

SCHOOL CLOSURE RECOMMENDATION TECHNICAL GUIDE: CUMMINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

613 Cummings Lane, Keizer, OR 97303

INFORMATION ¹	DETAILS
2026 - 2027 ENROLLMENT	340 STUDENTS
BUILDING CAPACITY	494 STUDENTS
SITE ACREAGE	8.54 ACRES
ENROLLMENT TREND	DECLINING
YEAR OF ORIGINAL CONSTRUCTION	1953



Why is Cummings being recommended for closure?

Within the McNary feeder, elementary enrollment is low enough that the district should close at least one elementary school. Cummings is the oldest elementary school building in the feeder and has inherent educational adequacy challenges, compounded by transportation limitations and equity considerations.

Capital Investment Needs

The cost of replacing all assets and/or systems nearing the end of their useful life at this school (with escalation) is approximately \$1.5 M within the next five (5) years.

Cost estimates reflect like-for-like replacement of existing systems only. They exclude necessary educational adequacy improvements, seismic upgrades, most ADA improvements, interior finishes, and the addition of new systems to bring the building to modern standards.

Upcoming capital needs include:

- Many HVAC units are past their expected service life and due for replacement.
- The fire alarm system is due for replacement.
- Water heater replacements will soon be necessary.
- Roofing replacement will soon be required.
- Old fluorescent lighting remains throughout and requires replacement with LED fixtures.
- Sidewalks around the school require repaving.
- The covered play area is rusting and requires a structural assessment.

- The gym floor requires refinishing.
- Playground surfacing replacement with new rubber play tile is needed.

School Site Limitations

The site experiences ongoing and persistent drainage issues that limit use of outdoor areas, result in “pooling” in the field and over walkways.

Transportation and Access

Transportation challenges include difficulty separating buses from parent traffic, loading zone hazards, and other transportation limitations. The on-street bus zone is shared with parked vehicles and parent drop-off traffic, creating unsafe conditions between buses, pedestrians, and other vehicles in the loading area.



Buses queuing at morning drop-off

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.



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Educational Adequacy

- Cummings' building presents challenges in supporting current and future educational needs. The building's design and layout do not include open pods or extended learning areas by design, limiting the ability for students to collaborate or engage in small group work outside of general classrooms.
- Most classrooms lack cooling, leading to uncomfortable thermal conditions on warm days.
- Music is taught in a portable classroom. Students must cross in front of the school to reach the building.
- The older wing has thin walls, contributing to noise transference across spaces and poor acoustics.
- The gym does not have a divider curtain and two classes are often taught simultaneously. Though outdoor areas can be used as another activity space, persistent drainage issues limit use of the field for much of the year.
- The library is dated in appearance and has fixed mid-floor shelving that limits the flexibility of the space.
- The counseling and office manager's space is separated from the main office, limiting communication and coordination among staff.
- No conference room is available.
- Lack of storage is a challenge at this school.

Equity and Demographics

School Demographics

Student demographic factors at Cummings relative to district-wide averages for elementary schools are listed below:

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA	CUMMINGS ELEMENTARY	DISTRICT AVE - ELEM SCHOOLS
STUDENTS OF COLOR	55%	65%
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES	21%	20%
ENGLISH LEARNERS	12%	28%
EXPERIENCING POVERTY	57%	60%

Barriers to Access and Inclusion

- The current Life Skills Center (LSC) special education classroom lacks direct access to a dedicated ADA restroom for LSC students.
- A secure entry vestibule is present; however, its configuration results in a multi-door sequenced arrival experience that is not ideal.

Enrollment and Utilization

Cummings has a current utilization rate of 69%. Enrollment is projected to continue to decline through 2032.

Operational Efficiency and Financial Stability

Cummings has lower than average operating costs per student compared to other elementary schools in the district.

School Boundary Adjustment Considerations

As a starting point for the public process, an initial boundary adjustment concept has been developed. In this concept, the boundary for Cummings would be divided geographically between Keizer and Kennedy. The boundary adjustments would also realign some areas from Kennedy to Gubser and an area of Keizer to Kennedy. All students within the new Gubser boundary will attend Whiteaker. No changes are proposed for the high school boundary. This boundary concept better aligns the geographic proximity of students to their school and balances enrollment in this area. A map illustrating this concept may be viewed at <https://salkeiz.k12.or.us/schools/closure-consolidation>; more information will be provided in the boundary process.



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Gymnasium accommodates double classes without curtain

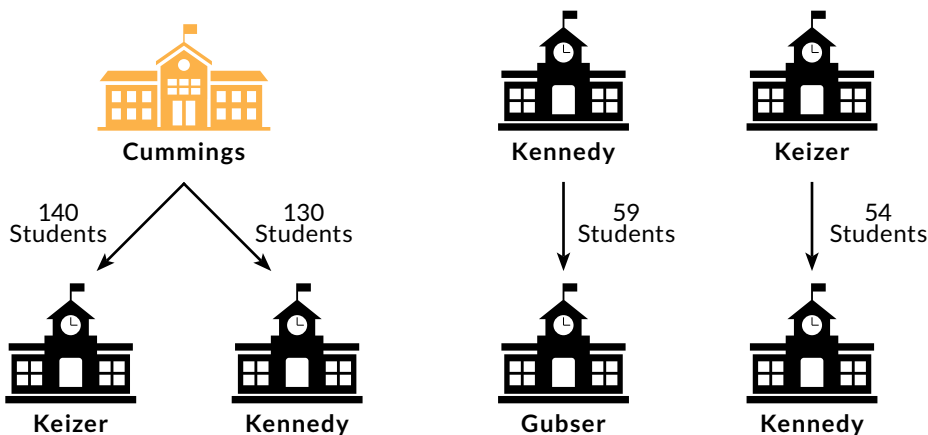
The school boundary adjustment process will include multiple listening and learning sessions with affected families and the community. A stakeholder-based committee will provide school boundary recommendations designed to keep receiving schools appropriately utilized while maintaining flexibility for future enrollment fluctuations, minimizing the need for blended classrooms. Per the School Board's direction, boundary adjustments will prioritize equitable proximity to schools across the district, avoiding excessive travel distances for students. Effective transition planning will help ensure the school community's culture carries over into students' newly assigned elementary schools.

Program Relocations

If closed, Cummings' Life Skills Center (LSC) special education class for grades K-2 is tentatively planned to move to Keizer Elementary. Keizer Elementary does not currently have a self-contained special education program.



Library has dated finishes and fixed mid-floor bookcases



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