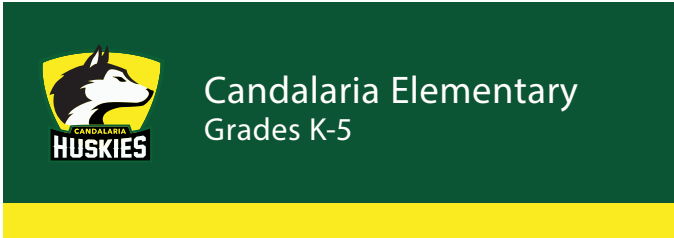


CANDALARIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

935 Hansen Avenue S, Salem, OR 97302

INFORMATION ¹	DETAILS
2026 - 2027 ENROLLMENT	225 STUDENTS
BUILDING CAPACITY	394 STUDENTS
SITE ACREAGE	4.66 ACRES
ENROLLMENT TREND	DECLINING
YEAR OF ORIGINAL CONSTRUCTION	1955



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

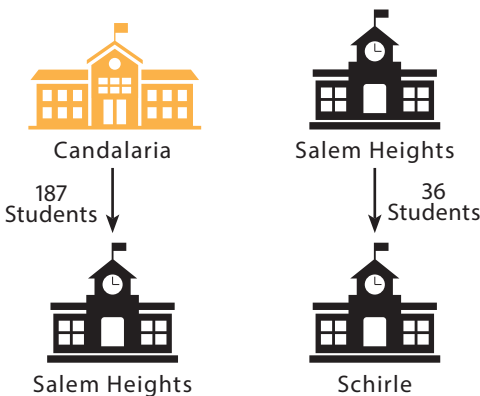
Salem-Keizer is serving fewer students than it did several years ago and has more school buildings than it needs for current and projected enrollment. Enrollment has dropped by more than 5,000 students since 2019 and is expected to continue to drop by nearly another 5,000 students in the coming years. 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?

Candalaria is one of six elementary schools recommended for closure at the end of the 2026-27 school year. Elementary enrollment is low in the South Salem High School feeder, which creates programmatic and staffing challenges. Candalaria Elementary School's building and campus have significant limitations relative to educational adequacy, 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 Candalaria would attend Salem Heights. The boundary adjustments would also redistribute some Salem Heights students to Schirle. Current Candalaria students will remain assigned to Leslie and South. 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	CANDALARIA	SALEM HEIGHTS
CHILDCARE*	●	●
DESIGNATED SPECIAL ED PROGRAM		●

*Childcare is available with sufficient parent interest.

What about my child's teacher and friends?

Your child and their friends are expected to be assigned to Salem Heights. Teachers will go through a reassignment process and will 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 Candalaria chosen?

- Candalaria has very low enrollment that is continuing to decline, which creates programmatic and staffing challenges. Candalaria 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.
- The design and layout of Candalaria's building present significant challenges in meeting current and future student educational needs.
- Candalaria's multilevel building with no elevator and a significantly sloped site presents an inaccessible environment for students, parents, staff, and visitors with physical disabilities.

The building design does not accommodate the creation of a secure entry vestibule, which presents a safety vulnerability and complicates access control.

- Most classrooms lack cooling, leading to uncomfortable thermal conditions on warm days.
- There are major building systems in need of replacement, such as heating, fire alarm, water heaters, select exterior metal doors, and lighting. Service lift repairs are needed. Exterior siding is chipped and peeling and requires painting. In addition, playground surfacing improvements are needed.
- There are transportation challenges associated with the site including difficulty separating buses from parent traffic, 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>

