

SCHOOL: GARFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

RECOMMENDATION: Eliminate the automatic entry of Washington APP students to Garfield; ensure quality AP programs in every comprehensive high school.

SECTION 1: SCHOOL PROFILE

A. Educational Profile

Grades: 9-12

- **Advanced Learning:** APP students exiting from Washington Middle School have the option of attending Garfield High School. Honors classes. AP classes.
- **Special Education:** Behavior Intervention, Low Grouping (Autism program already scheduled to be removed for September 2005)
- **Transitional Bilingual Education:** Yes

B. Facility

- **Location:** 400 23rd Avenue, 98122
- **Site size:** 8.93 acres
- **Year Constructed:** 1923, with additions in 1929 and 1962
- **Building type and size:** High School (197,373 square feet)
- **Portables:** 7 (with 9 teaching stations)
- **Handicap Accessibility:** Rated poor
- **Planning Capacity:** 1,533 students (with portables)
- **Adjacent park:** Garfield Playground (9 acres) and Garfield Community Center
- **Study and survey building condition score (out of 100 possible points): 29.9**
- **Discussion:** Garfield was evaluated by Meng Analysis for the 2002 Study and Survey and was rated as poor or unsatisfactory in the following areas for the main buildings – roof, exterior windows/doors and trim; floors, interior walls, ceilings and fixed equipment; electrical and plumbing systems; fire alarm system and emergency lighting; means of exit, fire control capability and resistance. Garfield was rated poor or unsatisfactory in the following areas for the gym building – exterior walls, roof, and windows/doors; floors and fixed equipment; electrical, plumbing and heating systems; fire alarm system and emergency lighting; and means of exit, fire control capability and resistance.
- **Most recent capital work:** Garfield received a new roof, window replacement and science improvements in 1999 and technology upgrades in 2001.
- **Planned capital work:** Under the current BEX II levy plan, Garfield is scheduled to have a complete renovation and new additions in 2008. Planned work includes historic renovation of the 1923 and 1929 buildings, demolition of the remaining structure, and a new physical education and performing arts center. Estimated project cost is \$78.8 million.
- **Self-Help projects of note:**
 - Seasonal grounds cleanup
 - Some interior painting and murals
 - Some murals

- **Comments:** In 2003, Garfield High School was designated by the City of Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board as an historically significant site and building. It is significantly associated with the culture of the community and city. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of an architectural style.

C. Enrollment/Demographics

Enrollment

Year:	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total Students:	1732	1709	1687	1652	1626	1628

Current Student Demographics

	Number	Percent
Ethnic Group:		
White	701	43.1
Non-White	925	56.9
Asian	294	18.1
Black	511	31.4
Latino	99	6.1
Native American	21	1.3
Free and Reduced Lunch eligible	389	23.9
Bilingual served	115	7.1
Special Education served	127	7.8

SECTION 2: RECOMMENDATION AND IMPACTS

A. Recommendation: Eliminate the automatic entry of Washington APP students to Garfield; ensure quality AP programs in every comprehensive high school.

B. Financial Effects

- Initial Savings: Not applicable – building remains in service
- On-going Savings: Not applicable – building remains in service

C. Educational Impact

In the current student assignment plan, Accelerated Progress Program (APP) middle school students who attend the self-contained APP middle school program at Washington Middle School have the option to continue at Garfield High school. When this system was implemented, Garfield High School offered more Advanced Placement (AP) classes than other high schools. It is important to note that AP classes are not uniquely developed for APP students; rather, the high school APP offerings in Seattle Public Schools were related to the number of AP classes offered. AP classes are offered to every student, not just those qualified for APP, on a space-available basis. In many cases the course culminates in the students taking the national AP exam, which allows students to gain college credit while still in high school.

Under the proposed new assignment plan, students will be guaranteed an assignment to their neighborhood high school. In the central region, where Garfield is located, there are approximately 1500 students who attend Seattle Public Schools. If those students were returned to Garfield, their neighborhood school, there would not be enough seats to educate both the neighborhood students and the APP students who come to Garfield from across the city. Because the recommendation is that every student be guaranteed a neighborhood high school, the APP students must be returned to their neighborhood high schools.

At this point, every Seattle high school except Cleveland offers AP classes, although the actual course offerings differ from school to school. Because students who have previously qualified for the APP program have never had a self-contained high school program (unlike the elementary and middle school programs, which are self-contained, and because nine of the 10 comprehensive high schools in Seattle offer AP classes, we recommend eliminating the automatic entry of Washington APP students into Garfield.

While this is a significant change for students who are anticipating receiving a guarantee to Garfield High School, as well as a change for the parents and staff for whom the automatic entry has been a fact, it is hoped and anticipated that this change will benefit both APP and general education students throughout the city.

First, as discussed above, this change is necessary for the proposed new assignment plan to work. Because there are sufficient neighborhood residents to fill Garfield, preventing those students from attending their neighborhood school by reserving space for APP-qualified students from throughout the city is inequitable. Should the automatic entry for Washington APP students be retained, students in the Central region of the city would be the only students who would not be guaranteed a neighborhood high school assignment.

Second, because nine of Seattle's ten comprehensive high schools offer AP courses that are comparable in rigor and intensity to those offered at Garfield, there is no longer a need for APP students to be concentrated at Garfield. While some schools will need to add AP courses in order to be equivalent to Garfield, the 2005-06 planning year will enable those schools to reach parity with the other schools.

It is true that the APP offerings in grades 1-8 are different than in grades 9-12. As has been historically true in Seattle Public Schools, the program in grades 1-8 is self-contained, while the program in grades 9-12 has been focused on the AP courses. By returning the APP qualified high school students to their neighborhood schools it is anticipated that the number of students taking the AP courses will increase. During the 2005-06 planning year we will determine the resources, staff training, and curriculum needs that will be required to ensure that all APP-qualified students have the opportunity to receive the education that they require.

D. Demographic and Integration Effects

Under the proposed assignment plan changes, high school students will be assigned to their neighborhood schools, including APP students. The high school students living in the Central region area have larger proportions of non-white, free and reduced lunch, and bilingual students than the population currently attending Garfield. Returning Garfield resident students to their neighborhood school would therefore increase the proportion of non-white, free and reduced lunch, and bilingual students at Garfield.

Region Demographics (Grades 9-12)

Region	Non-White		Free and Reduced Lunch		Bilingual	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Central	1027	69.3	602	40.6	160	10.8

E. Facility Effects

- **Impacts to community use:** Seattle Parks Department has a facility on District property. The District has a 40 year lease with the Seattle Parks Department for the site.
- **Proposed site classification of the building:** No change (essential)

