional programs, and differences in enrollment by residence compared to individual school attendance (i.e., transfer rates).

Enrollment Trends

Table 7 shows the district-wide enrollment by individual grade for school years 2019–20 to 2025–26 and the six-year change over the period. Enrollment was at its highest for most grades in 2019–20. Following this, district-wide enrollment declined by a little over 400 students in 2020–21, then recovered somewhat with increases of 41 and 136 students in 2021–22 and 2022–23, respectively. Declines of 214, 155, and 57 students have been observed between 2022–23 to 2025–26. Highlighted cells in Table 7 show the lowest (blue cells) and highest (orange cells) enrollment values per grade. During the historical period presented in Table 7, grades TK–2 and 6 experienced their smallest cohorts in 2025–26. Grades K–6, 8, and 9 experienced their largest cohorts in 2019–20. Diagonal patterns of the highlighted cells show the impact of relatively large or small cohorts as they progress through grade levels. For example, a comparatively small 7th grade cohort in 2019–20 became the smallest 8th grade cohort in 2020–21, and eventually the smallest 12th grade cohort in 2024–25.

Table 7: Historical Enrollment by Grade

| Grade | 2019–20 | 2020–21 | 2021–22 | 2022–23 | 2023–24 | 2024–25 | 2025–26 | 2019–20 to 2025–26 |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|
| TK | -- | -- | -- | 253 | 251 | 234 | 219 | -34 |
| K | 813 | 748 | 774 | 731 | 700 | 638 | 622 | -191 |
| 1 | 911 | 786 | 815 | 829 | 766 | 742 | 663 | -248 |
| 2 | 870 | 867 | 789 | 813 | 825 | 787 | 761 | -109 |
| 3 | 875 | 839 | 860 | 787 | 810 | 864 | 798 | -77 |
| 4 | 869 | 844 | 837 | 851 | 780 | 826 | 848 | -21 |
| 5 | 909 | 859 | 824 | 828 | 841 | 772 | 812 | -97 |
| 6 | 914 | 858 | 856 | 819 | 829 | 850 | 779 | -135 |
| 7 | 801 | 902 | 856 | 839 | 813 | 828 | 859 | 58 |
| 8 | 918 | 804 | 879 | 835 | 846 | 831 | 829 | -89 |
| 9 | 984 | 973 | 896 | 972 | 916 | 918 | 937 | -47 |
| 10 | 907 | 972 | 959 | 885 | 981 | 938 | 930 | 23 |
| 11 | 908 | 805 | 930 | 888 | 781 | 912 | 873 | -35 |
| 12 | 818 | 832 | 855 | 936 | 913 | 757 | 910 | 92 |
| District-Wide Total | 11,497 | 11,089 | 11,130 | 11,266 | 11,052 | 10,897 | 10,840 | -657 |
| <p>Notes Students enrolled in full-time Running Start, Re-Engagement, preschool, Sped Birth to Two, ECE, and ECE Grads are excluded from analysis. The lowest and highest enrollment values per grade are highlighted in blue and orange, respectively.</p> <p>Source Bellingham School District 2020–21 to 2025–26 (October headcount) enrollment.</p> | | | | | | | | |

Table 8 summarizes 2019–20 to 2025–26 enrollment by grade group (i.e., TK–5, 6–8, 9–12) and school type. TK–5 enrollment decreased by 304 students from 2019–20 to 2020–21, followed by an additional decline of 44 students from 2020–21 to 2021–22. Enrollment recovered somewhat in 2022–23 with a gain of 193 students, but this was followed by continued decline in 2023–24 through 2025–26, losing 119, 110, and 140 students, respectively. Overall, in the six-year period, TK–5 enrollment fell by 524 students (10.0 percent).

Enrollment in grades 6–8 decreased by 69 students between 2019–20 and 2020–21, followed by an increase for the grade group of 26 students from 2020–21 to 2021–22. Enrollment continued to decline the next two years by 97 and five students, respectively. This was followed by a small increase of 21 students in 2024–25, and a decline of 42 students in 2025–26. Over the six-year period, 6–8 enrollment decreased by 166 students (6.3 percent).

Enrollment in grades 9–12 experienced a decrease of 35 students from 2019–20 to 2020–21, then increased by 58 students in 2021–22 and by another 41 students in 2022–23. Enrollment declined in 2023–24 and 2024–25, losing 90 and 66 students, respectively. In 2025–26, enrollment increased by 125 students. Over the six-year period, 9–12 enrollment increased by 33 students (0.9 percent). Appendix A, Table A-2 tabulates enrollment by individual school.

Table 8: Historical Enrollment by School Type and Grade Group

| School Type | 2019–20 | 2020–21 | 2021–22 | 2022–23 | 2023–24 | 2024–25 | 2025–26 | 2019–20 to 2025–26 |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Attendance Area | 5,075 | 4,417 | 4,572 | 4,915 | 4,808 | 4,708 | 4,559 | -516 |
| Other | 172 | 526 | 327 | 177 | 165 | 155 | 164 | -8 |
| TK–5 Total | 5,247 | 4,943 | 4,899 | 5,092 | 4,973 | 4,863 | 4,723 | -524 |
| Attendance Area | 2,582 | 2,484 | 2,477 | 2,405 | 2,400 | 2,417 | 2,360 | -222 |
| Other | 51 | 80 | 113 | 88 | 88 | 92 | 107 | 56 |
| 6–8 Total | 2,633 | 2,564 | 2,590 | 2,493 | 2,488 | 2,509 | 2,467 | -166 |
| Attendance Area | 3,402 | 3,392 | 3,411 | 3,481 | 3,403 | 3,346 | 3,451 | 49 |
| Other | 215 | 190 | 229 | 200 | 188 | 179 | 199 | -16 |
| 9–12 Total | 3,617 | 3,582 | 3,640 | 3,681 | 3,591 | 3,525 | 3,650 | 33 |
| Attendance Area | 11,059 | 10,293 | 10,460 | 10,801 | 10,611 | 10,471 | 10,370 | -689 |
| Other | 438 | 796 | 669 | 465 | 441 | 426 | 470 | 32 |
| District-Wide Total | 11,497 | 11,089 | 11,129 | 11,266 | 11,052 | 10,897 | 10,840 | -657 |

Notes

Students enrolled in full-time Running Start, Re-Engagement, preschool, Sped Birth to Two, ECE, and ECE Grads are excluded from analysis.

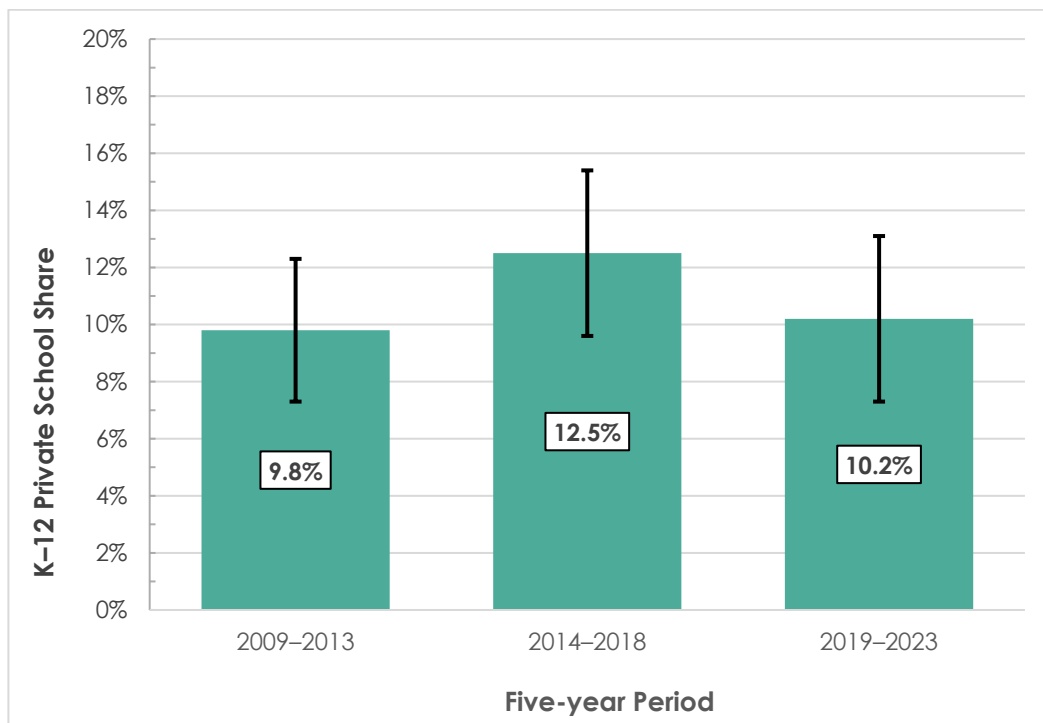
The lowest and highest enrollment values per grade are highlighted blue and orange, respectively.

Source

Bellingham School District 2019–20 to 2025–26 (October headcount) enrollment by grade.

The U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey provides estimates of the number and share of residents enrolled in public and private schools annually for geographic areas including school districts. The most reliable estimates are based on five years of survey responses, with the most recent based on surveys conducted between 2019 and 2023. Figure 1 compares estimates for the 2019–2023 period with two previous nonoverlapping periods, 2009–2013 and 2014–2018. The estimated 10.2 percent (+/- 2.9 percent) private share in 2019–2023 is not significantly different from the shares estimated for earlier periods.

Figure 1: Bellingham School District K–12 Private School Share American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates



Note

I-beam bars show margin of error at the 90 percent confidence level.

Source

U.S. Census Bureau. 2025. “School Enrollment,” *American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*, Table S1401. Accessed October 17, 2025.

<https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S1401?g=9700000US5307710>.

Residence-Attendance Matrices

Based on FLO’s analysis of district-wide TK–12 transfers (Table 9), a total of 494 students living outside the district boundary were enrolled in BSD schools in 2025–26, representing 4.6 percent of enrollment. Overall, 1,043 students residing within the district boundary transferred to a school or program different from their neighborhood school, which is based on the AA in which they live. This amounts to a district-wide intra-district transfer rate of 10.1 percent. The largest percentage of transfers occurs within the 9–12 grade group, with an intra-district transfer rate total of 11.5 percent attending a different neighborhood school.

Table 9: District-Wide Transfer Rates

| Grade Group | Enrollment Total | Enrollment In-District | Enrollment Out-of-District | Transfers Intra-District | Transfers Total | Transfer Rate Out-of-District | Transfer Rate Intra-District | Transfer Rate Total |
|----------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| TK-5 | 4,723 | 4,541 | 182 | 483 | 665 | 3.9% | 10.6% | 14.1% |
| 6-8 | 2,467 | 2,352 | 115 | 164 | 279 | 4.7% | 7.0% | 11.3% |
| 9-12 | 3,650 | 3,453 | 197 | 396 | 593 | 5.4% | 11.5% | 16.2% |
| District-Wide | 10,840 | 10,346 | 494 | 1,043 | 1,537 | 4.6% | 10.1% | 14.2% |

Notes

Students enrolled in full-time Running Start, Re-Engagement, preschool, Sped Birth to Two, ECE, and ECE Grads are excluded from analysis.

(a) Enrollment In-District is the number of students who reside within the district boundary.

(b) Enrollment Out-of-District is the number of students who reside outside the district boundary.

(c) Transfer Rate Intra-District is the number of students who enroll in a school other than their neighborhood school based on the attendance area that they reside in.

(d) Transfer Rate Total is the sum of Enrollment Out-of-District and Transfers Intra-District.

Sources

Bellingham School District 2025-26 attendance areas and 2025-26 (October headcount) enrollment geocoded by FLO Analytics.

As depicted in the residence-attendance matrices (Appendix A, Tables A-3 through A-5) by grade group, transfer rates also differ by school. For instance, TK-5 transfer-out rates (Table A-3)—representing the number of students who live in a school's ESAA but enroll in a different school/program—range from 3.2 percent from the Columbia ESAA to 18.1 percent from the Sunnyland ESAA. From the perspective of individual school enrollment, TK-5 transfer-in rates—representing the number of students who do not live in a school's ESAA, including students residing outside the district boundary—range from 3.1 percent at Geneva ES to 18.1 percent at Sunnyland ES. Transfer rates can help reveal patterns of student choice or quantify the effects of District policies, because high transfer rates may be due to program offerings, school locations, or individual preferences. For instance, if a particular school with a high transfer-in rate began to exceed capacity, the District may reconsider transfer policies or programming to alleviate overcrowding.

MSAA transfer-out rates (Table A-4) range from 4.1 percent from the Fairhaven MSAA to 8.7 percent from the Shuksan MSAA. MS transfer-in rates range from 5.8 percent at Kulshan MS to 9.5 percent at Whatcom MS. HSAA transfer-out rates (Table A-5) range from 8.9 percent from Sehome HSAA to 13.4 percent from Bellingham HSAA. HS transfer-in rates range from 8.3 percent at Sehome HS to 16.0 percent at Bellingham HS.

Enrollment Forecasts

Historical Births and Kindergarten Enrollment

The number of students enrolled in a district is largely influenced by the number of school-age children residing in the district. FLO compared historical K class sizes to historical birth data (i.e., live births to BSD district residents from the Washington Department of Health to determine annual K-to-birth ratios. These values, in combination with age-group-specific population projections of childbearing-age women residing in the district, allow us to forecast the number of anticipated births to BSD district residents and thus the number of kindergarteners anticipated in future school years.

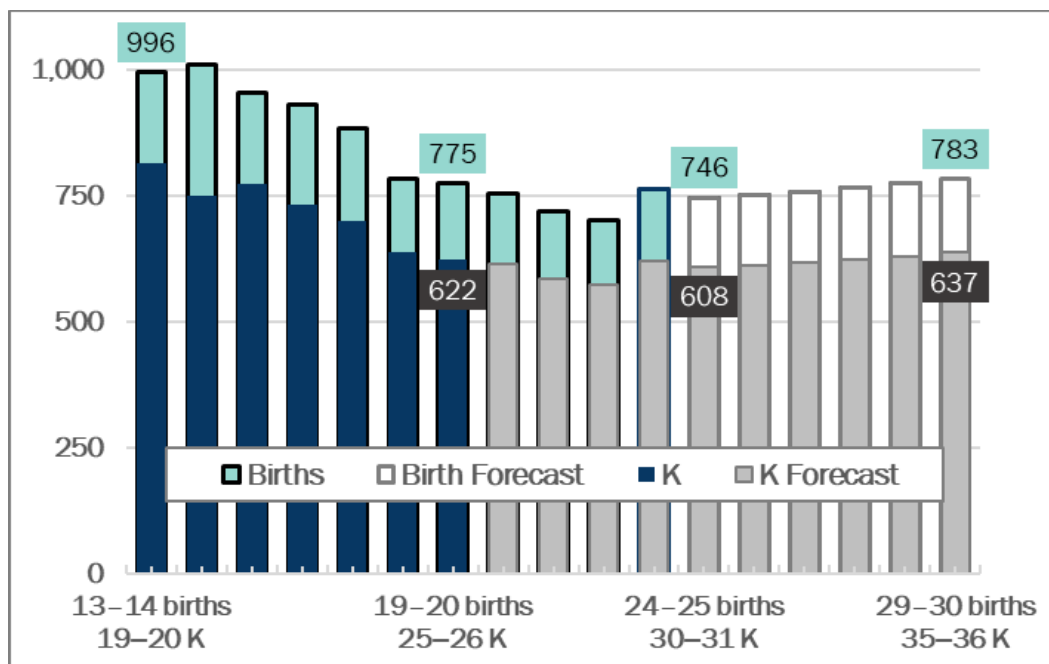
Figure 2 illustrates how the number of births to BSD district residents through 2019–20 relates to historical K enrollment and how the observed and forecasted number of births from 2020–21 to 2029–30 impacts the K forecast. Births are shown in alignment with K cohorts (e.g., births occurring between September 2013 and August 2014 would have been eligible to enroll in K in the 2019–20 school year). BSD district annual births remained relatively steady between 2013–14 and 2017–18, averaging 954 births per year. The 775 births to district residents in 2019–20 (the cohort eligible to enroll in K in fall 2025) represented a significant decline from this period. At 755 births, the 2020–21 birth cohort that aligns with 2026–27 K enrollment was even smaller. After two more years of relatively small birth cohorts in 2021–22 and 2022–23, there was an uptick in 2023–24, when district residents had 762 births.

K enrollment averaged 718 students per year from 2019–20 to 2025–26, including a low of 622 in 2025–26 and a high of 813 in 2019–20. K enrollment fell significantly by 65 students to 748 in 2020–21, largely due to the impacts of COVID-19. It increased in the following year, but only by 26 students. The 2022–23 K cohort was 43 students smaller than the previous year, and enrollment fell further (by 31 students in 2022–23, 62 in 2024–25, and 16 in 2025–26). K enrollment has not recovered to pre-pandemic levels in the five years beginning in 2021–22, averaging just 693 students.

The link between births and K is the K-to-birth ratio, which is a key metric representing a combination of net migration between birth and age five and the share of five-year-old residents enrolled in BSD K classes, often referred to as a capture rate. For instance, comparing 2025–26 K enrollment with 2019–20 births, FLO derived a K-to-birth ratio of 0.80, meaning that for every 100 children born to district residents, there were 80 children enrolled in BSD K five years later. Ratios for BSD have fluctuated, recovering from the 2020–21 low of 0.74, but have not recovered to pre-pandemic levels.

The middle scenario assumes a K-to-birth ratio of 0.81 that climbs to 0.82 in 2027–28 and 2028–29 and returns to 0.81 for the remainder of the ten-year forecast. Although mobility of families between a child's birth and age five means that births are not a perfect indicator of future enrollment, the relatively smaller birth cohorts observed in 2021–22 and 2022–23 result in smaller K cohorts in 2027–28 and 2027–28. The higher K forecast beginning in 2029–30 results from the rebound in births observed in 2023–24 and the birth forecast that begins in 2024–25.

