



Preliminary Capacity Management & Building Closure Recommendations *Providing Excellence for All Students*

November 25, 2008

Superintendent Maria L. Goodloe-Johnson today released preliminary recommendations on District-wide capacity management. Under the recommendations, six school buildings are recommended for closure, and an additional building is recommended for a temporary closure; one new elementary school will be opened and one elementary school will be expanded to a K-8; nine programs will relocate from one building to another; and five programs will be discontinued and their students reassigned to other schools.

WHY IS SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS RECOMMENDING BUILDING CLOSURES?

The preliminary recommendations will allow the School District to:

- **Increase academic achievement** by focusing resources on a smaller number of buildings to use facilities wisely and build on what is working.
- **Meet students' needs** by balancing capacity with the number of students in neighborhoods throughout the city, to ensure that each student has access to a high quality educational program.
- **Prepare for future needs** by closing the buildings in the poorest condition and by planning program moves to respond to the city's demographic trends.
- **Respond to difficult economic times** by addressing a \$24 million or more shortfall with a recommendation that will result in both one-time capital savings and ongoing operational savings.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Review and community input will take place during the next two months and will end with a School Board vote that is scheduled for January 29, 2009. Families, staff and community members are encouraged to comment on the preliminary recommendations. Opportunities for public comment include:

Date	Time	Type of Meeting	Location
December 3	6:00 p.m.	School Board meeting	John Stanford Center for Educational Excellence
December 4	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Community workshop	John Stanford Center for Educational Excellence
December 6	9:30-11:30 a.m.	Community workshop	Filipino Community Center: 5740 MLK Jr. Way
December 15	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Public hearing**	T. T. Minor – 1700 E. Union St. Pinehurst – 11530 12 th Ave. N.E. Van Asselt – 7201 Beacon Ave. S.
December 16	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Public hearing**	Genesee Hill – 5012 S.W. Genesee St. Mann – 2410 E. Cherry St. Old Hay – 411 Boston St.
December 17	6:00 p.m.	School Board meeting	John Stanford Center for Educational Excellence
December 18	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Public hearing**	Lowell – 1058 E. Mercer St.
January 7	6:00 p.m.	School Board meeting	John Stanford Center for Educational Excellence
January 21	6:00 p.m.	School Board meeting	John Stanford Center for Educational Excellence
January 22	TBD	Public hearing	John Stanford Center for Educational Excellence
January 29	6:00 p.m.	School Board vote	John Stanford Center for Educational Excellence

****To sign up to testify at a public hearing on Dec. 15, 16, or 18, call the public hearing phone line at (206) 252-0042 or email hearing@seattleschools.org. Testimony will be limited to 3 minutes per speaker, and should focus on the school building about which the hearing is being held. Note: To sign-up to testify at School Board meetings on Dec. 3, 17, Jan. 7, 21 or 29; call (206) 252-0040 or email boardagenda@seattleschools.org beginning at 8 a.m. on the Monday prior to the meeting.**

Additional information is available at www.seattleschools.org/area/capacity. Comments or questions on the recommendation can be emailed to capacity@seattleschools.org or to schoolboard@seattleschools.org, or mailed to School Board, PO Box 34165, MS 11-010, Seattle, WA, 98124-1165. School Board office: (206) 252-0040.

WHICH BUILDINGS AND PROGRAMS WILL BE AFFECTED?

The preliminary recommendations are intended to address the District’s imbalance in capacity: there is currently too little classroom space in North Seattle to meet demand, but too much space in the Central, South, Southeast and West Seattle clusters. By balancing capacity with demand, the District can use its resources wisely, meet student needs and ensure that every student has equal access to a high quality educational program.

SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS PRELIMINARY CAPACITY RECOMMENDATIONS (11/25/08)		
NAME	BUILDING	PROGRAM
Secondary Bilingual Orientation Center (SBOC) at Old Hay building	CLOSE Old Hay building (may be a temporary closure depending on enrollment growth)	RELOCATE SBOC program to Meany building and co-locate with NOVA
AS #1 at Pinehurst building	CLOSE Pinehurst building	DISCONTINUE AS #1 program and reassign students to Thornton Creek K-8 at Jane Addams (or schools near where they live)
Thornton Creek Elementary at Decatur building	REPURPOSE Decatur building to be used as a new cluster elementary school	RELOCATE Thornton Creek program to Jane Addams Building and extend to K-8
Meany Middle School	REPURPOSE Meany building to co-locate NOVA program and SBOC	DISCONTINUE Meany program and reassign students to other schools based on where they live
NOVA program at Mann building	CLOSE Mann building	RELOCATE NOVA program to Meany building to co-locate with SBOC
TT Minor Elementary	CLOSE TT Minor building	RELOCATE TT Minor Montessori to Leschi DISCONTINUE TT Minor Elementary program and reassign students to Madrona and Leschi Elementaries
Leschi Elementary	REPURPOSE Leschi building to add K-3 Montessori from TT Minor	ADD K-3 Montessori from TT Minor Current Leschi K-5 students remain
Lowell Elementary	CLOSE Lowell building	RELOCATE elementary Accelerated Progress Program (APP) to Thurgood Marshall and Hawthorne Elementaries REASSIGN Special Education students based on the service delivery model
Thurgood Marshall Elementary	REPURPOSE Thurgood Marshall building to add portion of elementary APP	Assign approximately half of elementary APP RELOCATE Elementary Bilingual Orientation Center (EBOC) to Bailey Gatzert Building Current Thurgood Marshall K-5 students remain
Bailey Gatzert Elementary	REPURPOSE Bailey Gatzert building to add EBOC from Thurgood Marshall	ADD EBOC program from Thurgood Marshall Current Gatzert K-5 students remain
Hawthorne Elementary	REPURPOSE Hawthorne building to add a portion of elementary APP	Assign approximately half of elementary APP Current Hawthorne K-5 students remain

