

LIBERTY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

4871 Liberty Road S, Salem, OR 97306

INFORMATION ¹	DETAILS
2026 - 2027 ENROLLMENT	359 STUDENTS
BUILDING CAPACITY	588 STUDENTS
SITE ACREAGE	6.02 ACRES
ENROLLMENT TREND	DECLINING
YEAR OF ORIGINAL CONSTRUCTION	1908



Liberty
Elementary
Grades K-5

WHY IS SALEM-KEIZER RECOMMENDING SCHOOL CLOSURES, AND WHAT COULD THIS MEAN FOR MY STUDENT?

Salem-Keizer is serving fewer students than it did several years ago and has more school buildings than it needs for current and projected enrollment. Enrollment has dropped by more than 5,000 students since 2019 and is expected to continue to drop by nearly another 5,000 students in the coming years. We are recommending the closure of six elementary schools to balance enrollment across the district and to align schools, staff, programs, facilities and resources with the students it serves. The goal is to create a more sustainable school system while supporting strong learning environments for students and making responsible long-term decisions about district resources and facilities.

Students at a closing school will attend a new school starting in the 2027-28 school year. The school assignments listed here are proposed. Final school assignments will be determined through the boundary process and confirmed in February 2027.

No final decision has been made. The School Board will consider community feedback before making final decisions on school closures and consolidations.

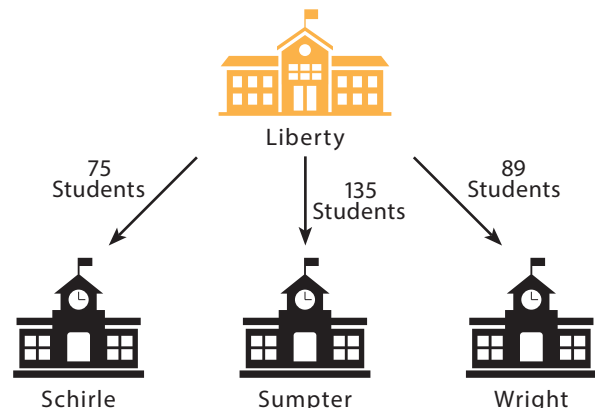
What is being recommended?

Liberty is one of six elementary schools recommended for closure at the end of the 2026-27 school year. Elementary enrollment is low in the Sprague High School feeder, which creates programmatic and staffing challenges. Liberty's building and campus present significant limitations relative to access, transportation, safety, and security. The District has a responsibility to invest thoughtfully in buildings that will continue to serve students long-term.

What does this mean for my family?

Under the current proposal, students attending Liberty would transition to Schirle, Sumpter, or Wright. All students within the new Wright boundary would attend Judson. High school boundaries are not affected by this change. Final school assignments will be determined through the boundary process and are expected to be confirmed in February 2027.

¹ Enrollment and capacity figures reflect the most current data available and may differ from figures included in the 2025-26 Long-Range Facilities Plan. Enrollment changes over time, and capacity figures may be updated as facility use, programs and other factors change.



When will this change happen?

All changes will happen at the beginning of the 2027-28 school year.

What can I expect from my newly assigned school?

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES	LIBERTY	SCHIRLE	SUMPTER	WRIGHT
CHILDCARE*	●	●	●	●
PRE-K	●			●
DESIGNATED SPECIAL ED PROGRAM	●	●	●	●

*Childcare is available with sufficient parent interest.



SALEM-KEIZER
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

What about my child's teacher and friends?

Your child and their friends will be assigned to another nearby school. Teachers will go through a reassignment process and will also move to other schools. We know changing schools can feel uncertain, and we are committed to supporting students, families and staff throughout the transition.

How will the district support the transition?

Families will receive clear information about their new school, transportation, programs and services, and opportunities to connect with the new school community before the transition.

How were schools chosen for closure?

The District looked at how many students attend each school, the condition of the building, its location, student transportation needs, operating costs, and how well it serves students. The District also considered how closing a school could affect students, families, staff, and neighborhoods. Community input will be considered before final decisions are made.

Why was Liberty chosen?

- Liberty has low enrollment that is continuing to decline, which creates programmatic and staffing challenges. Liberty is located in close proximity to other under-enrolled elementary schools, presenting an opportunity to consolidate resources, improve operational efficiencies, and invest more strategically in educational programs and student supports across fewer sites.
- Liberty's building presents challenges in supporting current and future student educational needs. Disconnected buildings on the campus create access, inclusion, and safety challenges. Fifth grade classrooms are in a detached building with no restroom facilities, cut off from the rest of the school. Students must cross in front of the school daily to reach the detached gym and music building with no visibility from the main office.

- Multiple areas are not wheelchair accessible, including part of the cafeteria and the library. The cafeteria's serving line requires the use of steep ramps.
- Most classrooms lack cooling, leading to uncomfortable thermal conditions on warm days.
- There are major building systems in need of replacement, such as heating, water heaters, water pump, exterior siding, exterior doors, and single-pane windows. In addition, sidewalks require repaving and improvements are needed to the covered play structure.
- There are transportation challenges associated with the site including loading zone hazards and other transportation limitations.

What are the next steps and how can I get involved?

You have many different ways to learn more and to engage in this process.

Use the QR code or webpage link for information on how to get involved and have your voice heard:

- Attend an upcoming Listening and Learning Session - October 14 - 17th.
- Provide feedback or ask a question.
- Sign up to speak at the School Board meeting on October 13th or 20th.
- Learn more about the closure / consolidation process.



<https://salkeiz.k12.or.us/schools/closure-consolidation>