Figure 2: District Births and Kindergarten Enrollment



| Birth Year | Births | K Year | K | Ratio |
|------------|--------|---------|-----|-------|
| 2013-14 | 996 | 2019-20 | 813 | 0.82 |
| 2014-15 | 1,011 | 2020-21 | 748 | 0.74 |
| 2015-16 | 953 | 2021-22 | 774 | 0.81 |
| 2016-17 | 930 | 2022-23 | 731 | 0.79 |
| 2017-18 | 882 | 2023-24 | 700 | 0.79 |
| 2018-19 | 783 | 2024-25 | 638 | 0.81 |
| 2019-20 | 775 | 2025-26 | 622 | 0.80 |
| 2020-21 | 755 | 2026-27 | 614 | 0.81 |
| 2021-22 | 719 | 2027-28 | 586 | 0.82 |
| 2022-23 | 701 | 2028-29 | 572 | 0.82 |
| 2023-24 | 762 | 2029-30 | 620 | 0.81 |
| 2024-25 | 746 | 2030-31 | 608 | 0.81 |
| 2025-26 | 752 | 2031-32 | 612 | 0.81 |
| 2026-27 | 758 | 2032-33 | 617 | 0.81 |
| 2027-28 | 766 | 2033-34 | 623 | 0.81 |
| 2028-29 | 775 | 2034-35 | 630 | 0.81 |
| 2029-30 | 783 | 2035-36 | 637 | 0.81 |

Note

Historical data is shown in shaded cells; unshaded cells are forecasts.

Sources

Washington Department of Health 2013 to 2024 births to mothers residing within the district boundary, special tabulation ordered by FLO Analytics.

FLO Analytics 2024-25 to 2029-30 birth forecasts (low, middle, and high scenarios).

Bellingham School District 2019-20 to 2025-26 (October headcount) enrollment

FLO Analytics October 2026-27 to 2035-36 enrollment forecasts (middle scenario).

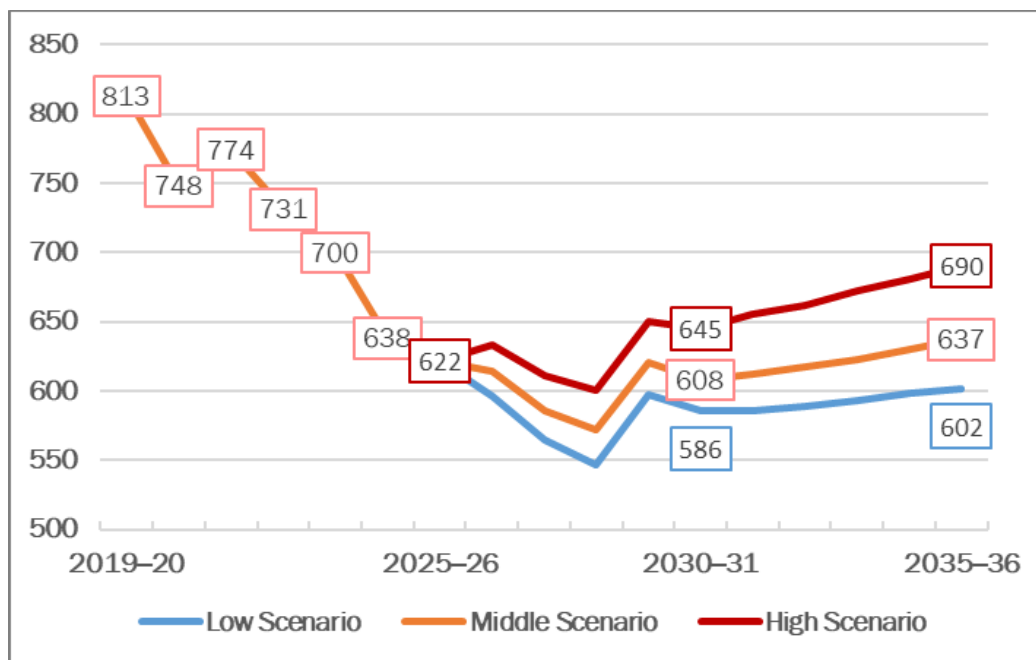
Figure 3 illustrates how different rates of population growth and K-to-birth ratios may result in divergent scenarios of future K enrollment. The number of future births differs slightly between the low, middle, and high scenarios based on the population of women in childbearing ages; adjusting the K-to-birth ratios amplifies the differences in K enrollment.

In the low scenario, the K-to-birth ratio decreases to 0.79 in 2026–27, then to 0.78 in 2027–28 through 2029–30 and stabilizes at 0.79 in 2030–31 and beyond. The lower ratio and a smaller BSD district population forecast results in an average of 586 K students per year over the ten-year forecast period, 26 per year fewer than the middle scenario K forecast. Conversely, the high scenario averaging 650 K students per year results from a forecast K-to-birth ratio reaching 0.86 within the first three forecast years and then stabilizing at 0.85 in 2029–30 and beyond; amounting to 38 students per year more than the middle scenario. These adjustments have a cumulative impact on K–12 totals throughout the forecast period, contributing to the gap among the three scenarios.

The ratio of K to births can be calculated each year if historical birth data are available to compare to K enrollment by cohort. Once every ten years, the Decennial Census provides age detail that allows FLO to measure the contribution of each of the two main components of the ratio, the net migration and the District's capture rate. It is not possible to perfectly align single-year-of-age counts from the Census with K cohorts, because the Census asks the age of residents as of April 1, while K eligibility requires children to be age five on September 1. Mobility, misreporting, and undercount may also impact the comparison; therefore, the allocation of age data to K cohorts is an approximation used to roughly dissect the K-to-birth ratio into its migration and capture-rate components.

The columns in Figure 4 depict the number of children born to district residents in 2003–04 and 2013–14, the September 1, 2009 and 2019 age five population allocated from the number of five- and six-year-olds counted in the April 2010 and 2020 Censuses, and the number of children enrolled in BSD K classes in October 2009 and 2019. The 1.02 ratio of age 5 population in 2009–10 to births in 2003–04 means that there was a net gain of 2 percent of the birth cohort due to migration, while the capture rate of 0.78 indicates that 22 percent of BSD age five residents were not enrolled in District schools. Combining these measures results in a K-to-birth ratio of 0.80. The K-age-population-to-birth ratio of 0.99 indicates that there was a 1% population loss due to migration between birth and age five for the 2019–20 K cohort. But the capture rate of 0.82 was higher in 2019–20. Capture rates of 0.78 and 0.82 suggest that 18 to 22 percent of K-age children were attending private schools, other districts, or were home schooled. K-to-birth ratios of 0.80 and 0.82 in 2009–10 and 2019–20 are consistent with the most recently observed K-to-birth ratio of 0.80 in 2025–26 suggesting a consistent level of migration and capture rates over time.

Figure 3: Kindergarten Enrollment and Ratio to Births



| Birth Year | K Year | Low | Middle | High |
|------------|---------|------|--------|------|
| 2013-14 | 2019-20 | 0.82 | 0.82 | 0.82 |
| 2014-15 | 2020-21 | 0.74 | 0.74 | 0.74 |
| 2015-16 | 2021-22 | 0.81 | 0.81 | 0.81 |
| 2016-17 | 2022-23 | 0.79 | 0.79 | 0.79 |
| 2017-18 | 2023-24 | 0.79 | 0.79 | 0.79 |
| 2018-19 | 2024-25 | 0.81 | 0.81 | 0.81 |
| 2019-20 | 2025-26 | 0.80 | 0.80 | 0.80 |
| 2020-21 | 2026-27 | 0.79 | 0.81 | 0.84 |
| 2021-22 | 2027-28 | 0.78 | 0.82 | 0.85 |
| 2022-23 | 2028-29 | 0.78 | 0.82 | 0.86 |
| 2023-24 | 2030-31 | 0.78 | 0.81 | 0.85 |
| 2024-25 | 2030-31 | 0.79 | 0.81 | 0.85 |
| 2025-26 | 2031-32 | 0.79 | 0.81 | 0.85 |
| 2026-27 | 2032-33 | 0.79 | 0.81 | 0.85 |
| 2027-28 | 2033-34 | 0.79 | 0.81 | 0.85 |
| 2028-29 | 2034-35 | 0.79 | 0.81 | 0.85 |
| 2029-30 | 2035-36 | 0.79 | 0.81 | 0.85 |

Note

Historical data shown in shaded cells; unshaded cells are forecasts.

Sources

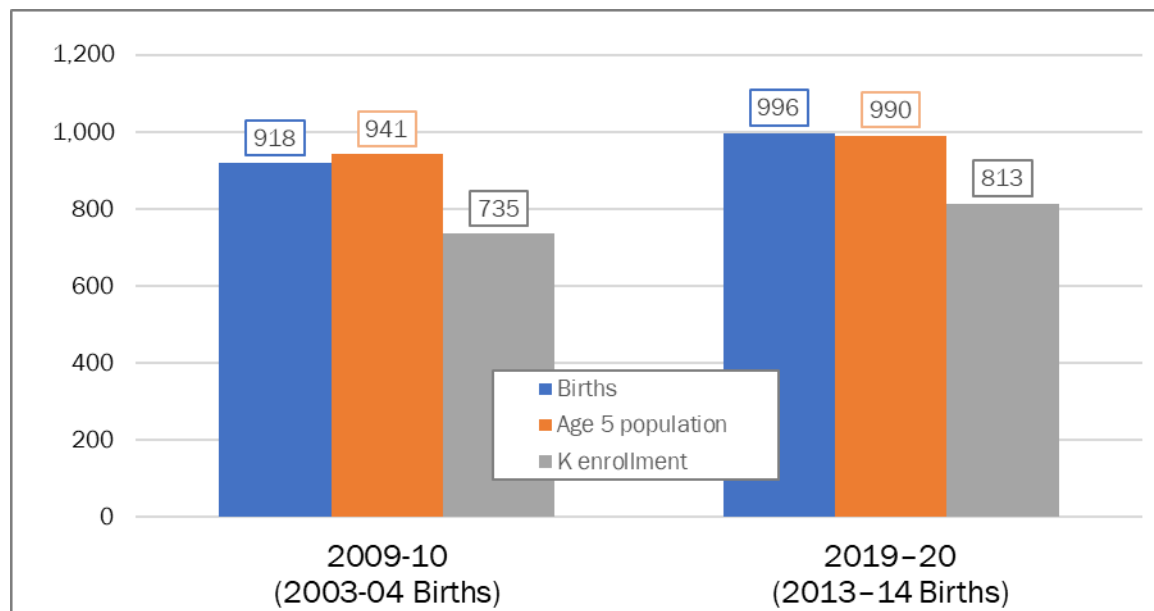
Washington Department of Health 2013 to 2024 births to mothers residing within the district boundary, special tabulation ordered by FLO Analytics.

FLO Analytics 2024-25 to 2029-30 birth forecasts (low, middle, and high scenarios).

Bellingham School District 2020-21 to 2025-26 (October headcount) enrollment

FLO Analytics October 2026-27 to 2035-36 enrollment forecasts (low, middle, and high scenarios).

Figure 4: Bellingham School District Kindergarten Enrollment and Birth Cohorts



| School year: | 2009-10 | 2019-20 |
|---|---------|---------|
| Ratio of K-age population to cohort births: | 1.02 | 0.99 |
| Public school capture rate (K enrollment/K-age population): | 0.78 | 0.82 |
| Ratio of K enrollment to cohort births: | 0.80 | 0.82 |

Sources

Washington Department of Health 2003-2004 and 2013-14 births to mothers residing within the district boundary, special tabulation ordered by FLO Analytics.
 U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census. 2011. "Sex by Age for the Population Under 20 Years," *Summary File 1, Table P14*. Accessed December 21, 2025.
<https://data.census.gov/table/DECENNIALSF12010.P14?g=9700000US5307710>
 U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Census. 2023. "Sex by Age for the Population Under 20 Years," *Demographic and Housing Characteristics, Table P14*. Accessed December 21, 2025.
<https://data.census.gov/table/DECENNIALDHC2020.P14?g=9700000US5307710>
 Bellingham School District 2019-20 (October headcount) enrollment and OSPI October 2009 enrollment.

Grade Progression Ratios

The progression of students from one grade to the next is a significant determinant of future enrollment and therefore plays an important role in FLO’s forecasting process. FLO assesses how cohort sizes change over time by calculating GPRs—the ratio of enrollment in a specific grade in a given year to the enrollment of the same age cohort in the previous year. For instance, if 100 kindergarteners in 2024-25 were to become 104 1st graders in 2025-26, the GPR would be 1.04. GPRs quantify how cohort sizes change as students progress to subsequent grades by considering that not all students advance to the next grade and that new students join existing cohorts. A GPR value greater than 1.00 indicates that the student cohort increased in size from one grade to the next. Such a result may be due to students moving into the district or students choosing to transfer into the district from other districts or nonpublic schools. Conversely, a GPR value less than 1.00 indicates that the student cohort decreased in size from one grade to the next. This may be due to students moving out of the district, students choosing to transfer to other districts or nonpublic schools, or students not advancing to the next grade.

Table 10 depicts the GPRs for all District K–12 students from 2020–21 to 2025–26. In each year except 2021–22 to 2022–23, GPRs for most grades have been at or above 1.00, indicating that the District often has a net gain of students by cohort. Cohorts progressing from K to 1st and from 8th to 9th grades typically have the highest GPRs, as new students join District schools at 1st and 9th grades. GPRs at other early elementary grades also depict cohort growth. The final three columns in Table 10 show FLO’s assumptions for future GPRs in the middle scenario enrollment forecast, influenced by averages observed over the most recent three-year period.

Table 10: Grade Progression Ratios

| Grade Progression Ratios | 2020–21 to 2021–22 | 2021–22 to 2022–23 | 2022–23 to 2023–24 | 2023–24 to 2024–25 | 2024–25 to 2025–26 | Forecast | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | | | | | | 2025–26 to 2026–27 | 2026–27 to 2027–28 | 2027–28 to 2035–36 |
| K–1 | 1.09 | 1.07 | 1.05 | 1.06 | 1.04 | 1.05 | 1.05 | 1.05 |
| 1–2 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.03 | 1.03 | 1.01 | 1.01 | 1.01 |
| 2–3 | 0.99 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.05 | 1.01 | 1.01 | 1.01 | 1.01 |
| 3–4 | 1.00 | 0.99 | 0.99 | 1.02 | 0.98 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| 4–5 | 0.98 | 0.99 | 0.99 | 0.99 | 0.98 | 0.99 | 0.99 | 0.99 |
| 5–6 | 1.00 | 0.99 | 1.00 | 1.01 | 1.01 | 1.01 | 1.01 | 1.01 |
| 6–7 | 1.00 | 0.98 | 0.99 | 1.00 | 1.01 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| 7–8 | 0.97 | 0.98 | 1.01 | 1.02 | 1.00 | 1.01 | 1.01 | 1.01 |
| 8–9 | 1.11 | 1.11 | 1.10 | 1.09 | 1.13 | 1.10 | 1.09 | 1.09 |
| 9–10 | 0.99 | 0.99 | 1.01 | 1.02 | 1.01 | 1.02 | 1.02 | 1.01 |
| 10–11 | 0.96 | 0.93 | 0.88 | 0.93 | 0.93 | 0.93 | 0.93 | 0.93 |
| 11–12 | 1.06 | 1.01 | 1.03 | 0.97 | 1.00 | 1.02 | 1.02 | 1.02 |

Sources

FLO Analytics analysis of Bellingham School District 2020–21 to 2025–26 (October headcount) enrollment and FLO 2026–27 to 2035–36 enrollment forecasts (middle scenario).

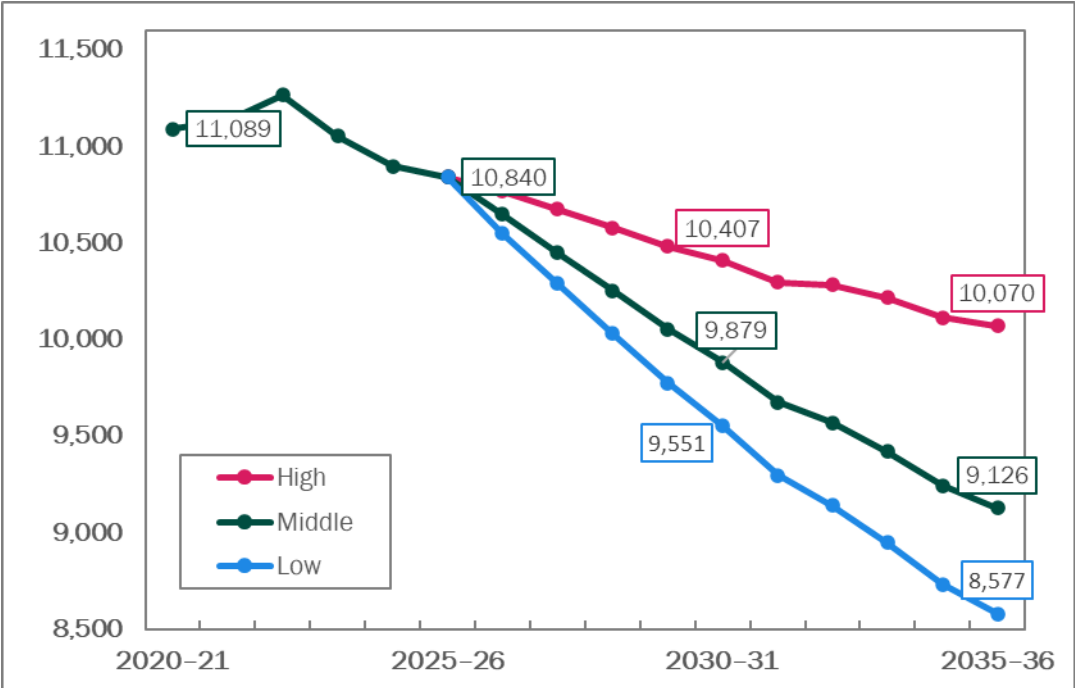
District-Wide Enrollment Forecasts

Figure 5 is an overview of the annual district-wide low, middle, and high forecast scenarios. Details of each scenario by individual grade are in Appendix A, Tables A-6, A-7, and A-8.