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SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS PRELIMINARY CAPACITY RECOMMENDATIONS (11/25/08), Continued

NAME	BUILDING	PROGRAM
Van Asselt Elementary	CLOSE Van Asselt building	RELOCATE Van Asselt program to African American Academy building
African American Academy (AAA)	REPURPOSE AAA building to house Van Asselt Elementary program	DISCONTINUE AAA K-8 program. Reassign AAA K-5 students to Van Asselt or schools in their home cluster. Reassign AAA 6-8 students by where they live
Summit K-12 at Jane Addams building	REPURPOSE Jane Addams building as home to Thornton Creek K-8	RELOCATE Summit K-12 program to co-locate with Rainier Beach High School
Rainier Beach High School	REPURPOSE Rainier Beach building to co-locate Summit K-12 with Rainier Beach High	RELOCATE Summit K-12 program to Rainier Beach building to co-locate with Rainier Beach High School
Pathfinder K-8 at Genesee Hill building	CLOSE Genesee Hill building	RELOCATE Pathfinder K-8 program to Arbor Heights building
Arbor Heights Elementary	REPURPOSE Arbor Heights building to house Pathfinder K-8	DISCONTINUE Arbor Heights program. Reassign Arbor Heights students to other schools in the West Seattle South cluster

WHAT IS THE NET EFFECT OF THESE PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS?

Based on the Superintendent's preliminary recommendations:

- Six buildings will be closed, and one additional building will be closed temporarily and may reopen;
- Nine programs will relocate from one building to another;
- One new program (a new elementary school in Northeast Seattle) will be created and one K-5 (Thornton Creek) will expand to a K-8; and
- Five programs will be discontinued and their students reassigned to new schools beginning in fall 2009.

SUMMARY OF SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS PRELIMINARY CAPACITY RECOMMENDATIONS (11/25/08)

BUILDING CLOSURES	RELOCATED PROGRAMS	NEW PROGRAMS	DISCONTINUED PROGRAMS
Genesee Hill Lowell Mann TT Minor Pinehurst Van Asselt (Old Hay – may be temporary, depending on enrollment)	Lowell APP to Hawthorne and Thurgood Marshall NOVA to Meany Pathfinder K-8 to Arbor Heights SBOC to Meany Summit K-12 to Rainier Beach Thornton Creek to Addams TT Minor K-3 Montessori to Leschi Thurgood Marshall EBOC to Bailey Gatzert Van Asselt to AAA	New K-5 at Decatur Thornton Creek K-5 expands to K-8	African American Academy AS #1 Arbor Heights Meany TT Minor

HOW WILL SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS BE SERVED?

The preliminary recommendations listed on the previous page apply only to general education students (except where specified) and students whose needs can be met in a resource room situation. Seattle Public Schools has also developed recommendations for special education students.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PRELIMINARY CAPACITY RECOMMENDATIONS (11/25/08)		
PROGRAM	CURRENT LOCATION	RECOMMENDATION
Generic self-contained primary and intermediate programs	Arbor Heights	REMAIN at the Arbor Heights building and become part of Pathfinder K-8
Autism self-contained primary program at Summit K-12	Summit K-12 at Jane Addams building	REMAIN at Jane Addams building to become part of a K-8 self-contained autism continuum at Thornton Creek K-8
Generic self-contained high school program	Summit K-12 at Jane Addams building	Special education staff will conduct an analysis of existing programs to determine if students can be served in programs close to home, or if the program will be retained and relocated to another north Seattle high school.
Internalizing Disorder Program (IDP) secondary program	Summit K-12 at Jane Addams building	RELOCATE to Meany Building as part of NOVA
Autism self-contained classes at Thornton Creek	Thornton Creek at Decatur building	RELOCATE to Jane Addams building to create a self-contained K-8 autism continuum at Thornton Creek K-8. One K-2 class will REMAIN at Decatur building to create a second continuum at Decatur
Autism self-contained program at Meany	Meany	RELOCATE to Jane Addams building to create a K-8 self-contained autism continuum at Thornton Creek K-8
Behavior Intervention Program Low Grouping Program Two Low Incidence A Programs Medically Fragile Program	Meany	These programs serve students from all over the district. Special education staff will be conducting an analysis to determine the assignment of students and relocation of programs that best reflects the audit recommendations. Ultimately, recommendations for special education programs are based upon the goals of creating program continuums at schools to minimize transitions for students and to create collaborative professional learning communities among teaching staff, along with federal and state regulations requiring special education students to attend schools close to where they reside whenever possible.
Low Incidence B K-5 Self-Contained Autism Medically Fragile K-5 Program Low Incidence A Primary Program Low Incidence A Intermediate Program Preschool Deaf/Hard of Hearing Program	Lowell	
Primary and Intermediate Behavior Intervention Programs	TT Minor	
Generic self-contained primary and intermediate programs	Van Asselt	RELOCATE to African American Academy building to remain part of the existing continuum at Van Asselt Elementary
Primary and Intermediate Academically Behaviorally Challenged (ABC) programs	Hawthorne	Programs will REMAIN at Hawthorne.