

SCHOOL: GENESEE HILL
RECOMMENDATION: Close

SECTION 1: SCHOOL PROFILE

A. Educational Profile

Grades: K-8 (Pathfinder alternative school)

Programs:

- **Kindergarten:** Full day and half day kindergarten (no fee)
- **Advanced Learning Program:** No
- **Special Education:** No
- **Transitional Bilingual Education:** No
- **Head Start:** No
- **Before/After School Program(s):** Blazing Trails

B. Facility

- **Location:** 5012 SW Genesee Street, 98116
- **Site size:** 6.21 acres
- **Year constructed:** 1948, with additions in 1949 and 1953
- **Building type and size:** Elementary School (34,309 square feet)
- **Portables:** 7 (with 12 teaching stations)
- **Handicap accessibility:** Rated poor
- **Planning capacity:** 451 students (with portables)
- **Adjacent Park:** No
- **Child care:** No dedicated child care space on site
- **Study and survey building condition score (out of 100 possible points): 45.74**
- **Discussion:** Genesee Hill was evaluated by Meng Analysis for the 2002 Study and Survey and was rated as poor or unsatisfactory in the following areas – foundation, exterior walls, exterior windows/doors, floors, interior walls, fire control, fire resistance, and emergency lighting.
- **Most recent capital work:** Genesee Hill received seismic and roof repairs in 1985, but is still below the current seismic code for Seattle.
- **Planned capital work:** Genesee Hill is budgeted for \$564,000 in 2007 under the BTA II Capital Project Levy. Planned upgrades include exterior improvements, HVAC, and technology upgrades.
- **Self-help projects of note:**
 - New play equipment installed on upper playground with City grant funding. Office reconfiguration, painting, signs for hallways, child care portable upgrades
 - Design services to renovate the lower playfield, add play equipment and amphitheater; funded by City and County grants
 - District/City sponsored solar panels
- **Comments:** This building is at the end of its design lifespan. The Seattle Public Schools design lifespan is 50 years, and Genesee Hill is currently 57 years old. Construction is modular on a permanent foundation. The building was originally closed as an elementary school in 1989 and reopened in 1994 to house Pathfinder alternative school. Pathfinder became a K-8 program in 2001. The middle school

portion of the program is housed in portables. Replacing the facility would cost between \$36 and \$40 million (in 2005 dollars).

C. Enrollment/Demographics

Enrollment

Year:	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total Students:	333	346	356	360	398	412

Current Student Demographics

	Number	Percent
Ethnic Group:		
White	229	57.5
Non-White	169	42.5
Asian	33	8.3
Black	51	12.8
Latino	46	11.6
Native American	39	9.8
Free and Reduced Lunch eligible	139	34.9
Bilingual served	0	0.0
Special Education served	201	50.5

SECTION 2: RECOMMENDATION AND IMPACTS

A. Recommendation: Close Genesee Hill and relocate Pathfinder K-8 to Cooper.

B. Financial Effects

- Initial Savings: \$445,225
- On-going Savings: \$531,294 annually

C. Educational Impact

Because the Pathfinder program is moving intact to Cooper, we do not anticipate program changes. However, the Cooper facility will better accommodate this K-8 alternative school.

D. Demographic and Integration Effects

Under the proposed assignment plan changes, students will be assigned to their neighborhood schools and have access to at least one regional alternative K-8 school. The Pathfinder program currently has assignment preference for students living in the West Seattle region, and it will move to the Cooper building and become the regional alternative K-8 for this region.

The West Seattle region has a larger proportion of non-white, free and reduced lunch, and bilingual students than the population currently attending Pathfinder. Assuming students at Pathfinder under the new assignment plan would represent the West

Seattle region, the proportion of non-white, free and reduced lunch, and bilingual students would increase at Pathfinder.

Region Demographics

Region	Non-White		Free and Reduced Lunch		Bilingual	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
West Seattle	2354	58.0	1970	48.5	646	15.9

E. Facility Effects

- **Impacts to community use:** The before/after school child care services provided at Genesee Hill by Blazing Trails will end. Additional planning is necessary to determine the before and after school programming at Cooper.

Proposed site classification of the building: Change from essential to inventoried.