The middle scenario total of 9,126 students in 2035–36 depicts a K–12 decrease of 1,714 students (15.8 percent), from the 2025–26 total of 10,840. The low forecast anticipates a decrease of 2,263 students (20.9 percent) in the ten-year horizon, while the high forecast remains somewhat closer to current enrollment, falling by 770 students (7.1 percent). While the lines in Figure 5 show historical enrollment each year since 2020–21 and forecasted enrollment for each year through 2035–36, the labels highlight TK–12 totals in five-year increments.

FLO considers the middle scenario to be the most likely, as it reflects current trends and is influenced by the size of existing enrollment in lower grades and recent birth cohorts. Forecasts for individual schools are consistent with the middle scenario. Higher or lower enrollment than in the middle scenario could result from shifts in the economy or housing affordability, and the level of investment in affordable housing. Levels of international migration are difficult to predict and could also play a role in BSD growth or decline.

Figure 5: District-Wide Enrollment Forecasts: Low, Middle, and High Scenarios



Sources
Bellingham School District 2020–21 to 2025–26 (October headcount) enrollment.
FLO Analytics October 2026–27 to 2035–36 enrollment forecasts (low, middle, and high scenarios).

Forecasts for grade level groups TK–5, 6–8, and 9–12 under the middle scenario are presented by five-year increment in the chart and table in Figure 6. Grades TK–5 experienced a 524-student enrollment loss between 2019–20 and 2025–26. A larger loss of 651 is forecasted from 2025–26 to 2030–31, followed by a gain of 118 students from 2030–31 to 2035–36, resulting in a ten-year net loss of 533 students (11.3 percent).

Grades 6–8 had a net loss of 166 students between 2019–20 and 2025–26 and are forecast to continue to lose enrollment in both five-year increments. Enrollment losses of 218 from 2025–26 to 2030–31 and 328 from 2030–31 to 2035–36 result in a ten-year net loss of 546 students (22.1 percent) for grades 6–8 under the middle scenario forecast.

Grades 9–12 had a net gain of 33 students between 2019–20 and 2025–26 but are forecast to lose enrollment in both five-year increments. In the first five years of the middle scenario forecast, enrollment in grades 9–12 falls by 92 students. An additional 543-student loss is predicted from 2030–31 to 2035–36. For the entire ten-year forecast period grades 9–12 lose 635 students (17.4 percent).

Figure 6: District-Wide Enrollment Forecasts by Grade Group: Middle Scenario



Sources

Bellingham School District 2019–20 to 2025–26 (October headcount) enrollment.
 FLO Analytics October 2030–31 and 2035–36 enrollment forecasts (middle scenario).

Forecasts by Resident Attendance Area and Individual School

Forecasts for 2026–27 to 2035–36 of TK–5, 6–8, and 9–12 students residing within each respective AA and attending any BSD school are shown in Appendix A, Table A-9, and forecasts for each of the District’s schools are shown in Appendix A, Table A-10. Different demographics, rates of residential development, and GPRs contribute to differing rates of growth or decline in the number of students by resident AA and by school. The sums of AAs and individual school enrollments are consistent with the district-wide middle enrollment forecast scenario.

Table A-9 shows that the largest declines in the number of TK–5 residents are expected in the Geneva and Happy Valley ESAAs. Forecasts for those ESAAs were influenced by their relatively small populations of K and 1st grade students in 2025–26 and the expectation that future K populations will be closer in size to the two most recent years than to the larger number of residents observed in 2023–24 and prior years. All but one of the ESAAs lose TK–5 residents between 2025–26 and 2035–36; the Cordata ESAA gains a small number of students due to the development of SF units in subdivisions throughout the King Mountain and Queen Mountain neighborhoods (including one affordable housing development). Among the four MSAAs, all lose residents between 2025–26 and 2035–36, with the largest loss in the Kulshan MSAA. The steepest losses occur among grade 9–12 residents, where the Bellingham, Sehome, and Squalicum HSAs each lose residents in the forecast period; though Squalicum HSAA is expected to have relatively smaller losses.

Although the individual school enrollments shown in Table A-10 differ from the number of residents by AA due to students transferring to schools outside their AA as well as students residing outside of the district enrolling in BSD schools, enrollment trends at individual schools closely follow trends in the number of residents in their AAs. Thus, Geneva ES and Happy Valley ES, along with Northern Heights ES and Wade King ES, are expected to have the largest losses between 2026–27 and 2035–36. Alderwood ES and Lowell ES lose relatively few students, and Cordata ES enrollment grows between 2026–37 and 2035–36.

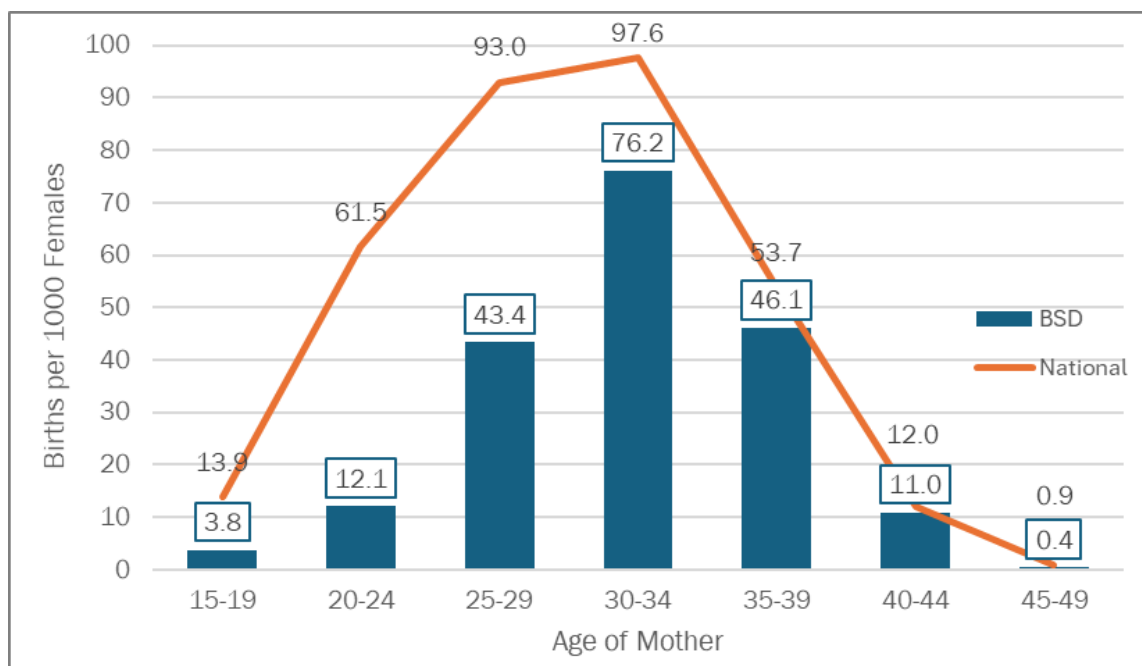
Methodology

District-Wide Population and Enrollment Forecasts

To prepare the ten-year forecasts from 2026–27 to 2035–36, FLO compiled historical births and forecasted births through 2030. The birth forecasts depend on population forecasts by age and sex and age-specific birth rates (ASBRs) for women of childbearing age. ASBRs estimated using 2019–2021 births and 2020 Census population counts, are shown in Figure 7. Women age 30 and older accounted for 69 percent of recent births to Bellingham School District residents. With birth rates among women under 30 less than one-half of national rates (largely attributable to the large number of college students residing in the district), and rates for women age 30 to 34 also lower than the nation, the district's total fertility rate (TFR) of 0.96 was significantly below the national TFR, which averaged 1.67 during the 2019–2021 period. Birth rates among BSD residents 35 and older were

similar to national rates, however.^{3,4} FLO adjusted the 2025 baseline ASBRs to reflect further declines in the number of births to BSD district residents in 2022 to 2024, resulting in a TFR of 0.88. Cohort change ratios based on historical trends are used to forecast 2030 population ages ten and older by five-year age group and sex.⁵ Forecasts of populations under age ten in 2030 based on ratios of population to births are added, resulting in a 2020-to-2030 population growth of 6,991 in the low scenario, 8,748 in the middle scenario, and 10,706 in the high scenario, compared with 16,274 between 2000 and 2010 and 10,148 between 2010 and 2020.

Figure 7: Age-Specific Birth Rates, Bellingham School District Residents, 2019–2021



Note

Birth rates calculated by FLO Analytics using 2019–2021 births and 2020 Census counts.

Sources

Washington Department of Health, Bellingham School District births by age of mother

U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Census. 2023. “P12, Sex by Age for Selected Age Categories,” Demographic and Housing Characteristics. Accessed October 17, 2025.

[https://data.census.gov/table/DECENNIALDHC2020.P12?g=050XX00US53033,53033\\$1000000](https://data.census.gov/table/DECENNIALDHC2020.P12?g=050XX00US53033,53033$1000000).

Osterman, M.J.K., Hamilton B.E., Martin J.A., Driscoll A.K., and Valenzuela C.P. 2023. “Births: Final data for 2021. *National Vital Statistics Reports*, Vol. 72, No. 1. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics.

FLO uses the historical and forecasted births through 2030 and TK- and K-to-birth ratios to forecast TK and K through the 2035–36 school year. Forecasts for other grades use GPRs based initially on the average of the most recent three years, adjusted as needed to eliminate outliers and in consideration of expected residential development. GPRs embed implicit assumptions about the level of net migration and school choice. The middle scenario reflects observed trends, while K-to-birth ratios and GPRs are adjusted upward or downward for the high and low forecast scenarios.

³ TFR is the number of children that would be born to a woman throughout her childbearing years, based on age-specific birth rates at a given time.

⁴ Osterman, Michelle J.K., Brady E. Hamilton, Joyce A. Martin, Anne K. Driscoll, and Claudia P. Valenzuela. 2023. “Births: Final Data for 2021.” *National Vital Statistics Reports* 72 (1): 1–53. <https://dx.doi.org/10.15620/cdc:122047>.

⁵ Baker, Jack, David A. Swanson, Jeff Tayman, and Lucky M. Tedrow. 2017. *Cohort Change Ratios and Their Applications*. Cham, Switzerland: Springer International Publishing.

Forecasts of Students by Residence

Forecasts of BSD students by residence consistent with the district-wide middle scenario forecast are prepared before the individual school forecasts are prepared. The resident forecasts are geographically top-down; forecasts of students residing in each of the three HSAs by individual grade TK–12 are completed first, followed by forecasts for ESAs or ESA parts. At each step, initial forecasts are made consistent with the larger area. HSA forecasts are controlled to the district resident forecast, and ESAs (whole or part, when split by MSAs or HSAs) are controlled to their parent HSA.

Initial TK and K forecasts are based on historical HSA shares of District TK and K and (whole or part) ESA shares of HSA TK and K residents. Similar to the district-wide forecast, GPRs for grades 1–12 in each HSA and ESA are initially based on three-year averages and may be adjusted to remove outliers or reflect recent trends. Students from future residential development are added based on expected completion and occupancy. For example, an apartment building currently under construction may house students by the next school year, while large developments that are planned but not yet under construction are not expected to be completed and occupied until later in the forecast horizon. Sums of initial forecasts will likely differ from the forecasts of district-wide enrollment; therefore, final forecasts for AAs are derived by proportionally adjusting initial forecasts to match the district-wide resident forecasts by grade, a process referred to as controlling.

Forecasts for Individual Schools

Exactly 470 BSD students were enrolled in schools that do not have AAs as of October 2025. Because these schools have relatively stable enrollment, their future enrollments are assumed to remain very close to their 2025–26 level. Forecasts for these non-AA schools are prepared before the neighborhood school forecasts and are subtracted from the district-wide forecasts, resulting in control totals for neighborhood schools.

Initial forecasts for each ES have two components: resident enrollment and nonresident enrollment (students who reside outside of the school's AA). Resident TK and K students are forecast using shares of their resident TK and K population based on the average observed over the most recent three years. Initial resident forecasts for grades 1–5 use GPRs unique to each school and grade based on a three-year average, with students added from the housing adjustment for those areas with new development. Each TK and K share and GPR is reviewed and adjusted if necessary to account for outliers that may influence the average rates. Initial nonresident TK and K forecasts use an average of nonresident enrollments in the three most recent years, often weighted more heavily to the current year (2025–26), and initial nonresident forecasts for grades 1–5 use GPRs with adjustments to maintain relatively stable nonresident TK–5 totals. After the initial resident and nonresident forecasts are combined, they are controlled to match the middle scenario district-wide neighborhood schools forecasts by grade.

Initial forecasts for the District's neighborhood secondary schools also have resident and nonresident components. Resident forecasts for entry grades 6 and 9 use GPRs applied to feeder 5th and 8th grade classes, and subsequent grades use GPRs based on historical observations by school and grade. Each school's share of its AA residents is monitored, and GPRs may be adjusted to ensure relatively stable forecast shares. As an example, 93 percent of grades 6–8 students residing in the Kulshan MSA attended Kulshan MS in 2025–26. The initial forecast for 2035–36 assigns 92 percent of MSA residents to Kulshan MS, only a slight change. If the share were to change

significantly, further review and adjustment would likely be required. Nonresident forecasts for secondary schools use assumptions for entry grades and GPRs that keep nonresident enrollment close to its 2025–26 level at each school, unless program changes that will impact nonresident enrollment are known. After the initial resident and nonresident forecasts are combined, they are controlled to match the middle scenario district-wide neighborhood schools forecasts by grade.

Data Sources

FLO used the following data sources to inform the enrollment forecasts:

- Enrollment data and AA boundaries, BSD
- Decennial Census and American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau⁶
- Birth data, Washington Department of Health
- Building permits and land use data City of Bellingham
- Spatial data, Whatcom County
- Property characteristics, Whatcom County Assessor
- Interview(s), Chris Behee, City of Bellingham⁷
- Population estimates and forecasts, Washington Office of Financial Management and Whatcom County

Accuracy

Enrollment forecasts are expected values based on assessment of current and past data and should be considered as just one of several planning tools rather than the only criterion for the allocation of future resources. Unlike measurable data such as the results of a survey, forecasts do not allow for the estimation of a confidence interval to measure accuracy. The best way to measure error is to compare actual enrollment with previously prepared forecasts that were conducted using similar data and methodologies. The appropriate use of forecasts includes an understanding that there is likely to be some degree of variation from the anticipated values. Therefore, it is important that stakeholders monitor conditions that will affect future populations and that forecasts be updated, either at a regular frequency or when their deviation from actual enrollment is significant.

⁶ U.S. Census Bureau. 2013, 2018, 2023. Multiple Datasets. *American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*. Accessed December 22, 2025.

⁷ City of Bellingham. 2025. Chris Behee, Office of Planning and Community Development. Questions on Behalf of Bellingham School District, FLO Analytics, October 9.

Limitations

The services undertaken in completing this report were performed consistent with generally accepted professional consulting principles and practices. No other warranty, express or implied, is made. These services were performed consistent with our agreement with our client. This report is solely for the use and information of our client unless otherwise noted. Any reliance on this report by a third party is at such party's sole risk.

Opinions and recommendations contained in this report apply to conditions existing when services were performed and are intended only for the client, purposes, locations, time frames, and project parameters indicated. We do not warrant the accuracy of information supplied by others, or the use of segregated portions of this report.

Appendix A

Detailed Tables



Table A-1: Residential Development Details (page 1 of 2)

