Choice Schools and Specialized Programs



Informational Session #7

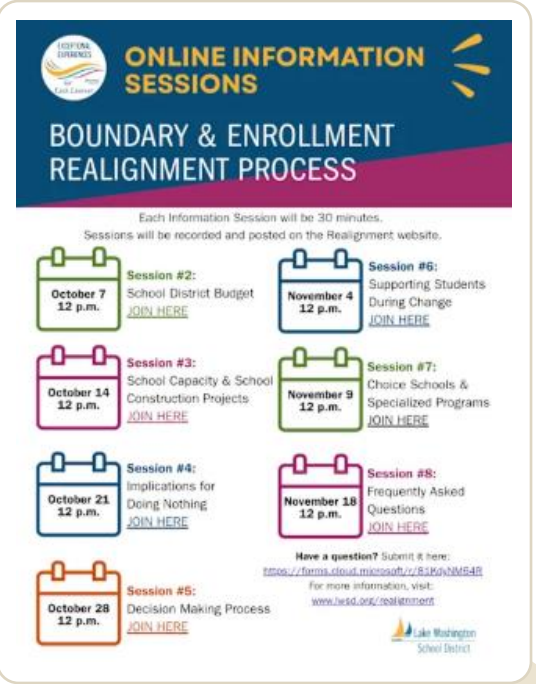
Boundary and Enrollment Realignment

November 9, 2026

Town Hall Informational Series

30-minute information sessions

	Session #	Subject	Date	Time
✓	Session #1	School District Enrollment	September 29	6 p.m.
✓	Session #2	School District Budget	October 7	12 p.m.
✓	Session #3	School Capacity & LWSD School Construction Projects	October 14	12 p.m.
✓	Session #4	Implications for Doing Nothing	October 21	12 p.m.
✓	Session #5	Decision Making Process	October 28	12 p.m.
✓	Session #6	Supporting Students During Change	November 4	12 p.m.
→	**Session #7**	**Choice Schools & Specialized Programs**	**November 9**	**12 p.m.**
	Session #8	Frequently Asked Questions	November 18	12 p.m.



Should we dissolve all Choice Schools and Specialized Programs instead of redrawing attendance boundaries or evaluate school closure?



Considerations

Budget Alignment

Capacity Utilization

Academic Outcomes

Equity and Access

SECTION 1

Choice Schools and Choice Programs

1

What is a Choice School?

Choice Schools and programs are optional schooling alternatives, created to meet specific needs and interests. They are designed to be smaller and use approaches to education that are different from traditional comprehensive schools. Choice Schools and programs are often housed within an existing school or on the same campus as another school. Students must apply to be considered for enrollment. A lottery and wait lists are used when there are applications beyond the enrollment limits.

Choice Schools and Programs

The Lake Washington School District has a long-standing tradition of providing a continuum of educational program choices for students.

Be open to all students.

Strive for diversity.

Be funded and staffed at comparable levels.

Choice Schools and Programs in Lake Washington

Elementary	Middle School	High School
1. Emerson K-12*	1. Emerson K-12*	1. Emerson K-12*
2. Community School	2. Environmental & Adventure School	2. Cambridge at Juanita
3. Discovery Community School	3. Dual Language	3. Emerson High School
4. Dual Language	4. International Community School (6-12)	4. International Community School (6-12)
5. Explorer Community School	5. Northstar	5. Tesla STEM High School
6. Mead STEM Program**	6. Renaissance School of Art & Reasoning	
	7. Stella Schola	

**Alternative Learning Experience (ALE)*
***Available to Mead students only*

System Focus/Alignment: Choice Schools



Equity and Access



Enrollment Targets



Academic Programs

SECTION 2

Accelerated Programs

2

Specialized Programs – Accelerated Programs

Elementary:

- Classroom Based Service
- Full-Time Quest

Middle School:

- Grades 6, 7, 8: English Language Arts and Social Studies
- Grade 6: Math

High School:

- Honors
- Advanced Placement
- Dual Credit courses
- College in the High School
- Running Start

System Focus/Alignment: Accelerated Programs

Elementary:

- Continued focus on supports for all qualified students
- Align programs and staffing across each learning community
- Predictability and feeder pattern continuity for students

Middle School

- Continued focus on supports for all qualified students
- Align programs and staffing across each learning community

High School:

- Continued focus on ensuring access and opportunity

SECTION 3

Early Learning

3

Specialized Programs: Early Learning

Inclusion Preschool: Our inclusion preschool program offers a comprehensive early childhood learning experience in preparation for kindergarten. Classes include typically developing children from the community as well as students receiving special education.

Locations:

- **Kirkland**: Bell Elementary, Juanita Elementary, Keller Elementary
- **Redmond**: Old Redmond Schoolhouse, Wilder Elementary
- **Sammamish**: Carson Elementary

Specialized Programs: Early Learning

Head Start: Head Start is a federally funded program based on income eligibility that offers services for the entire family. The heart of our Head Start program is preschool classes for children. The high-quality preschool experience provided is aimed at kindergarten readiness. Children participate in learning activities including social development and problem-solving. They receive developmental screenings, nutritious hot meals, health screenings and follow-up.

Locations:

- **Kirkland:** A.G. Bell
- **Redmond:** Old Redmond Schoolhouse

System Focus/Alignment: Early Learning

- **Program location**
- **Consistency and predictability for families**
- **Program of choice for community preschool**
- **Continued alignment with our values and beliefs for students**

SECTION 4

Intervention Centers

4

Special Education: Intervention Centers

An **Intervention Center** provides intensive, individualized support for students with significant mental health and/or behavioral support needs as part of the continuum of special education services under the Individuals with Disability Education Act (IDEA).

Locations:

Elementary Schools:

Rose Hill and Twain Elementary

Middle Schools:

Evergreen and Kirkland Middle School

High Schools:

Eastlake, Juanita, and Lake Washington High School

System Focus/Alignment: Intervention Centers



Supports to access the general education curriculum and the general education setting.



Alignment of services with student needs

In Summary

Programs and Choice Schools occur for different reasons.

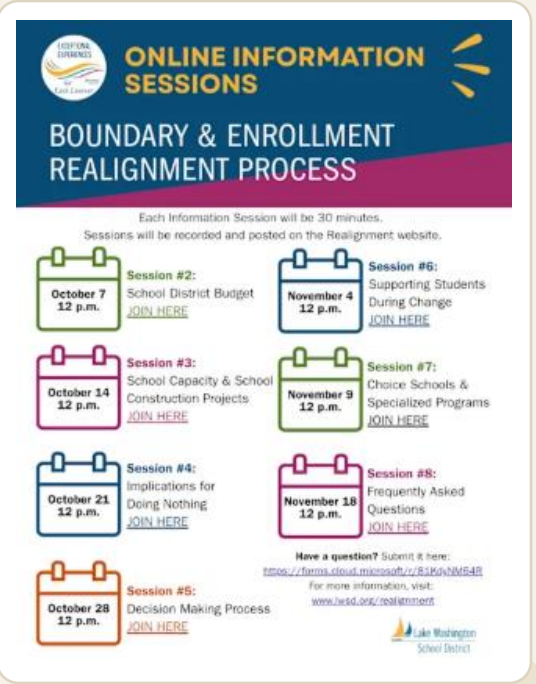
The district continues to align programs with enrollment targets

Lake Washington is a world class school district, the continuum of services and opportunities continue to set us apart even as we ensure fiscal responsibility.

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Thank You

