SCHOOL BOARD ACTION REPORT

DATE: September 15, 2020
FROM: Ms. Denise Juneau, Superintendent
LEAD STAFF: Fred Podesta, Chief Operations Officer
206-252-0636, fhpodesta@seattleschools.org

For Introduction: October 21, 2020
For Action: November 4, 2020

1. TITLE

BEX V: Resolution 2020/21-10 Racial Imbalance Analysis for Northgate Elementary School project

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this action is to help secure approximately $1,911,661 in state funding assistance for the Northgate Elementary School project. The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) Form D-5 Application requires Board acceptance of the Resolution certifying that the proposed project will not create or aggravate racial imbalance.

3. RECOMMENDED MOTION

I move that the School Board approve Resolution 2020/21-10 certifying that the proposed Northgate Elementary project will not create or aggravate racial imbalance as defined by WAC 392-342-025.

4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

a. Background

The Capital Projects and Planning Department working collaboratively with Enrollment Planning has recommended that Northgate Elementary School be demolished and replaced due to poor building conditions. These conditions were outlined in the 2014 Facility Assessment Report by Meng Analysis and the 2018 Building Condition Assessment Update by McKinstry rating Northgate as one of the top ten worst building conditions in the school district. The BEX V Levy proposed construction of a new 650 student school on the Northgate site which will open in the fall of 2023. Northgate School’s student enrollment as of November 1, 2019 was 217 students. The right-size capacity for Northgate Elementary School is 220 students; additional students are housed in six portables located on site.

The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) is responsible for administering the School Construction Assistance Program (SCAP), which is OSPI’s largest capital program and provides funding assistance for facility planning, new construction, and modernizations. Based on OSPI’s work, the Legislature makes biennial appropriations to release state funds for school construction assistance through the D-
Form approval process which includes the primary documents that form the basis of any agreements between OSPI and the school districts receiving state funding assistance.

The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction Form D-5 requires a School Board Resolution certifying under WAC 392-342-025 that a SCAP funded project will not create or aggravate racial imbalance. If this resolution is not approved in a timely manner, state funding assistance for this project will not be forthcoming. SCAP funding for Northgate Elementary School project is estimated to be approximately $1,911,661.

An evaluation was performed using enrollment data from the 2012 through 2019 school program years to certify under WAC 392-342-025 that the Northgate Elementary School project will not create or aggravate racial imbalance.

WAC 392-342-025 provides that racial imbalance in a greater than fifty percent minority, non-multiracial school district such as Seattle Public Schools shall be defined (by current federal categories) as existing when:

Part (a): When the combined minority enrollment of a school varies from the district-wide combined minority percentage by more than plus or minus twenty-five percentage points;
Part (b): When a school's enrollment of a single minority group with a district-wide enrollment of less than thirty percent exceeds fifty percent;
Part (c): When a school's enrollment of a single minority group with a district-wide enrollment of thirty percent or more exceeds the minority group's district-wide percentage by twenty percentage points or more.

Analysis:

Northgate Elementary Part (a) analysis: Northgate Elementary School was shown to be racially imbalanced as defined by WAC 392-342-025 (a) in 8 of the 8 years studied with the last 2 years trending toward a more balanced racial make-up. Students of color have been overrepresented at Northgate compared to the districtwide average, but this project will not aggravate the existing racial imbalance.

Northgate Elementary Part (b) analysis: Northgate Elementary School was shown to be racially balanced as defined by WAC 392-342-025 (b) in 8 of the 8 years studied.

Northgate Elementary Part (c) analysis: Northgate Elementary School was shown to be racially imbalanced as defined by WAC 392-342-025 (c) in 8 of the 8 years studied with the last 2 years trending toward a more balanced racial make-up. Hispanic/Latino students have been overrepresented at Northgate compared to the districtwide average. This project will not aggravate the existing racial imbalance. In addition, Northgate Elementary School is as an Elementary Bilingual Orientation Center (EBOC), consistent with the definition under Section (4) Exclusions (c) of WAC 392-342-025, where assignment and enrollment of some students is based solely upon their extraordinary educational needs.

Conclusion: The project meets the requirements outlined by WAC 392-342-025 Part (b) for racial balance in a greater than fifty percent minority, non-multiracial school district.
Seattle Public Schools is not proposing any changes to the attendance policy nor changes to the attendance boundaries at Northgate Elementary School, thus no aggravated racial imbalance would occur.

b. Alternatives

Do not approve Resolution 2020/21-10. This is not recommended. If Resolution 2020/21-10 is not approved, the D-5 form cannot be submitted to OSPI and the district will not receive state funding assistance.

c. Research

- WAC 392-342-025 Racial Imbalance Prohibition - Definition and acceptance criteria
- Enrollment Data specific to the evaluation of WAC 392-342-025 Racial Imbalance Prohibition
- 2014 Building Condition and Educational Adequacy Assessment Report – Meng Analysis
- 2019 Seattle Public Schools Building Condition Assessment Update – McKinstry

5. FISCAL IMPACT/REVENUE SOURCE

The Northgate Elementary School project funding source is from the BEX V Capital Levy, the BEX IV Capital Levy, and anticipated state assistance funding.

If this Resolution is not approved in a timely manner, the state funding assistance for Northgate Elementary School project will not be forthcoming. This Resolution is a requirement of the State D-5 Application for Assistance. Approximately $1,911,661 in School Construction Assistance Program (SCAP) funding is available for construction.