| Map ID | Jurisdiction | Elementary School Attendance Area | Middle School Attendance Area | High School Attendance Area | Development Name | Type | Future Units | Notes |
|--------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|------|--------------|--|
| B_01 | City of Bellingham | Cordata ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum HS | 4200 Meridian SP (Bellingham Business Park) | MF | 353 | Short plat approved; studios; pre-app in 2020, no application yet. |
| B_02 | City of Bellingham | Cordata ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum HS | King Mountain Phase 2 | MF | 131 | Preliminary plat approved; 1 and 2BR units; market-rate. |
| B_03 | City of Bellingham | Lowell ES | Fairhaven MS | Sehome HS | State Street Creamery | MF | 111 | Under construction; 33 studio, 54 1BR, 24 2BR. |
| B_04 | City of Bellingham | Parkview ES | Whatcom MS | Bellingham HS | Old Town Heights | MF | 84 | Under construction; 11 studio, 63 1BR, 10 2BR. |
| B_05 | City of Bellingham | Northern Heights ES | Shuksan MS | Squalicum HS | 3320 Manning St | MF | 77 | Permit under review; 10 studio, 54 1BR, 13 2BR. |
| B_06 | City of Bellingham | Northern Heights ES | Shuksan MS | Squalicum HS | 2405 Rimland Dr | MF | 65 | Permit under review; 1 studio, 45 1BR, 19 2BR. |
| B_07 | City of Bellingham | Birchwood ES | Shuksan MS | Squalicum HS | Bellis Fair Family Housing | MF | 65 | Under construction; affordable housing units. |
| B_08 | City of Bellingham | Lowell ES | Fairhaven MS | Sehome HS | Kansas St | MF | 60 | Permit under review; 40 studio, 20 1BR. |
| B_09 | City of Bellingham | Parkview ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum HS | Serena Apartments | MF | 48 | Permit under review; 16 studio, 15 1BR, 17 2BR. |
| B_10 | City of Bellingham | Happy Valley ES | Fairhaven MS | Sehome HS | Samish View Apts #1 | MF | 48 | Permit under review; 38 studio, 6 1 BR, 4 2BR. |
| B_11 | City of Bellingham | Happy Valley ES | Fairhaven MS | Sehome HS | Samish View Apts #2 | MF | 48 | Permit under review; 38 studio, 6 1 BR, 4 2BR. |
| B_12 | City of Bellingham | Parkview ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum HS | Telegraph Townhomes | MF | 38 | Permit under review; affordable housing units. |
| B_13 | City of Bellingham | Carl Cozier ES | Fairhaven MS | Sehome HS | Lincoln St Studio Apts | MF | 38 | Permit under review; 38 studio. |
| B_14 | City of Bellingham | Columbia ES | Shuksan MS | Bellingham HS | Rouvali Apartments | MF | 36 | Permit under review; 27 studio, 9 2BR. |
| B_15 | City of Bellingham | Cordata ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum HS | TULL ROAD SHORT PLAT | MF | 34 | Permits issued/under construction. |
| B_16 | City of Bellingham | Northern Heights ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum HS | Unnamed Short Plat | MF | 31 | Plat approved; 16 townhouse units with 1 15 unit multifamily bldg. |
| B_17 | City of Bellingham | Lowell ES | Fairhaven MS | Sehome HS | Fairhaven Court West | MF | 27 | Permit under review; 24 1BR, 3 2BR. |
| B_18 | City of Bellingham | Cordata ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum HS | City Apartments | MF | 24 | Permit under review; all 3BR units. |
| B_19 | City of Bellingham | Northern Heights ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum HS | 2000 Sunset | MF | 20 | Permit under review; 18 studio, 2 1BR. |
| B_20 | City of Bellingham | Birchwood ES | Shuksan MS | Squalicum HS | Unknown | MF | 100 | Pre-application; market-rate apartments. |
| B_21 | City of Bellingham | Parkview ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum HS | Sunset Apartments | MF | 19 | Under construction; 11 1BR, 5 2BR, 3 3BR. |
| B_22 | City of Bellingham | Cordata ES | Shuksan MS | Squalicum HS | Lina Flats | MF | 14 | Permit under review; all 1BR units. |
| B_23 | City of Bellingham | Roosevelt ES | Kulshan MS | Bellingham HS | Verona Apartments | MF | 14 | Permit under review; 3 1BR, 4 2BR, 7 3RB. |
| B_24 | City of Bellingham | Cordata ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum HS | Prince Ave 2.0 | MF | 12 | Permit under review. |
| B_25 | City of Bellingham | Happy Valley ES | Fairhaven MS | Sehome HS | Taylor Avenue | MF | 11 | permit under review; 7 2BR, 4 3BR. |
| B_26 | City of Bellingham | Roosevelt ES | Kulshan MS | Bellingham HS | Texas Street Apts | MF | 8 | Under constructon; all 2 BR units. |
| B_27 | City of Bellingham | Happy Valley ES | Fairhaven MS | Sehome HS | Gateway Apts | MF | 2 | Permit under review; 2 1BR. |
| B_28 | City of Bellingham | Cordata ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum HS | King Mountain Phase 2 (Income-restricted) | SF | 110 | Affordable housing units. |
| B_29 | City of Bellingham | Cordata ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum HS | Queen Mountain | SF | 94 | Preliminary plat approved. |
| B_30 | City of Bellingham | Cordata ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum HS | King Mountain Phase 2 | SF | 90 | Preliminary plat approved. |
| B_31 | City of Bellingham | Alderwood ES | Shuksan MS | Squalicum HS | Aurora Court Phase 3 | SF | 54 | Plat approved; 2 and 3 BR townhomes (mainly 3). |
| B_32 | City of Bellingham | Northern Heights ES | Shuksan MS | Squalicum HS | Squalicum Heights | SF | 45 | Preliminary plat approved. |
| B_33 | City of Bellingham | Lowell ES | Fairhaven MS | Sehome HS | The Woods at Viewcrest | SF | 38 | Preliminary plat approved. |
| B_34 | City of Bellingham | Carl Cozier ES | Fairhaven MS | Sehome HS | Foxglove | SF | 35 | Under construction; 4 and 6 unit townhomes. |
| B_35 | City of Bellingham | Alderwood ES | Shuksan MS | Squalicum HS | Unknown (34 ITK Townhomes) | SF | 34 | Preliminary plat approved. |
| B_36 | City of Bellingham | Cordata ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum HS | Crossridge, Phase 2 | SF | 22 | Permit under review. |
| B_37 | City of Bellingham | Alderwood ES | Shuksan MS | Squalicum HS | Cornerstone at Aurora Court | SF | 19 | Permit under review; land cleared. |
| B_38 | City of Bellingham | Sunnyland ES | Whatcom MS | Bellingham HS | Sunset Commons | SF | 41 | Under construction; 23 SF, 6 duplexes, 6 ADUs. |
| B_39 | City of Bellingham | Northern Heights ES | Shuksan MS | Squalicum HS | Barkley Heights Townhomes | SF | 78 | Preliminary plat approved; 24 SF, 40 townhomes, 14 ADUs. |
| B_40 | City of Bellingham | Cordata ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum HS | KINGSWAY LONG PH 2 | SF | 10 | Permits issued/under construction. |
| B_41 | City of Bellingham | Carl Cozier ES | | | Edward St SP#2662 | SF | 10 | Under construction. |
| B_42 | City of Bellingham | Cordata ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum HS | Park Slope | SF | 10 | Permit under review. |
| B_43 | City of Bellingham | Sunnyland ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum HS | E Maryland St | SF | 8 | Permit under review; 4-unit buildings. |
| B_44 | City of Bellingham | Carl Cozier ES | Fairhaven MS | Sehome HS | Puget Living | SF | 8 | Permit under review. |
| B_45 | City of Bellingham | Cordata ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum HS | Unknown | SF | 5 | Permits issued/under construction. |
| B_46 | City of Bellingham | Lowell ES | Fairhaven MS | Sehome HS | The Residence at Fairhaven | SF | 5 | Permit under review. |

Table A-1: Residential Development Details (page 2 of 2)

| Map ID | Jurisdiction | Elementary School Attendance Area | Middle School Attendance Area | High School Attendance Area | Development Name | Type | Future Units | Notes |
|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------|--------------|---|
| B_47 | City of Bellingham | Alderwood ES | Shuksan MS | Squalicum HS | 1239 Mahogany Ave | SF | 4 | Permit under review; 3 BR units. |
| B_48 | City of Bellingham | Parkview ES | Whatcom MS | Bellingham HS | 110 W Laurel St | MF | 109 | Income Restricted workforce units (50%/50% 1 and 2 bed units). |
| | City of Bellingham | Alderwood ES | Shuksan MS | Squalicum HS | Various Undefined | SF | 52 | Small projects (4 SF, 40 townhomes, 8 ADUs; in various stages). |
| | City of Bellingham | Birchwood ES | Shuksan MS | Squalicum HS | Various Undefined | SF | 55 | Small projects (15 SF, 12 townhomes, 28 ADUs; in various stages). |
| | City of Bellingham | Carl Cozier ES | Kulshan/Fairhaven MS | Sehome HS | Various Undefined | SF | 109 | Small projects (18 SF, 79 townhomes, 12 ADUs; in various stages). |
| | City of Bellingham | Columbia ES | Shuksan MS | Bellingham HS | Various Undefined | SF | 16 | Small projects (5 SF, 11 ADUs; in various stages). |
| | City of Bellingham | Cordata ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum HS | Various Undefined | SF | 89 | Small projects (13 SF, 72 townhomes, 4 ADUs; in various stages). |
| | City of Bellingham | Happy Valley ES | Fairhaven MS | Sehome HS | Various Undefined | SF | 104 | Small projects (31 SF, 12 townhomes, 61 ADUs; in various stages). |
| | City of Bellingham | Lowell ES | Fairhaven MS | Sehome HS | Various Undefined | SF | 115 | Small projects (28 SF, 35 townhomes, 52 ADUs; in various stages). |
| | City of Bellingham | Northern Heights ES | Shuksan MS | Squalicum HS | Various Undefined | SF | 52 | Small projects (25 SF, 13 townhomes, 14 ADUs; in various stages). |
| | City of Bellingham | Parkview ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum/Bellingham HS | Various Undefined | SF | 95 | Small projects (20 SF, 29 townhomes, 46 ADUs; in various stages). |
| | City of Bellingham | Roosevelt ES | Kulshan MS | Squalicum/Bellingham HS | Various Undefined | SF | 64 | Small projects (26 SF, 10 townhomes, 28 ADUs; in various stages). |
| | City of Bellingham | Silver Beach ES | Kulshan MS | Squalicum/Bellingham HS | Various Undefined | SF | 12 | Small projects (7 SF, 5 ADUs; in various stages). |
| | City of Bellingham | Sunnyland ES | Whatcom MS | Squalicum/Bellingham HS | Various Undefined | SF | 62 | Small projects (5 SF, 28 townhomes, 29 ADUs; in various stages). |
| | City of Bellingham | Wade King ES | Kulshan/Fairhaven MS | Sehome HS | Various Undefined | SF | 24 | Small projects (19 SF, 1 townhome, 4 ADUs; in various stages). |
| Total SF | | | | | | SF | 1,569 | |
| Total MF | | | | | | MF | 1,627 | |
| Total Units | | | | | | | 3,196 | |

Notes

SF includes single-family detached or attached, townhomes, and plexes; MF is multifamily.

Small projects refer to projects with unit counts of less than ten and are summarized by attendance area. These projects are not depicted on Map 3.

The anticipated phasing of construction is based on the known status of projects as of fall 2025–26. Counts include projects that are under review, permitted, or under construction and do not reflect those that are in the conceptual planning stage.

Sources

Residential development information from the City of Bellingham planning department.

Table A-2: Historical Enrollment by School and Grade Group

| School Name | 2019–20 | 2020–21 | 2021–22 | 2022–23 | 2023–24 | 2024–25 | 2025–26 | 2019–20 to 2025–26 |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Alderwood ES | 258 | 239 | 244 | 272 | 272 | 288 | 270 | 12 |
| Birchwood ES | 345 | 312 | 310 | 370 | 360 | 334 | 330 | -15 |
| Carl Cozier ES | 326 | 303 | 293 | 322 | 343 | 325 | 301 | -25 |
| Columbia ES | 300 | 264 | 250 | 235 | 212 | 189 | 178 | -122 |
| Cordata ES | 362 | 326 | 327 | 377 | 333 | 345 | 349 | -13 |
| Geneva ES | 474 | 394 | 418 | 430 | 423 | 410 | 392 | -82 |
| Happy Valley ES | 434 | 363 | 428 | 446 | 449 | 439 | 437 | 3 |
| Lowell ES | 272 | 234 | 274 | 302 | 310 | 337 | 315 | 43 |
| Northern Heights ES | 377 | 343 | 343 | 410 | 419 | 395 | 379 | 2 |
| Parkview ES | 342 | 297 | 352 | 398 | 386 | 421 | 401 | 59 |
| Roosevelt ES | 410 | 366 | 342 | 376 | 369 | 347 | 346 | -64 |
| Silver Beach ES | 482 | 387 | 391 | 323 | 311 | 307 | 295 | -187 |
| Sunnyland ES | 295 | 252 | 258 | 309 | 308 | 279 | 281 | -14 |
| Wade King ES | 398 | 337 | 342 | 345 | 313 | 292 | 285 | -113 |
| Bellingham Family Partnership | 172 | 526 | 327 | 177 | 165 | 155 | 164 | -8 |
| TK–5 Total | 5,247 | 4,943 | 4,899 | 5,092 | 4,973 | 4,863 | 4,723 | -524 |
| Fairhaven MS | 597 | 563 | 624 | 598 | 583 | 591 | 575 | -22 |
| Kulshan MS | 617 | 647 | 643 | 626 | 605 | 581 | 582 | -35 |
| Shuksan MS | 684 | 664 | 542 | 579 | 576 | 609 | 600 | -84 |
| Whatcom MS | 678 | 609 | 668 | 602 | 636 | 636 | 603 | -75 |
| Bellingham HS | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -5 |
| Sehome HS | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -1 |
| Squalicum HS | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Bellingham Family Partnership | 50 | 80 | 112 | 88 | 88 | 92 | 106 | 56 |
| Visions MS | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 6–8 Total | 2,633 | 2,564 | 2,591 | 2,493 | 2,488 | 2,509 | 2,467 | -166 |
| Bellingham HS | 1,125 | 1,109 | 1,112 | 1,168 | 1,123 | 1,108 | 1,158 | 33 |
| Sehome HS | 1,080 | 1,104 | 1,100 | 1,104 | 1,119 | 1,059 | 1,085 | 5 |
| Squalicum HS | 1,197 | 1,179 | 1,199 | 1,209 | 1,161 | 1,179 | 1,208 | 11 |
| Bellingham Family Partnership | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 7 |
| Options HS | 195 | 179 | 164 | 171 | 173 | 163 | 172 | -23 |
| Bellingham Virtual Learning | 0 | 0 | 53 | 16 | 4 | 4 | 11 | 11 |
| Visions HS | 20 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 11 | 12 | 9 | -11 |
| 9–12 Total | 3,617 | 3,582 | 3,640 | 3,681 | 3,591 | 3,525 | 3,650 | 33 |
| K–12 Total | 11,497 | 11,089 | 11,130 | 11,266 | 11,052 | 10,897 | 10,840 | -657 |

Notes

Students enrolled in full-time Running Start, Re-Engagement, preschool, Sped Birth to Two, ECE, and ECE Grads are excluded from analysis.

The lowest and highest enrollment values per school are highlighted blue and orange, respectively.

TK students included in enrollment totals beginning in 2022–23.

Sources

Bellingham School District October 2019–20 to 2025–26 headcount enrollment.

Table A-3: Grades TK–5 Residence-Attendance Matrix

| School of Attendance Attendance Area | Residence Count | Alderwood ES | Birchwood ES | Carl Cozier ES | Columbia ES | Cordata ES | Geneva ES | Happy Valley ES | Lowell ES | Northern Heights ES | Parkview ES | Roosevelt ES | Silver Beach ES | Sunnyland ES | Wade King ES | Bellingham Family Part. | Capture Rate | Transfer-Out Student Total ^(c) | Transfer-Out Rate |
|---|-----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|---|-------------------|
| Alderwood ES | 258 | 229 | 4 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 88.8% | 29 | 11.2% |
| Birchwood ES | 334 | 5 | 302 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 6 | 90.4% | 32 | 9.6% |
| Carl Cozier ES | 316 | 0 | 0 | 282 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 89.2% | 34 | 10.8% |
| Columbia ES | 154 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 149 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 96.8% | 5 | 3.2% |
| Cordata ES | 372 | 9 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 322 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 12 | 2 | 5 | 86.6% | 50 | 13.4% |
| Geneva ES | 418 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 380 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 22 | 90.9% | 38 | 9.1% |
| Happy Valley ES | 432 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 392 | 7 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 7 | 12 | 90.7% | 40 | 9.3% |
| Lowell ES | 319 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 7 | 287 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 15 | 90.0% | 32 | 10.0% |
| Northern Heights ES | 382 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 344 | 3 | 9 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 90.1% | 38 | 9.9% |
| Parkview ES | 391 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 349 | 5 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 6 | 89.3% | 42 | 10.7% |
| Roosevelt ES | 342 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 297 | 13 | 6 | 0 | 11 | 86.8% | 45 | 13.2% |
| Silver Beach ES | 262 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 245 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 93.5% | 17 | 6.5% |
| Sunnyland ES | 281 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 14 | 8 | 1 | 230 | 2 | 7 | 81.9% | 51 | 18.1% |
| Wade King ES | 280 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 250 | 14 | 89.3% | 30 | 10.7% |
| TK-5 Subtotals | 4,541 | 255 | 317 | 293 | 171 | 337 | 390 | 420 | 307 | 369 | 388 | 340 | 283 | 267 | 274 | 130 | 89.4% | 483 | 10.6% |
| From Out-of-District ^(a) | 182 | 15 | 13 | 8 | 7 | 12 | 2 | 17 | 8 | 10 | 13 | 6 | 12 | 14 | 11 | 34 | -- | -- | -- |
| TK–5 Totals | 4,723 | 270 | 330 | 301 | 178 | 349 | 392 | 437 | 315 | 379 | 401 | 346 | 295 | 281 | 285 | 164 | -- | -- | -- |
| Transfer-In Student Total ^(b) | 665 | 41 | 28 | 19 | 29 | 27 | 12 | 45 | 28 | 35 | 52 | 49 | 50 | 51 | 35 | 164 | -- | -- | -- |
| Transfer-In Rate | 14.1% | 15.2% | 8.5% | 6.3% | 16.3% | 7.7% | 3.1% | 10.3% | 8.9% | 9.2% | 13.0% | 14.2% | 16.9% | 18.1% | 12.3% | 100% | -- | -- | -- |

Notes

Students enrolled in full-time Running Start, Re-Engagement, preschool, Sped Birth to Two, ECE, and ECE Grads are excluded from analysis.

(a) From Out-of-District is the number of students who reside outside the district boundary.

(b) Transfer-In Student Total is the number of students who do not live in the school's attendance area, including students From Out-of-District, or total enrollment for schools/programs without attendance areas.

(c) Transfer-Out Student Total is the number of students who live in the school's attendance area, but enroll in a different school/program.

Sources

Bellingham School District 2025–26 attendance areas and October 2025–26 headcount enrollment.

Table A-4: Grades 6–8 Residence-Attendance Matrix

| School of Attendance Attendance Area | Residence Count | Fairhaven MS | Kulshan Ms | Shuksan MS | Whatcom MS | Visions MS | Bellingham Family Partnership | Capture Rate | Transfer-Out Student Total ^(c) | Transfer-Out Rate |
|---|-----------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------------------|--------------|---|-------------------|
| Fairhaven MS | 562 | 539 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 14 | 95.9% | 23 | 4.1% |
| Kulshan MS | 591 | 6 | 548 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 27 | 92.7% | 43 | 7.3% |
| Shuksan MS | 608 | 7 | 6 | 555 | 17 | 0 | 23 | 91.3% | 53 | 8.7% |
| Whatcom MS | 591 | 7 | 6 | 15 | 546 | 1 | 16 | 92.4% | 45 | 7.6% |
| 6-8 Subtotals | 2,352 | 559 | 565 | 576 | 571 | 1 | 80 | 93.0% | 164 | 7.0% |
| From Out-of-District ^(a) | 115 | 16 | 17 | 24 | 32 | 0 | 26 | -- | -- | -- |
| 6–8 Totals | 2,467 | 575 | 582 | 600 | 603 | 1 | 106 | -- | -- | -- |
| Transfer-In Student Total ^(b) | 279 | 36 | 34 | 45 | 57 | 1 | 106 | -- | -- | -- |
| Transfer-In Rate | 11.3% | 6.3% | 5.8% | 7.5% | 9.5% | 100% | 100% | -- | -- | -- |

Notes

Students enrolled in full-time Running Start, Re-Engagement, preschool, Sped Birth to Two, ECE, and ECE Grads are excluded from analysis.

