TACOMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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Planning & Construction
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STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

Determination of Non-Significance

Description of Proposal: **IDEA High School Replacement**

The Tacoma School District proposes to construct a new IDEA High School, located on the old Gault Middle School site at 1115 E Division LN, Tacoma, WA 98404. The project is funded by the Capital Projects Bond approved by voters in February 2024.

The new Industrial Design, Engineering and Arts School (IDEA) will transform the former Gault Middle School site into a state-of-the-art, approximately 37,000-square-foot building serving approximately 400 students. Designed around project-based learning and industry partnerships, the school will foster creativity, innovation, and hands-on learning in a flexible, approved capital bond. The project represents a long-term investment in educational excellence, community revitalization, and Tacoma's future.

Location of proposal: **IDEA High School, 1115 E Division LN, Tacoma, Washington 98404**

Proponent/Applicant: **Tacoma Public Schools**

Contact Person: **Morris Aldridge, Executive Director**
Department of Planning and Construction
3223 S. Union Ave., Tacoma, WA 98409
Phone: (253) 571-3350

Action(s) Requested:

Tacoma Public Schools, under Tacoma School District Policy 6890 and the State Environmental Policy Act, determine that the project has no significant effect on the environment and issue a threshold Determination of Non-significance (DNS).

Lead Agency: Tacoma School District No. 10

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under WAC 43.21C030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available at:
https://www.tacomaschools.org/departments/pc/school-construction

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2) for agency consideration. The lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days. Comments must be submitted before 4:00pm on October 2, 2026.

Responsible Official: Morris Aldridge
Position/Title: Executive Director of Planning and Construction
Department/Division: Tacoma School District No. 10

Signature: _____ **Date:** 9/16/2026

Appeal Process: If you wish to appeal this determination, please submit a written statement requesting an appeal, specifying (a) the determination being appealed; (b) the errors complained of; (c) the corrective action being sought (d) the reasons why the determination should be changed; and (e) whether further oral or written comment or a hearing is requested to planning@tacoma.k12.wa.us.