Expenditure: □ One-time □ Annual □ Multi-Year ✗ N/A

Revenue: ✗ One-time □ Annual □ Multi-Year □ N/A

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

With guidance from the District’s Community Engagement tool, this action was determined to merit the following tier of community engagement:

□ Not applicable

□ Tier 1: Inform

✗ Tier 2: Consult/Involve

□ Tier 3: Collaborate

The selection of projects in the BEX V program went through an extensive community vetting process and ultimately received 73% approval from voters in February 2019.
The design of the Northgate Elementary School project was developed in conjunction with the School Design Advisory Team (SDAT) that included staff, students, parents and community members from Northgate Elementary School. This group met during the fall of 2019 to provide site-specific information about facility use, programs and educational goals upon which the design is based. The Northgate Elementary School project will support the district’s current educational goals as well as providing the flexibility to accommodate emerging educational programs.

7. **EQUITY ANALYSIS**

The district’s Racial Equity Analysis toolkit was utilized to guide the planning process for the BEX V Capital Levy, influencing community engagement methods, preparation of the 2018 update to the Facilities Master Plan, and ultimately the final proposed levy package. The Board’s guiding principles stated that racial and educational equity should be an overarching principle for the BEX V Capital Levy planning in accordance with Board Policy 0030, Ensuring Educational and Racial Equity. Projects identified for inclusion in the BEX V levy will ultimately improve conditions for all students in the affected schools. Improved building conditions create a better environment for learning and can provide facilities to better position students for academic success.

8. **STUDENT BENEFIT**

It is the goal of the district to continue the process of implementing the BTA and BEX Capital Levy programs and provide students with safe and secure school buildings.

9. **WHY BOARD ACTION IS NECESSARY**

☐ Amount of contract initial value or contract amendment exceeds $250,000 (Policy No. 6220)

☐ Amount of grant exceeds $250,000 in a single fiscal year (Policy No. 6114)

☐ Adopting, amending, or repealing a Board policy

☐ Formally accepting the completion of a public works project and closing out the contract

☐ Legal requirement for the School Board to take action on this matter

☐ Board Policy No. _____, [TITLE], provides the Board shall approve this item

☒ Other: A Board Resolution is required by OSPI as a part of the state funding assistance process to certify under WAC 392-342-025 that the project will not create or aggravate racial imbalance.
10. **POLICY IMPLICATION**

School Board Policy No. 6100, Revenues from Local, State and Federal Sources, states in part: “It is the policy of the Seattle School Board to pursue systematically those funding opportunities that are consistent with district priorities from federal, state, and other governmental units, as well as from private and foundation sources.” In addition, it states: “The Board agrees to comply with all federal and state requirements that may be a condition for the receipt of federal or state funds.”

11. **BOARD COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

This motion was discussed at the Operations Committee meeting on October 8, 2020. The Committee reviewed the motion and moved the item forward with a recommendation for approval by the full Board.

12. **TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Upon approval, this resolution will be transmitted to the state to continue through the funding approval process. The new school is anticipated to open in the 2023 school year.

13. **ATTACHMENTS**

- Resolution 2020/21-10 (for approval)
- Racial Imbalance Analysis (for reference)
A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Seattle School District No. 1, King County, Seattle, Washington certifying that the Northgate Elementary School project named in the project application (Form D-5) submitted to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction will not create or aggravate racial imbalance within the District boundaries.

WHEREAS, it has been determined that racial imbalance, as defined by WAC 392-342-025, does currently exist in the catchment area of the Northgate Elementary enrollment area; and

WHEREAS, the proposed new construction project is a replacement of the Northgate Elementary facility, and

WHEREAS, the proposed project at Northgate Elementary School will not create or aggravate a racial imbalance in student enrollment in the Northgate enrollment area as defined by WAC 392-342-025;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, Seattle School Board of Directors certifies that the Northgate Elementary School project will not create or aggravate racial imbalance within the District boundaries as defined for greater than fifty percent minority, non-multiplicative school districts in WAC 392-342-025.

RESOLVED, that duly certified copies of this resolution shall be presented to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

ADOPTED this _____ day of __________, 2020

___________________________________ _________________________________
Zachary DeWolf, President  Chandra N. Hampson, Vice President

___________________________________ _________________________________
Leslie Harris  Brandon K. Hersey

___________________________________ _________________________________
Eden Mack  Liza Rankin

___________________________________ _________________________________
Lisa Rivera-Smith  ATTEST:  
Denise Juneau, Superintendent 
Secretary, Board of Directors 
Seattle School District No. 1 
King County, WA
Racial Imbalance Analysis
Northgate Elementary School

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For questions and more information about this document, please contact the following:

Capital Projects
krjones@seattleschools.org

Racial Imbalance Analysis for Northgate Elementary School
## Racial Imbalance Analysis for Northgate Elementary School

(no boundary change proposed at this time)

### D-5 Form for OSPI SCAP

**WAC 392-342-025**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Year</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>African American/ Black</th>
<th>Asian</th>
<th>Hispanic/ Latino</th>
<th>American Indian/ Alaska Native</th>
<th>Multi-Racial</th>
<th>Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Percent POC</th>
<th>Percent White</th>
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### School Year

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### >50% POC, nonmultiracial WAC definitions

- Racial Imbalance: 
  - Combined School POC Exceeds Combined District POC by 25%
  - School POC Group of >30%, Exceeds 50% at School
  - District POC Group of >30%, Exceeds District % of that POC Group by 20% at School

- a) Combined School POC Exceeds Combined District POC by 25%
  - Yes: 88.31% 11.69%
  - No: 32.29% 0 0

- b) Single District POC Group of >30%, Exceeds 50% at School
  - Yes: 82.87% 17.13%
  - No: 27.48% 0 0

- c) Single District POC Group of >30%, Exceeds District % of that POC Group by 20% at School
  - Yes: 80.19% 19.32%
  - No: 25.82% 0 0

Prepared by: Enrollment Planning /era  Last Updated: 08/25/2020