(a) From Out-of-District is the number of students who reside outside the district boundary.

(b) Transfer-In Student Total is the number of students who do not live in the school's attendance area, including students From Out-of-District, or total enrollment for schools/programs without attendance areas.

(c) Transfer-Out Student Total is the number of students who live in the school's attendance area, but enroll in a different school/program.

Sources

Bellingham School District 2025–26 attendance areas and October 2025–26 headcount enrollment.

Table A-5: Grades 9–12 Residence-Attendance Matrix

| School of Attendance Attendance Area | Residence Count | Bellingham HS | Sehome HS | Squalicum HS | Bellingham Family Partnership | Bellingham Virtual Learning | Options HS | Visions HS | Capture Rate | Transfer-Out Student Total ^(c) | Transfer-Out Rate |
|---|-----------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|---|-------------------|
| Bellingham HS | 1,123 | 973 | 33 | 37 | 2 | 11 | 67 | 0 | 86.6% | 150 | 13.4% |
| Sehome HS | 1,092 | 41 | 995 | 20 | 2 | 0 | 34 | 0 | 91.1% | 97 | 8.9% |
| Squalicum HS | 1,238 | 79 | 20 | 1,089 | 0 | 0 | 41 | 9 | 88.0% | 149 | 12.0% |
| 9-12 Subtotals | 3,453 | 1,093 | 1,048 | 1,146 | 4 | 11 | 142 | 9 | 88.5% | 396 | 11.5% |
| From Out-of-District ^(a) | 197 | 65 | 37 | 62 | 3 | 0 | 30 | 0 | -- | -- | -- |
| 9–12 Totals | 3,650 | 1,158 | 1,085 | 1,208 | 7 | 11 | 172 | 9 | -- | -- | -- |
| Transfer-In Student Total ^(b) | 593 | 185 | 90 | 119 | 7 | 11 | 172 | 9 | -- | -- | -- |
| Transfer-In Rate | 16.2% | 16.0% | 8.3% | 9.9% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | -- | -- | -- |

Notes

Students enrolled in full-time Running Start, Re-Engagement, preschool, Sped Birth to Two, ECE, and ECE Grads are excluded from analysis.

(a) From Out-of-District is the number of students who reside outside the district boundary.

(b) Transfer-In Student Total is the number of students who do not live in the school's attendance area, including students From Out-of-District, or total enrollment for schools/programs without attendance areas.

(c) Transfer-Out Student Total is the number of students who live in the school's attendance area, but enroll in a different school/program.

Sources

Bellingham School District 2025–26 attendance areas and October 2025–26 headcount enrollment.

Table A-6: Enrollment Forecasts by Individual Grade – Low Scenario

| Grade | 2025–26 | 2026–27 | 2027–28 | 2028–29 | 2029–30 | 2030–31 | 2031–32 | 2032–33 | 2033–34 | 2034–35 | 2035–36 |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| TK | 219 | 204 | 206 | 223 | 217 | 217 | 218 | 219 | 221 | 222 | 224 |
| K | 622 | 596 | 564 | 547 | 597 | 586 | 586 | 589 | 593 | 598 | 602 |
| 1 | 663 | 649 | 625 | 591 | 574 | 626 | 614 | 614 | 618 | 622 | 627 |
| 2 | 761 | 665 | 654 | 630 | 596 | 579 | 631 | 619 | 619 | 623 | 627 |
| 3 | 798 | 765 | 671 | 660 | 636 | 602 | 584 | 637 | 625 | 625 | 629 |
| 4 | 848 | 792 | 760 | 667 | 656 | 633 | 599 | 581 | 634 | 622 | 622 |
| 5 | 812 | 833 | 780 | 749 | 657 | 645 | 623 | 589 | 572 | 624 | 612 |
| 6 | 779 | 814 | 835 | 782 | 751 | 658 | 646 | 624 | 590 | 573 | 625 |
| 7 | 859 | 774 | 809 | 830 | 777 | 746 | 654 | 642 | 620 | 586 | 570 |
| 8 | 829 | 863 | 777 | 813 | 837 | 783 | 752 | 659 | 647 | 625 | 591 |
| 9 | 937 | 910 | 939 | 846 | 884 | 911 | 851 | 818 | 717 | 704 | 680 |
| 10 | 930 | 947 | 920 | 946 | 851 | 892 | 917 | 861 | 828 | 726 | 712 |
| 11 | 873 | 858 | 879 | 854 | 875 | 785 | 825 | 851 | 800 | 770 | 675 |
| 12 | 910 | 879 | 869 | 891 | 865 | 888 | 795 | 835 | 862 | 811 | 781 |
| TK–5 | 4,723 | 4,504 | 4,260 | 4,067 | 3,933 | 3,888 | 3,855 | 3,848 | 3,882 | 3,936 | 3,943 |
| 6–8 | 2,467 | 2,451 | 2,421 | 2,425 | 2,365 | 2,187 | 2,052 | 1,925 | 1,857 | 1,784 | 1,786 |
| <u>9–12</u> | <u>3,650</u> | <u>3,594</u> | <u>3,607</u> | <u>3,537</u> | <u>3,475</u> | <u>3,476</u> | <u>3,388</u> | <u>3,365</u> | <u>3,207</u> | <u>3,011</u> | <u>2,848</u> |
| TK–12 | 10,840 | 10,549 | 10,288 | 10,029 | 9,773 | 9,551 | 9,295 | 9,138 | 8,946 | 8,731 | 8,577 |

Notes

Students enrolled in full-time Running Start, Re-Engagement, preschool, Sped Birth to Two, ECE, and ECE Grads are excluded from analysis.

Darker shading represents higher values and lighter shading represents lower values.

Sources

Bellingham School District October 2025–26 headcount enrollment and FLO 2026–27 to 2035–36 enrollment forecasts (low scenario).

Table A-7: Enrollment Forecasts by Individual Grade – Middle Scenario

| Grade | 2025–26 | 2026–27 | 2027–28 | 2028–29 | 2029–30 | 2030–31 | 2031–32 | 2032–33 | 2033–34 | 2034–35 | 2035–36 | 2045–46 | 2055–56 |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| TK | 219 | 219 | 220 | 239 | 234 | 236 | 237 | 240 | 242 | 245 | 247 | 258 | 256 |
| K | 622 | 614 | 586 | 572 | 620 | 608 | 612 | 617 | 623 | 630 | 637 | 671 | 666 |
| 1 | 663 | 655 | 647 | 617 | 603 | 653 | 640 | 644 | 650 | 656 | 663 | 703 | 702 |
| 2 | 761 | 672 | 663 | 655 | 625 | 611 | 661 | 648 | 652 | 658 | 664 | 708 | 712 |
| 3 | 798 | 772 | 682 | 673 | 665 | 634 | 620 | 671 | 657 | 661 | 668 | 715 | 722 |
| 4 | 848 | 796 | 771 | 682 | 673 | 665 | 634 | 620 | 671 | 657 | 661 | 711 | 722 |
| 5 | 812 | 837 | 788 | 763 | 675 | 665 | 658 | 627 | 613 | 663 | 650 | 698 | 714 |
| 6 | 779 | 818 | 843 | 794 | 768 | 679 | 669 | 662 | 631 | 617 | 667 | 700 | 721 |
| 7 | 859 | 778 | 817 | 842 | 793 | 767 | 678 | 668 | 661 | 630 | 616 | 696 | 721 |
| 8 | 829 | 867 | 785 | 825 | 853 | 803 | 777 | 686 | 676 | 669 | 638 | 701 | 730 |
| 9 | 937 | 914 | 948 | 858 | 901 | 932 | 877 | 849 | 750 | 739 | 731 | 763 | 799 |
| 10 | 930 | 952 | 929 | 960 | 867 | 914 | 943 | 891 | 863 | 763 | 751 | 769 | 810 |
| 11 | 873 | 866 | 888 | 867 | 892 | 803 | 850 | 880 | 832 | 806 | 712 | 711 | 752 |
| 12 | 910 | 888 | 882 | 904 | 883 | 909 | 817 | 865 | 896 | 847 | 821 | 715 | 760 |
| TK–5 | 4,723 | 4,565 | 4,357 | 4,201 | 4,095 | 4,072 | 4,062 | 4,067 | 4,108 | 4,170 | 4,190 | 4,464 | 4,494 |
| 6–8 | 2,467 | 2,463 | 2,445 | 2,461 | 2,414 | 2,249 | 2,124 | 2,016 | 1,968 | 1,916 | 1,921 | 2,097 | 2,172 |
| <u>9–12</u> | <u>3,650</u> | <u>3,620</u> | <u>3,647</u> | <u>3,589</u> | <u>3,543</u> | <u>3,558</u> | <u>3,487</u> | <u>3,485</u> | <u>3,341</u> | <u>3,155</u> | <u>3,015</u> | <u>2,958</u> | <u>3,121</u> |
| TK–12 | 10,840 | 10,648 | 10,449 | 10,251 | 10,052 | 9,879 | 9,673 | 9,568 | 9,417 | 9,241 | 9,126 | 9,519 | 9,787 |

Notes

Students enrolled in full-time Running Start, Re-Engagement, preschool, Sped Birth to Two, ECE, and ECE Grads are excluded from analysis.

Darker shading represents higher values and lighter shading represents lower values.

Sources

Bellingham School District October 2025–26 headcount enrollment and FLO 2026–27 to 2055–56 enrollment forecasts (middle scenario).

Table A-8: Enrollment Forecasts by Individual Grade – High Scenario

| Grade | 2025–26 | 2026–27 | 2027–28 | 2028–29 | 2029–30 | 2030–31 | 2031–32 | 2032–33 | 2033–34 | 2034–35 | 2035–36 |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| TK | 219 | 233 | 234 | 254 | 252 | 256 | 258 | 262 | 266 | 269 | 271 |
| K | 622 | 633 | 611 | 600 | 650 | 645 | 655 | 662 | 672 | 681 | 690 |
| 1 | 663 | 661 | 673 | 649 | 638 | 691 | 685 | 696 | 703 | 714 | 723 |
| 2 | 761 | 678 | 676 | 688 | 664 | 652 | 706 | 700 | 711 | 719 | 730 |
| 3 | 798 | 780 | 694 | 692 | 705 | 680 | 668 | 723 | 717 | 728 | 737 |
| 4 | 848 | 804 | 787 | 700 | 698 | 711 | 686 | 674 | 729 | 723 | 734 |
| 5 | 812 | 846 | 804 | 787 | 700 | 697 | 710 | 685 | 673 | 728 | 722 |
| 6 | 779 | 826 | 860 | 818 | 800 | 711 | 708 | 722 | 696 | 684 | 740 |
| 7 | 859 | 785 | 833 | 867 | 825 | 807 | 717 | 714 | 728 | 702 | 690 |
| 8 | 829 | 875 | 799 | 849 | 887 | 843 | 825 | 733 | 730 | 744 | 717 |
| 9 | 937 | 922 | 965 | 881 | 935 | 978 | 929 | 909 | 808 | 805 | 820 |
| 10 | 930 | 961 | 945 | 986 | 899 | 957 | 998 | 953 | 932 | 829 | 825 |
| 11 | 873 | 871 | 901 | 886 | 921 | 837 | 894 | 935 | 893 | 874 | 777 |
| 12 | 910 | 892 | 891 | 921 | 906 | 942 | 855 | 913 | 956 | 913 | 894 |
| TK–5 | 4,723 | 4,635 | 4,479 | 4,370 | 4,307 | 4,332 | 4,368 | 4,402 | 4,471 | 4,562 | 4,607 |
| 6–8 | 2,467 | 2,486 | 2,492 | 2,534 | 2,512 | 2,361 | 2,250 | 2,169 | 2,154 | 2,130 | 2,147 |
| <u>9–12</u> | <u>3,650</u> | <u>3,646</u> | <u>3,702</u> | <u>3,674</u> | <u>3,661</u> | <u>3,714</u> | <u>3,676</u> | <u>3,710</u> | <u>3,589</u> | <u>3,421</u> | <u>3,316</u> |
| TK–12 | 10,840 | 10,767 | 10,673 | 10,578 | 10,480 | 10,407 | 10,294 | 10,281 | 10,214 | 10,113 | 10,070 |

Notes

Students enrolled in full-time Running Start, Re-Engagement, preschool, Sped Birth to Two, ECE, and ECE Grads are excluded from analysis.

Darker shading represents higher values and lighter shading represents lower values.

Sources

Bellingham School District October 2025–26 headcount enrollment and FLO 2026–27 to 2035–36 enrollment forecasts (high scenario).

Table A-9: Resident Forecasts by Attendance Area

| School Name | 2025-26 | 2026-27 | 2027-28 | 2028-29 | 2029-30 | 2030-31 | 2031-32 | 2032-33 | 2033-34 | 2034-35 | 2035-36 | 2025-26 to 2035-36 |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Alderwood ES | 258 | 253 | 236 | 222 | 226 | 223 | 226 | 226 | 229 | 232 | 232 | -26 |
| Birchwood ES | 334 | 308 | 298 | 290 | 284 | 274 | 278 | 280 | 284 | 289 | 291 | -43 |
| Carl Cozier ES | 316 | 311 | 298 | 297 | 282 | 279 | 278 | 276 | 277 | 282 | 282 | -34 |
| Columbia ES | 154 | 145 | 127 | 118 | 113 | 123 | 118 | 120 | 122 | 124 | 125 | -29 |
| Cordata ES | 372 | 376 | 369 | 364 | 363 | 378 | 379 | 388 | 393 | 402 | 403 | 31 |
| Geneva ES | 418 | 393 | 374 | 357 | 344 | 345 | 342 | 342 | 346 | 351 | 353 | -65 |
| Happy Valley ES | 432 | 417 | 387 | 360 | 350 | 350 | 345 | 346 | 352 | 357 | 358 | -74 |
| Lowell ES | 319 | 318 | 311 | 309 | 297 | 290 | 297 | 295 | 299 | 303 | 304 | -15 |
| Northern Heights ES | 382 | 354 | 333 | 319 | 316 | 303 | 315 | 316 | 318 | 320 | 324 | -58 |
| Parkview ES | 391 | 378 | 358 | 351 | 359 | 349 | 349 | 348 | 351 | 358 | 359 | -32 |
| Roosevelt ES | 342 | 333 | 327 | 318 | 308 | 305 | 299 | 298 | 300 | 305 | 304 | -38 |
| Silver Beach ES | 262 | 248 | 243 | 242 | 226 | 227 | 227 | 224 | 226 | 233 | 235 | -27 |
| Sunnyland ES | 281 | 286 | 273 | 250 | 239 | 235 | 230 | 229 | 230 | 231 | 235 | -46 |
| Wade King ES | 280 | 264 | 250 | 236 | 224 | 229 | 217 | 217 | 219 | 221 | 223 | -57 |
| TK-5 Total | 4,541 | 4,384 | 4,184 | 4,033 | 3,931 | 3,910 | 3,900 | 3,905 | 3,946 | 4,008 | 4,028 | -513 |
| Fairhaven MS | 562 | 553 | 580 | 581 | 590 | 543 | 522 | 485 | 485 | 473 | 472 | -90 |
| Kulshan MS | 591 | 621 | 594 | 571 | 539 | 514 | 488 | 465 | 451 | 437 | 436 | -155 |
| Shuksan MS | 608 | 613 | 618 | 636 | 603 | 562 | 508 | 486 | 463 | 455 | 464 | -144 |
| Whatcom MS | 591 | 564 | 552 | 576 | 576 | 532 | 514 | 494 | 485 | 467 | 465 | -126 |
| 6-8 Total | 2,352 | 2,351 | 2,344 | 2,364 | 2,308 | 2,151 | 2,032 | 1,930 | 1,884 | 1,832 | 1,837 | -515 |
| Bellingham HS | 1,123 | 1,124 | 1,134 | 1,089 | 1,079 | 1,055 | 1,014 | 1,007 | 923 | 864 | 816 | -307 |
| Sehome HS | 1,092 | 1,035 | 1,006 | 1,014 | 974 | 1,000 | 992 | 990 | 947 | 890 | 859 | -233 |
| Squalicum HS | 1,238 | 1,255 | 1,277 | 1,253 | 1,277 | 1,294 | 1,286 | 1,286 | 1,259 | 1,198 | 1,147 | -91 |
| 9-12 Total | 3,453 | 3,414 | 3,417 | 3,356 | 3,330 | 3,349 | 3,292 | 3,283 | 3,129 | 2,952 | 2,822 | -631 |
| K-12 Total | 10,346 | 10,149 | 9,945 | 9,753 | 9,569 | 9,410 | 9,224 | 9,118 | 8,959 | 8,792 | 8,687 | -1,659 |

Notes

Students enrolled in full-time Running Start, Re-Engagement, preschool, Sped Birth to Two, ECE, and ECE Grads are excluded from analysis.

Sources

Bellingham School District October 2025-26 student residents and FLO October 2026-27 to 2035-36 resident forecasts (consistent with the district-wide middle scenario) based on 2025-26 attendance areas.

