

Glossary for Criteria Discussion

Building Excellence Levy (BEX): The six-year capital levy program adopted by Seattle Public Schools in 1992. Phase I (BEX I), with \$330 million, was approved by Seattle voters in 1995. It covered new construction, major renovation and additions at 19 schools. Phase II (BEX II), with \$398 million, was approved by voters in 2001. It covers new school buildings, complete renovation and additions at 17 schools.

Building Renovations, Technology and Athletics Levy (BTA I): The six-year capital levy program with \$150 million approved by voters in 1998. It funded more than 465 projects in the areas of seismic improvements, roof replacement, window replacement, power upgrades, technology wiring and computer hardware, secondary art and science facilities upgrades, and gymnasiums and athletic field renovation.

Building Renovations, Technology and Academics Levy (BTA II): The capital levy program with \$178 million approved by voters in 2004. It funds more than 600 projects related to school buildings, art and science labs, libraries, technology and athletic facilities.

Capital Improvement Program (CIP I): The bond program with \$64 million, approved by voters in 1984. It funded major modernization, building additions, building replacement and new construction at 15 schools.

City Comprehensive Plan: Seattle's Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan) is a 20-year policy plan reflecting Seattleites' values and articulating a vision for future growth.

Departure: A process to waive requirements for development by the Seattle Municipal Code related to on-site parking, bus loading, curb cuts, etc.

Facilities Master Plan (FMP): A plan identifying the use for Seattle Public Schools' facilities through the year 2010, the improvements needed to those facilities, and the timing in which improvements should be accomplished.

Heat, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC): Types of mechanical systems that provide heat and air in school buildings.

Joint Operating Agreement: An agreement between the Seattle Parks Department and Seattle Public Schools to operate and use district and city facilities for programs such as childcare, before/after school enrichment, sports and community services.

Landmarks: The City Landmarks Preservation Board is responsible for the designation and protection of historic buildings throughout Seattle. Even though Seattle Public Schools is a separate authority under the state, the District agreed to nominate school buildings that meet the landmark criteria and participate in the designation process on a voluntary basis. Some of the buildings are identified for cultural significance or as a neighborhood focal point, and the community wishes to have these buildings preserved.

Planning Capacity: Number of students a building can accommodate for planning purpose.

Seattle Education Association (SEA): A union for Seattle teachers.

Urban Villages: The areas designated by the City's Comp Plan (see definition) to allow both commercial and residential growth.

Glossary for Student Assignment Terms

Boundaries

Elementary-Each elementary school has a geographical boundary. Geographical boundaries determine transportation and priority for getting into a school.

Middle School- A combination of elementary school reference areas form the middle school boundaries. The combined areas are referred to as regions.

High School- The boundary is the entire school district.

Alternative/non-traditional K-8- The boundary is the combination of elementary school boundaries for designated clusters. *Exception: Salmon Bay, where the boundary for grades 6-8 is the entire school district.*

All-City Program/School- The boundary is the entire school district.

Cluster

Seattle Public Schools is divided into 60 elementary school reference areas. These reference areas are contiguously grouped into nine geographical clusters. These clusters are used to determine transportation eligibility and mandatory assignments for elementary students. *Note: The West Seattle cluster is expanded to include High Point Elementary school. Students living in both West Seattle South and West Seattle North clusters are eligible for transportation if the service address is more than one mile from High Point.*

Reference Area

An elementary school boundary is called a reference area. It is the area immediately surrounding the school site. A student's reference area is determined by the area in which the home residence is located. A group of reference areas are combined to form clusters.

Regions

High School- The region for all high schools is the entire school district.

Middle School- The elementary areas are contiguously grouped into five geographic middle school regions. There are two middle schools in each region. These regions are used to determine transportation and assignment priority.

School Choice

Families may apply for assignment to any schools with the appropriate grades for their children. Assignment does not determine transportation eligibility.