Table A-10: Enrollment Forecasts by School (page 1 of 2)

| School Name | 2025-26 | 2026-27 | 2027-28 | 2028-29 | 2029-30 | 2030-31 | 2031-32 | 2032-33 | 2033-34 | 2034-35 | 2035-36 | 2025-26 to 2035-36 |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Alderwood ES | 270 | 268 | 252 | 242 | 241 | 234 | 243 | 246 | 242 | 251 | 253 | -17 |
| Birchwood ES | 330 | 302 | 293 | 288 | 279 | 273 | 277 | 279 | 284 | 288 | 291 | -39 |
| Carl Cozier ES | 301 | 298 | 283 | 277 | 260 | 256 | 254 | 252 | 253 | 257 | 257 | -44 |
| Columbia ES | 178 | 167 | 146 | 136 | 129 | 139 | 135 | 135 | 138 | 141 | 141 | -37 |
| Cordata ES | 349 | 350 | 334 | 333 | 330 | 341 | 343 | 351 | 357 | 363 | 366 | 17 |
| Geneva ES | 392 | 367 | 350 | 338 | 328 | 329 | 326 | 328 | 331 | 336 | 337 | -55 |
| Happy Valley ES | 437 | 425 | 403 | 369 | 357 | 359 | 350 | 351 | 356 | 362 | 363 | -74 |
| Lowell ES | 315 | 313 | 301 | 299 | 292 | 284 | 290 | 289 | 294 | 297 | 299 | -16 |
| Northern Heights ES | 379 | 351 | 331 | 312 | 309 | 297 | 306 | 307 | 311 | 315 | 316 | -63 |
| Parkview ES | 401 | 395 | 372 | 365 | 366 | 357 | 359 | 357 | 360 | 366 | 367 | -34 |
| Roosevelt ES | 346 | 337 | 326 | 315 | 309 | 300 | 296 | 294 | 298 | 301 | 303 | -43 |
| Silver Beach ES | 295 | 276 | 268 | 266 | 255 | 253 | 251 | 250 | 252 | 256 | 257 | -38 |
| Sunnyland ES | 281 | 286 | 275 | 256 | 248 | 246 | 241 | 239 | 241 | 245 | 246 | -35 |
| Wade King ES | 285 | 265 | 254 | 235 | 220 | 230 | 219 | 219 | 223 | 224 | 226 | -59 |
| Bellingham Family Partner | 164 | 165 | 169 | 170 | 172 | 174 | 172 | 170 | 168 | 168 | 168 | 4 |
| TK-5 Total | 4,723 | 4,565 | 4,357 | 4,201 | 4,095 | 4,072 | 4,062 | 4,067 | 4,108 | 4,170 | 4,190 | -533 |
| Fairhaven MS | 575 | 582 | 602 | 613 | 613 | 565 | 523 | 487 | 478 | 465 | 466 | -109 |
| Kulshan MS | 582 | 601 | 579 | 554 | 531 | 495 | 480 | 452 | 443 | 428 | 428 | -154 |
| Shuksan MS | 600 | 601 | 610 | 616 | 595 | 542 | 499 | 473 | 457 | 448 | 455 | -145 |
| Whatcom MS | 603 | 573 | 561 | 587 | 585 | 557 | 530 | 509 | 491 | 478 | 477 | -126 |
| Bellingham Family Partner | 106 | 106 | 93 | 91 | 90 | 90 | 92 | 95 | 99 | 97 | 95 | -11 |
| Visions MS | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -1 |
| 6-8 Total | 2,467 | 2,463 | 2,445 | 2,461 | 2,414 | 2,249 | 2,124 | 2,016 | 1,968 | 1,916 | 1,921 | -546 |

Table A-10: Enrollment Forecasts by School (page 2 of 2)

| School Name | 2025-26 | 2026-27 | 2027-28 | 2028-29 | 2029-30 | 2030-31 | 2031-32 | 2032-33 | 2033-34 | 2034-35 | 2035-36 | 2025-26 to 2035-36 |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Bellingham HS | 1,158 | 1,127 | 1,114 | 1,073 | 1,044 | 1,044 | 1,009 | 1,008 | 962 | 909 | 873 | -285 |
| Sehome HS | 1,085 | 1,052 | 1,039 | 1,045 | 1,014 | 1,028 | 1,028 | 1,028 | 981 | 927 | 880 | -205 |
| Squalicum HS | 1,208 | 1,251 | 1,304 | 1,281 | 1,295 | 1,296 | 1,260 | 1,259 | 1,208 | 1,129 | 1,072 | -136 |
| Bellingham Family Partner | 7 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | -4 |
| Options HS | 172 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | -3 |
| Bellingham Virtual Learning | 11 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | -4 |
| Visions HS | 9 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 2 |
| 9-12 Total | 3,650 | 3,620 | 3,647 | 3,589 | 3,543 | 3,558 | 3,487 | 3,485 | 3,341 | 3,155 | 3,015 | -635 |
| K-12 Total | 10,840 | 10,648 | 10,449 | 10,251 | 10,052 | 9,879 | 9,673 | 9,568 | 9,417 | 9,241 | 9,126 | -1,714 |

Notes

Students enrolled in full-time Running Start, Re-Engagement, preschool, Sped Birth to Two, ECE, and ECE Grads are excluded from analysis.

Sources

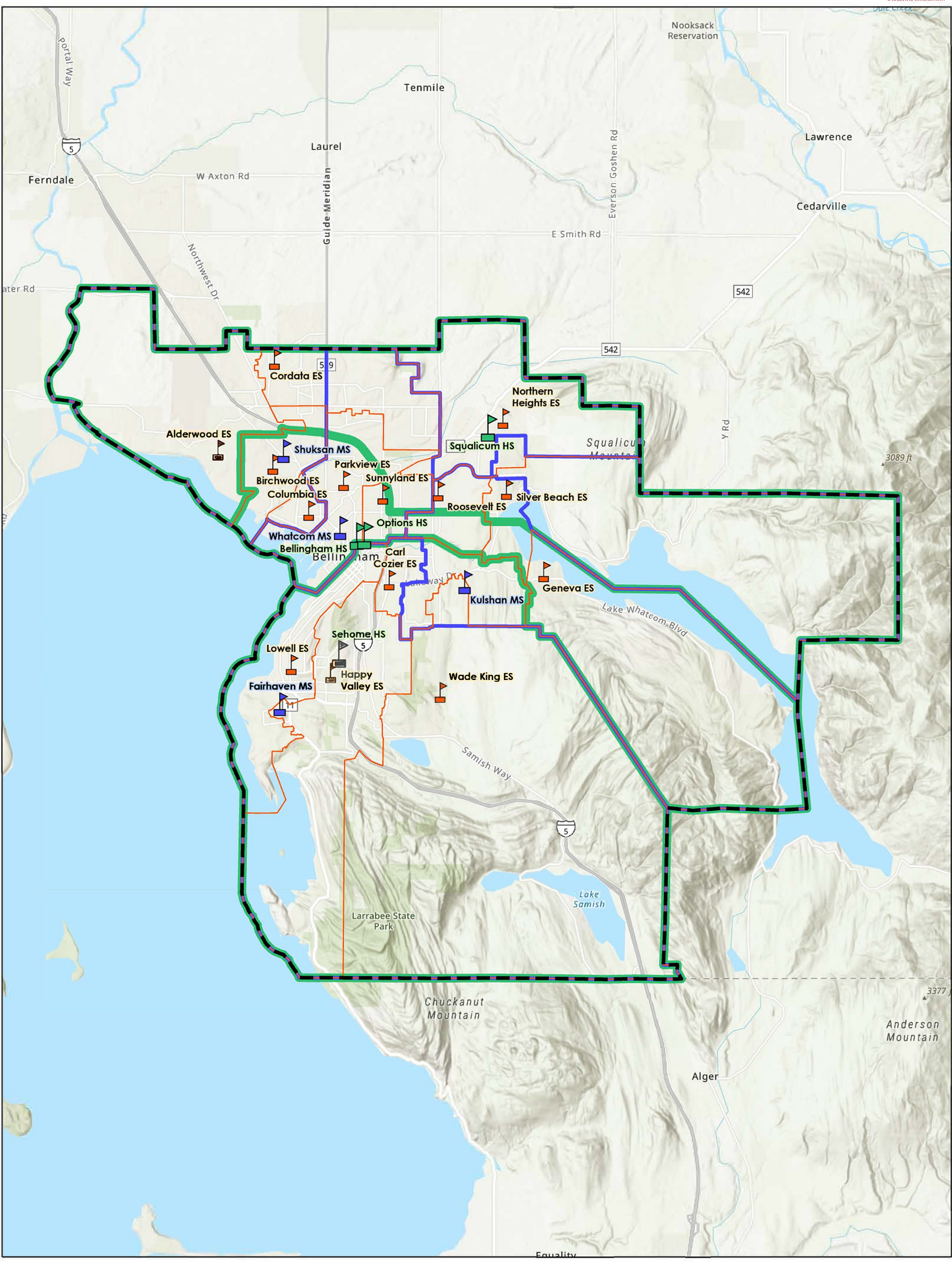
Bellingham School District October 2025-26 headcount enrollment and FLO October 2026-27 to 2035-36 enrollment forecasts (consistent with district-wide middle scenario).


Appendix B








Maps




Map 1: District Overview

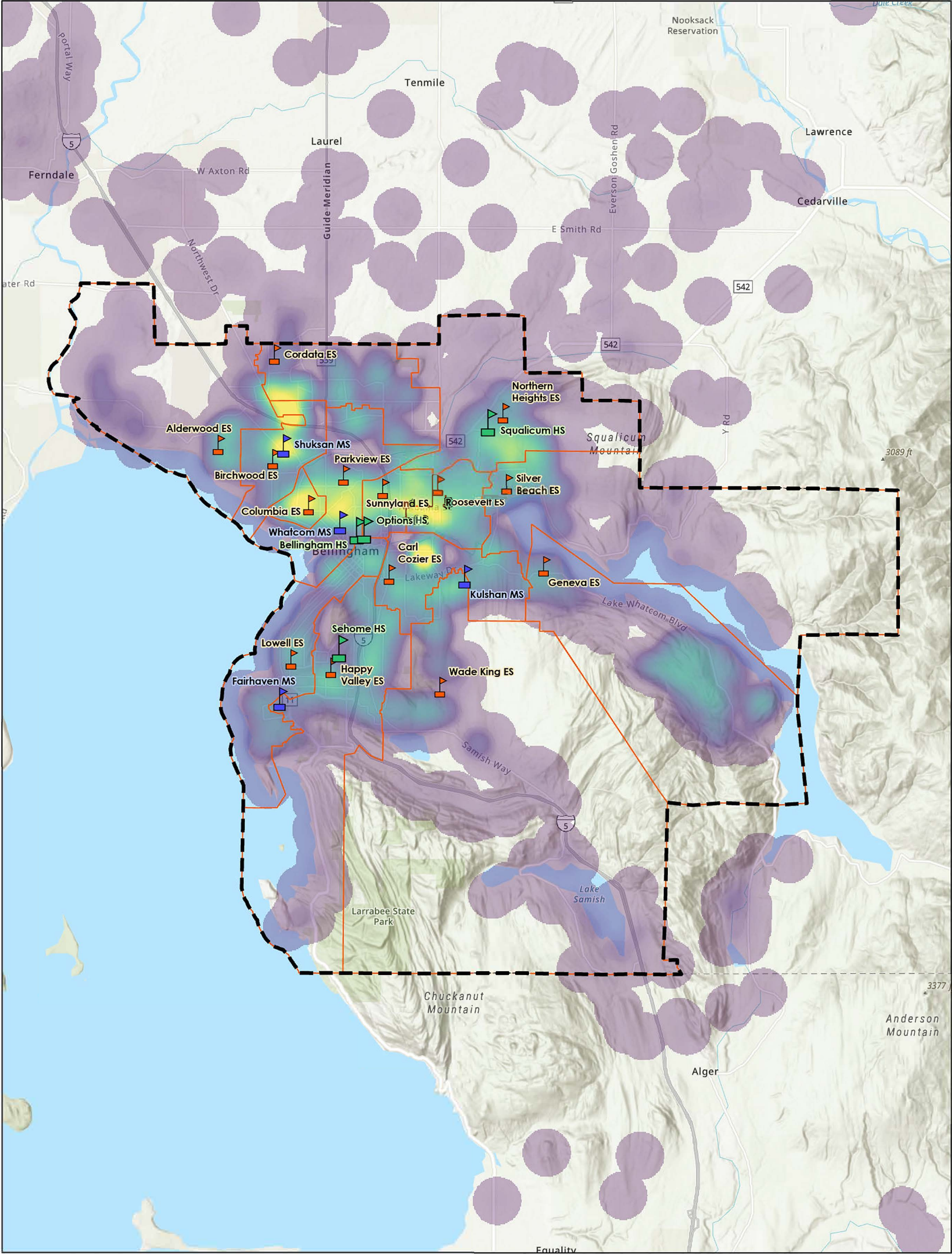




| | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
|  | Elementary School |  | District Boundary |  | Elementary School Attendance Area |
|  | Middle School |  | Middle School Attendance Area |  | High School Attendance Area |
|  | High School | | | | |



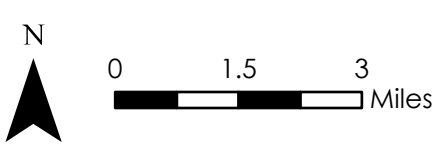
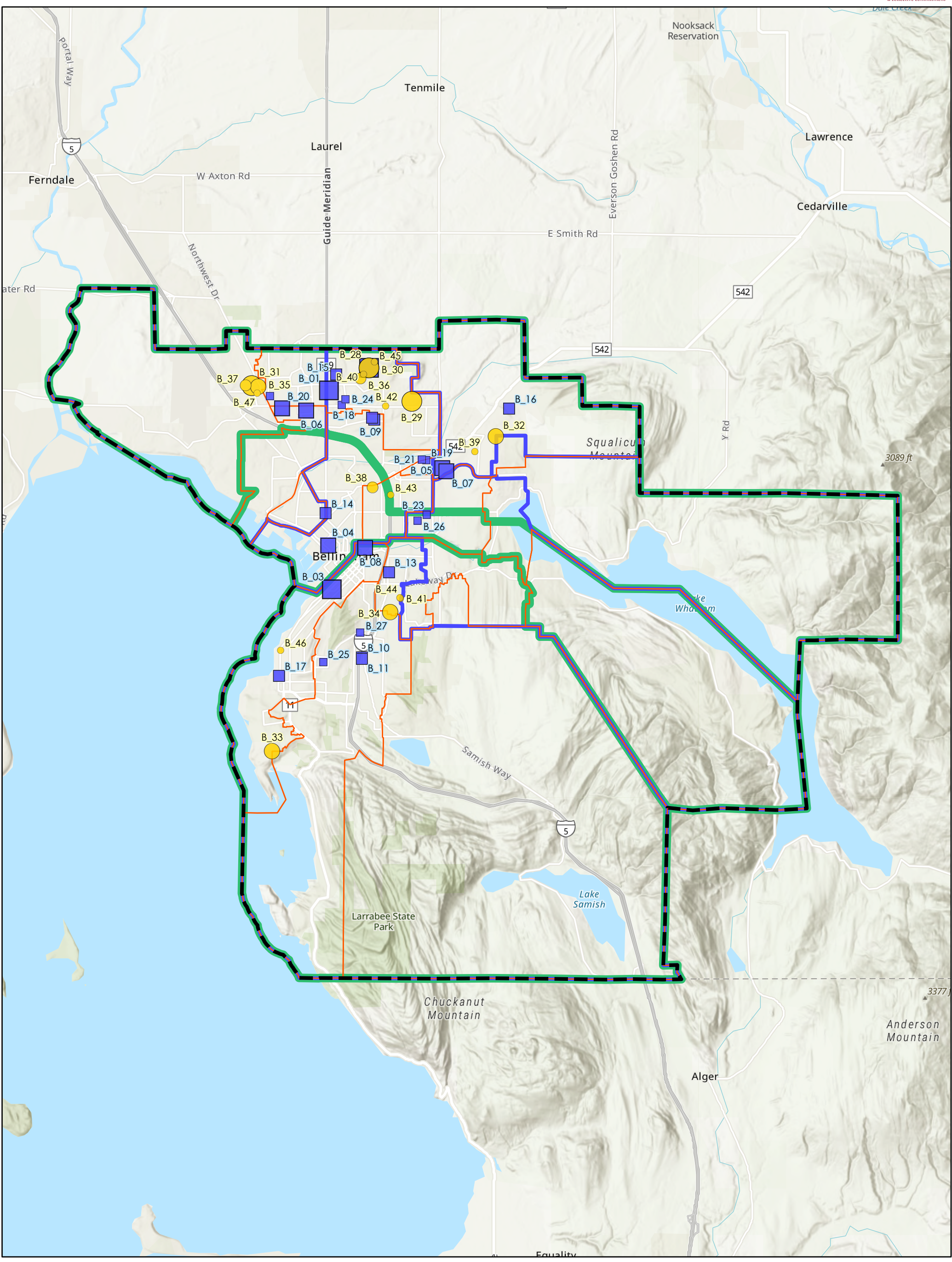
Map 2: Student Density



-  Elementary School
-  Middle School
-  High School
-  District Boundary
-  Elementary School Attendance Area
-  Middle School Attendance Area
-  High School Attendance Area
- Student Density**
-  Sparse
Dense



Map 3: Residential Development



| Legend Item | Single-family Units | Multifamily Units |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| District Boundary | 4 - 10 | 2 - 25 |
| Elementary School Attendance Area | 11 - 25 | 26 - 50 |
| Middle School Attendance Area | 26 - 50 | 51 - 100 |
| High School Attendance Area | 51 - 110 | 101 - 353 |

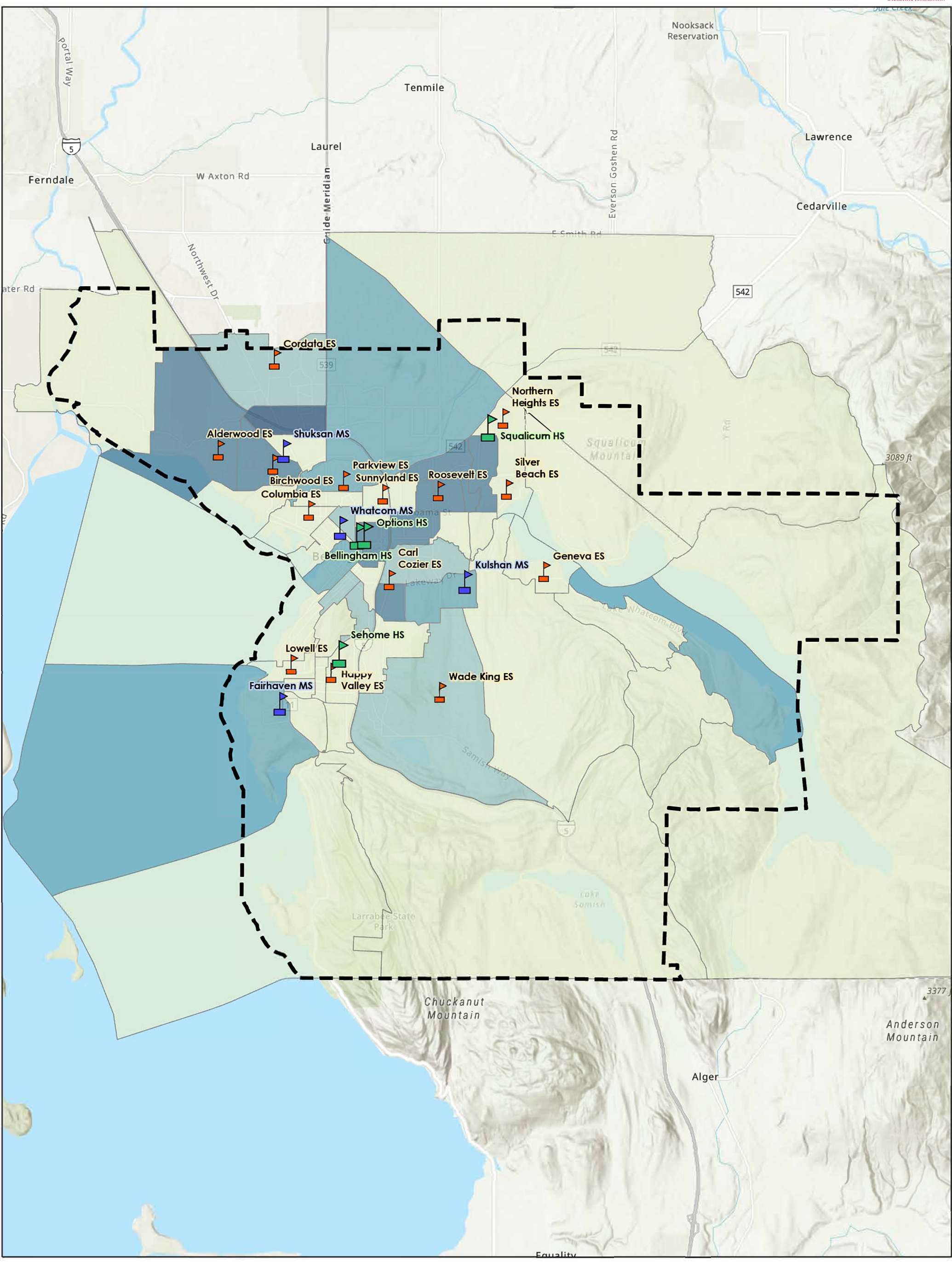
LabelCorrespond to Map IDs on Table A-1.


Appendix C

Supplemental Maps (not referenced in report)






English Proficiency, 2013











School Locations

-  Elementary School
-  Middle School
-  High School

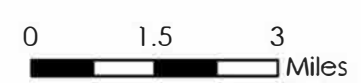
Percent Limited English Proficiency by Block Group

-  0
-  0.1 - 2.0
-  2.1 - 4.0
-  4.1 - 10.0
-  10.1 - 24.4

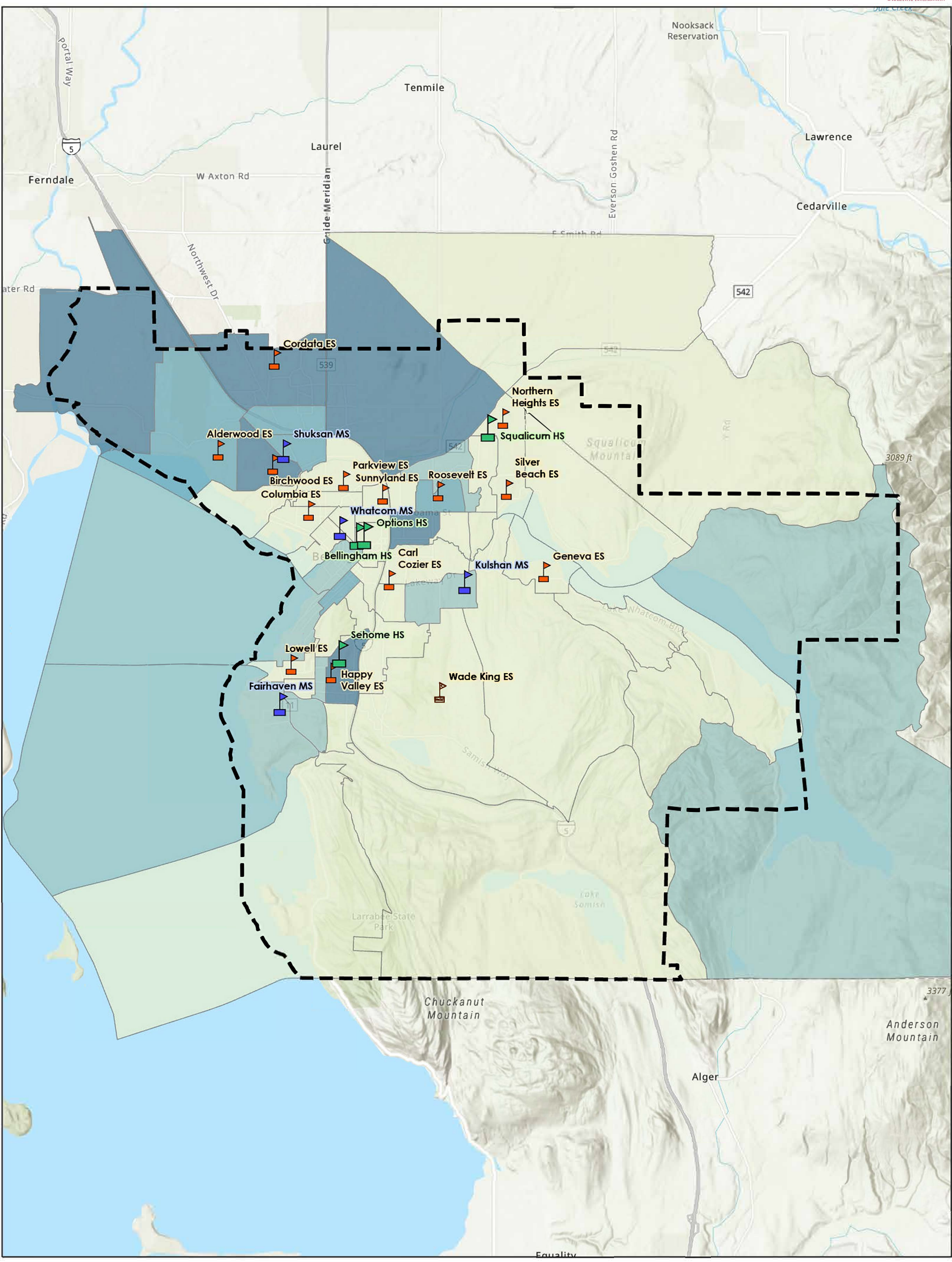
District Boundary




N






English Proficiency, 2018











School Locations

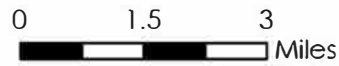
-  Elementary School
-  Middle School
-  High School

Percent Limited English Proficiency by Block Group

-  0
-  0.1 - 2.0
-  2.1 - 4.0
-  4.1 - 10.0
-  10.1 - 24.4

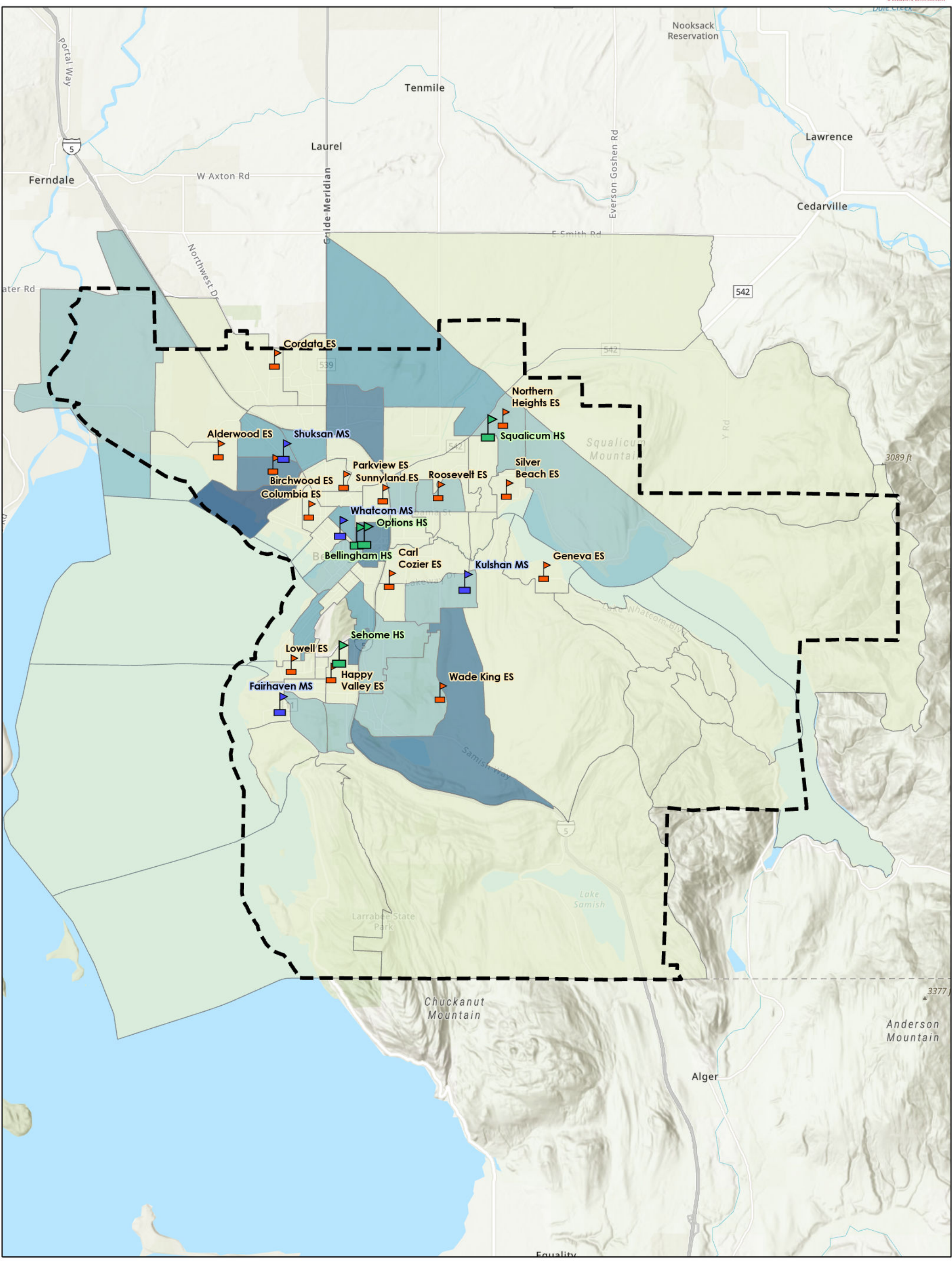
 District Boundary

N



0 1.5 3 Miles

English Proficiency, 2023



FLO
Analytics

School Locations

- ▲ Elementary School
- ▲ Middle School
- ▲ High School

Percent Limited English Proficiency by Block Group

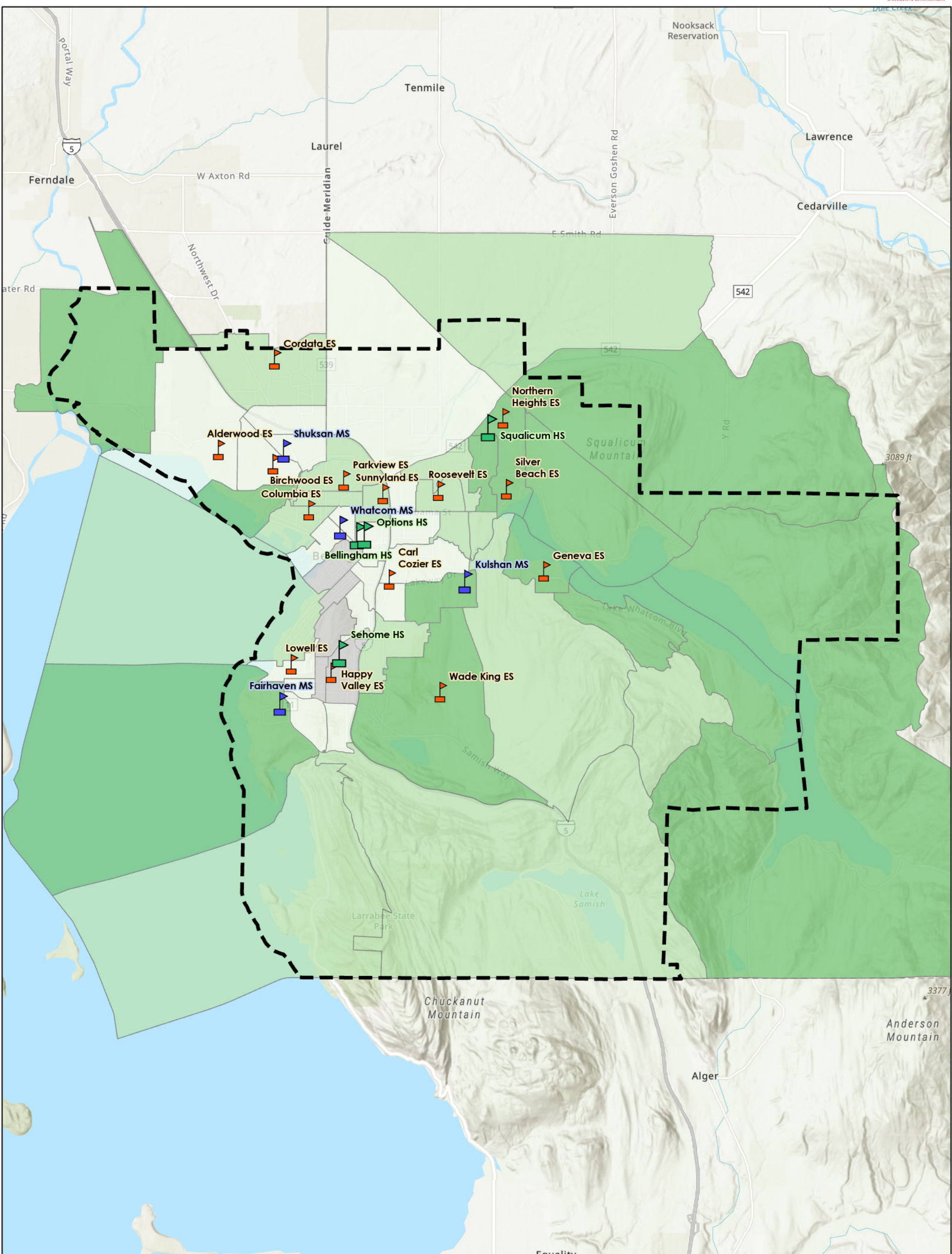
- 0
- 0.1 - 2.0
- 2.1 - 4.0
- 4.1 - 10.0
- 10.1 - 24.4

District Boundary

N

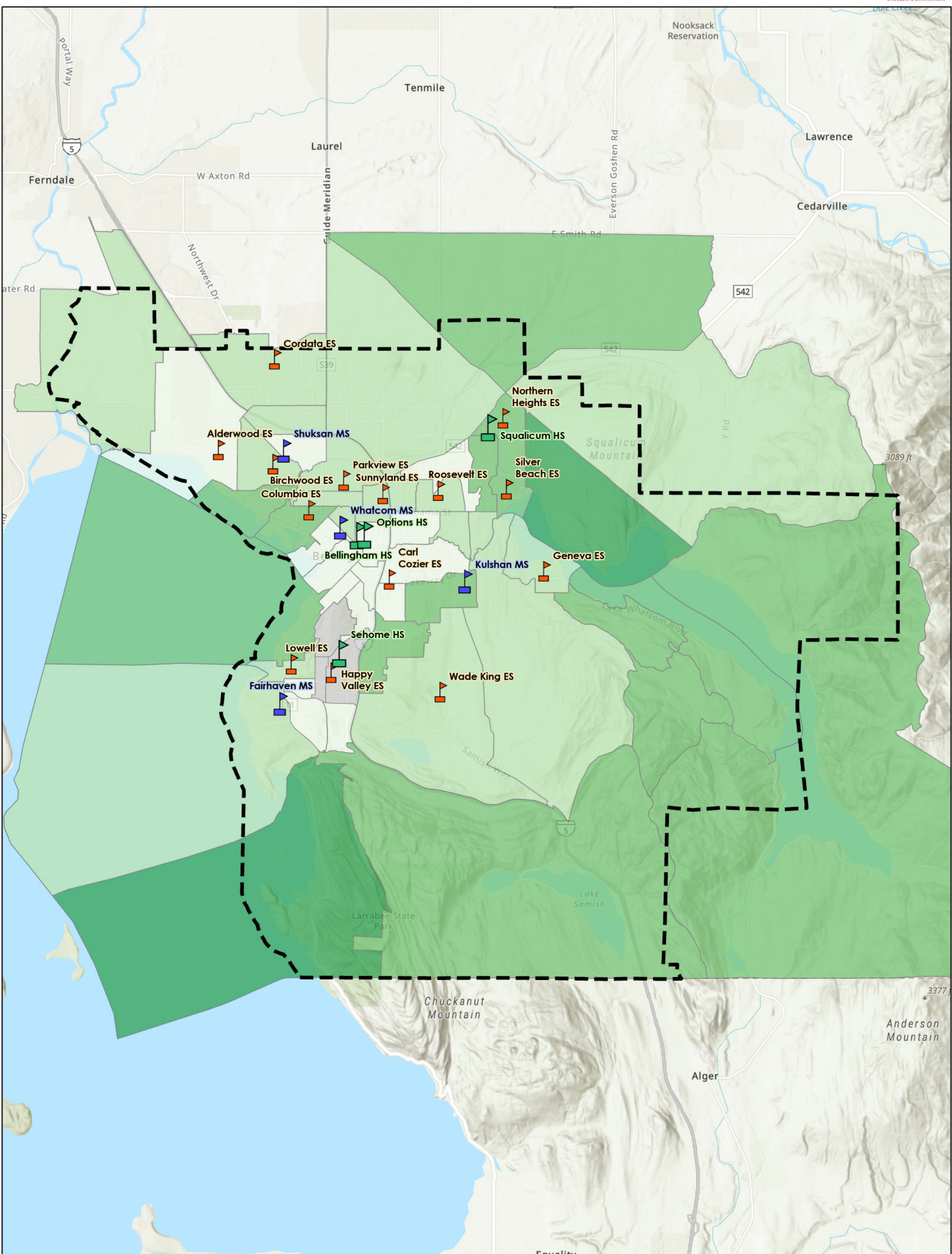
0 1.5 3 Miles

Median Household Income, 2013



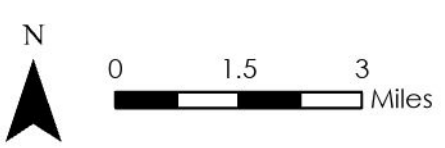
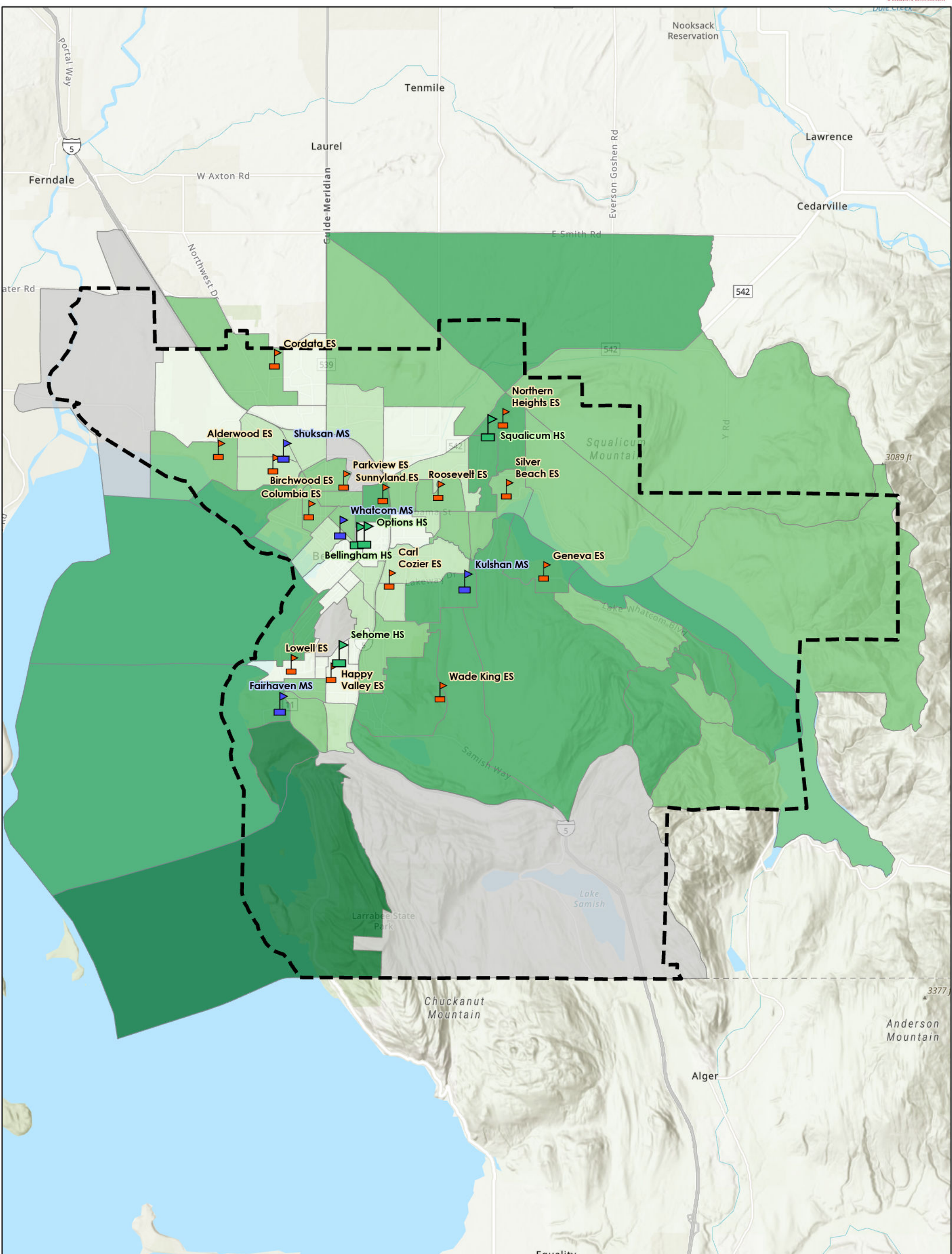
| | | |
|---|---|---------------------------|
| <p>School Locations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elementary School Middle School High School | <p>Median Household Income by Block Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ≤ \$45,000 \$45,001 - \$70,000 \$70,001 - \$105,000 \$105,001 - \$145,000 \$145,001 - \$187,569 No Data | <p> District Boundary</p> |
|---|---|---------------------------|

Median Household Income, 2018



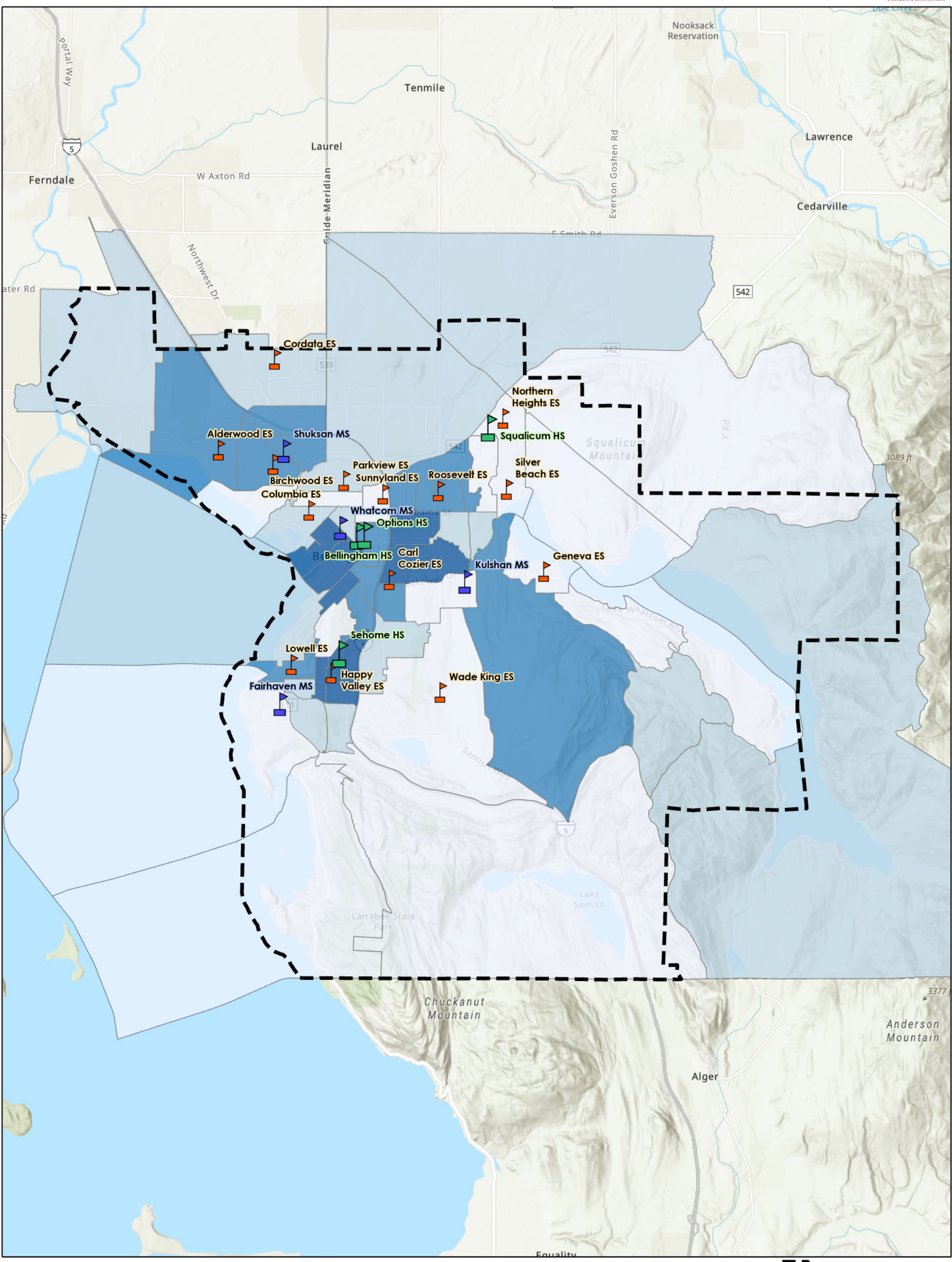
| | | |
|---|---|---------------------------|
| <p>School Locations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elementary School Middle School High School | <p>Median Household Income by Block Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ≤ \$45,000 \$45,001 - \$70,000 \$70,001 - \$105,000 \$105,001 - \$145,000 \$145,001 - \$187,569 No Data | <p> District Boundary</p> |
|---|---|---------------------------|

Median Household Income, 2023



| | | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|--|-----------------------|-------------------|
| School Locations | | Median Household Income by Block Group | | District Boundary |
| | Elementary School | | ≤ \$45,000 | |
| | Middle School | | \$45,001 - \$70,000 | |
| | High School | | \$70,001 - \$105,000 | |
| | | | \$105,001 - \$145,000 | |
| | | | \$145,001 - \$187,569 | |
| | | | No Data | |

Poverty, 2013



N

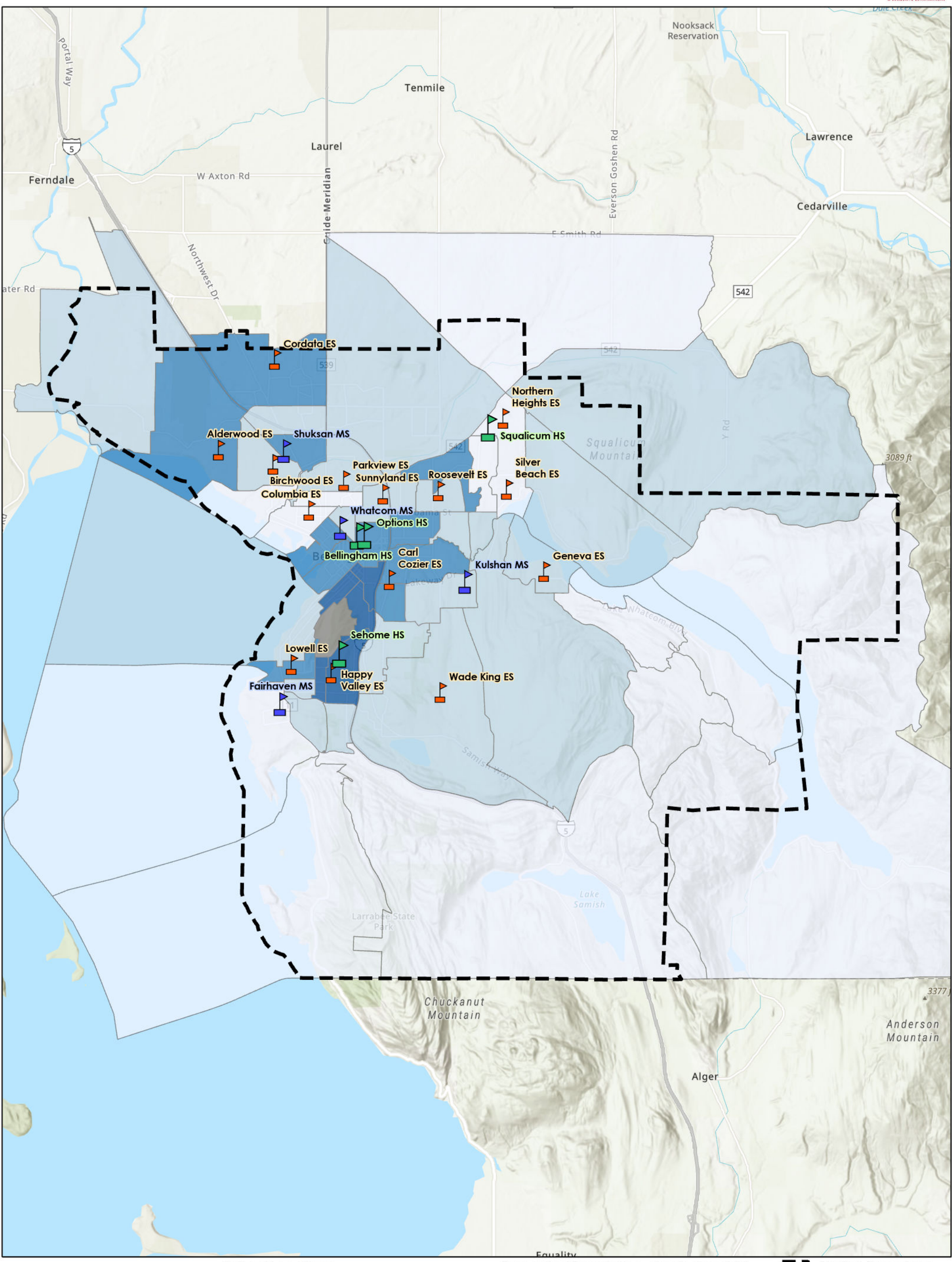
0 1.5 3 Miles

- School Locations
- Elementary School
 - Middle School
 - High School

- Percent of Population at or below 150 Percent of Poverty Line by Block Group
- 0 - 15.0
 - 15.1 - 32.0
 - 32.1 - 52.0
 - 52.1 - 79.8

District Boundary

Poverty, 2018



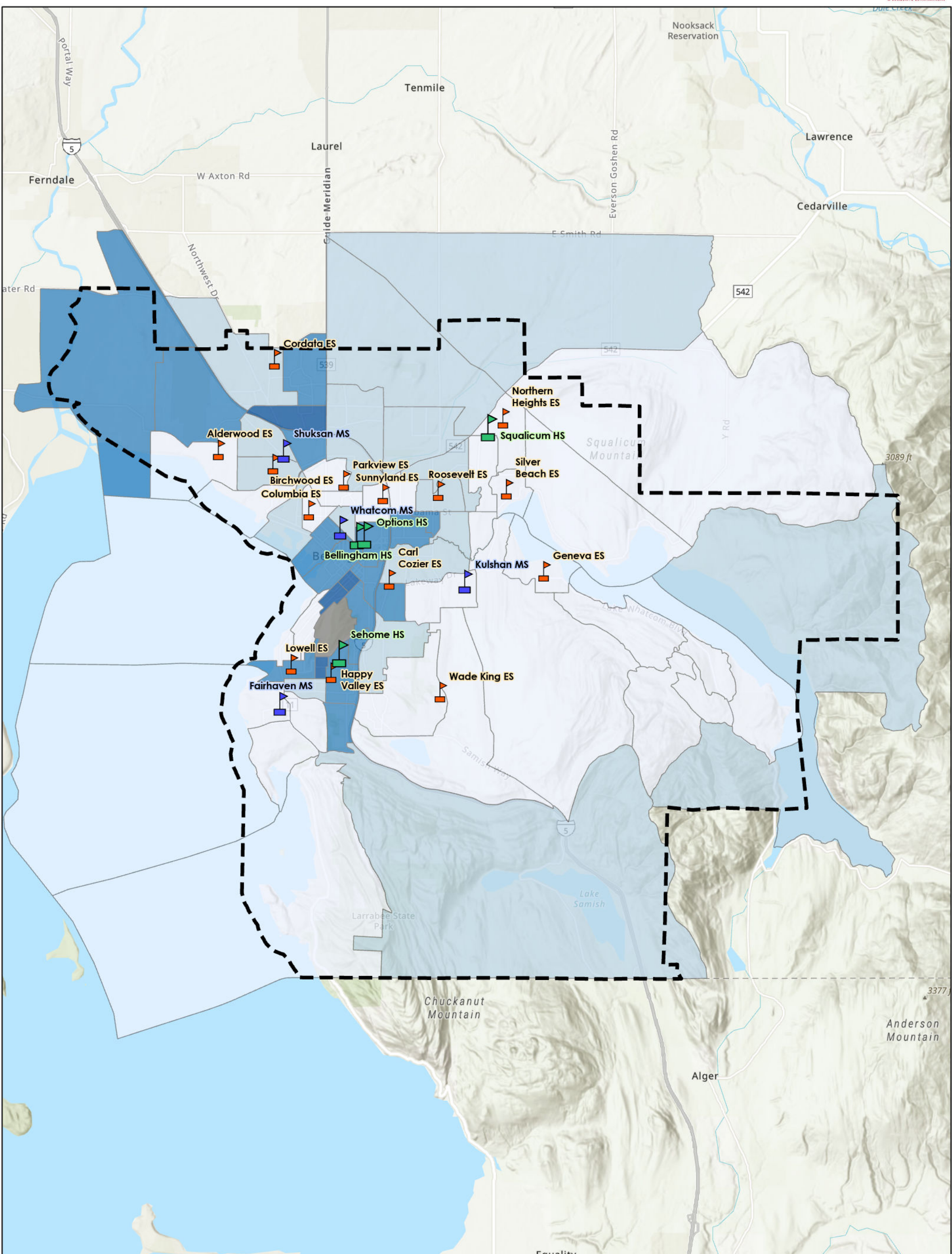
- School Locations**
- Elementary School
 - Middle School
 - High School

- Percent of Population at or below 150 Percent of Poverty Line by Block Group**
- 0 - 15.0
 - 15.1 - 32.0
 - 32.1 - 52.0
 - 52.1 - 79.8
 - No Data

District Boundary



Poverty, 2023



- School Locations**
- Elementary School
 - Middle School
 - High School

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- 0 - 15.0
 - 15.1 - 32.0
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