



SCHOOL BOARD ACTION REPORT

DATE: February 25, 2021
FROM: Denise Juneau, Superintendent
LEAD STAFF: Fred Podesta, Chief Operations Officer
206-252-0102, fhpodesta@seattleschools.org

For Introduction: March 24, 2021
For Action: April 7, 2021

1. TITLE

BEX V: Resolution 2020/21-21 Racial Imbalance Analysis for Van Asselt School Addition project

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this action helps to secure approximately \$770,000 in state funding assistance for the Van Asselt School Addition 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 2020/21-21 certifying that the proposed Van Asselt School Addition project will not create or aggravate racial imbalance as defined by Washington Administrative Code ([WAC](#)) [392-342-025](#).

4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

a. Background

The Capital Projects and Planning Department, working collaboratively with Enrollment Planning, has recommended that the Van Asselt School site be utilized as an interim site for schools to occupy while their facilities are being modernized or replaced under Building Excellence (BEX) V and subsequent capital levies. They have recommended that a classroom and gymnasium addition be constructed, and the existing historic landmark building be renovated, to expand the existing site capacity to accommodate up to 1,000 students. Initially the site will sequentially accommodate Mercer, Aki Kurose, and potentially Washington middle schools during major capital projects on their home sites. Subsequently, the site may accommodate elementary school programs from the southeast region of the district. The BEX V Capital Levy proposes construction of a new addition, which will open in the fall of 2023. The Van Asselt site is currently home to Wing Luke Elementary while their facility is being replaced. Wing Luke Elementary's student enrollment as of October 1, 2019, was 435 students. The right-size capacity (capacity without portables) for the Van Asselt School is 380 middle school students. This does not include the 1909 historic landmark building, which has been unoccupied for approximately 10 years.

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 OSPI Form D-5 requires a School Board resolution to certify 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 the Van Asselt School Addition project is estimated to be approximately \$770,000.

Conclusion: Resolution 2020/21-21 certifies that the classroom and gymnasium addition will not create or aggravate a racial imbalance within the district boundaries because each school community in its entirety will temporarily relocate to the Van Asselt site, then return to its home site within approximately two years. It is not anticipated that enrollment demographics will change significantly because of this temporary relocation.

b. Alternatives

Do not approve Resolution 2020/21-21. This is not recommended. If Resolution 2020/21-21 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 Van Asselt School Addition project funding source is from the BEX V Capital Levy and anticipated state assistance funding.

If this resolution is not approved in a timely manner, the state funding assistance for Van Asselt School Addition project will not be forthcoming. This resolution is a requirement of the State D-5 Application for Assistance. Approximately \$770,000 in state assistance funding is anticipated 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 Van Asselt School Addition project was developed in conjunction with the School Design Advisory Team (SDAT) that included executive directors for secondary schools, the director of operations, principals from Mercer, Aki Kurose and Washington middle schools, as well as staff from Racial Equity Advancement and Capital Projects and Planning. This group met during the spring of 2020 to provide site-specific information about facility use, programs, and educational goals, upon which the design is based. The Van Asselt School Addition project will support the district’s current educational goals as well as providing a safe and secure school facility.

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 efforts in accordance with Board Policy 0030, Ensuring Educational and Racial Equity. Projects identified for inclusion in the BEX V Capital 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 Buildings, Technology, and Academics/Athletics (BTA) and BEX Capital Levy programs and to 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

This action aligns with Board Policy No. 6100, Revenues from Local, State, and Federal Sources, which states: “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 March 11, 2021. 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 the funding approval process. The new school is anticipated to open in the 2023 school year.

13. ATTACHMENTS

- Resolution 2020/21-21 (for approval)

**Seattle School District #1
Board Resolution**

Resolution No. 2020/21-21



A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Seattle School District No. 1, King County, Seattle, Washington certifying that the Van Asselt School Addition 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 not currently exist at Van Asselt School; and

WHEREAS, the proposed construction project is an addition project and

WHEREAS, the proposed project at Van Asselt school will not create or aggravate a racial imbalance in student enrollment as defined by WAC 392-342-025;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Seattle School Board of Directors certifies that the Van Asselt School Addition project will not create or aggravate a racial imbalance within the District boundaries as defined for greater than fifty percent minority, non-multiracial school districts in WAC 392-342-025; and therefore be it further

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

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2021

Chandra N. Hampson, President

Brandon K. Hersey, Vice President

Lisa Rivera-Smith, Member-at-Large

Zachary DeWolf

Erin Dury

Leslie Harris

Liza Rankin

ATTEST:
Denise Juneau, Superintendent
Secretary, Board of Directors
Seattle School District No. 1
King County, WA

Leslie Harris

Liza Rankin

ATTEST:

Denise Juneau, Superintendent

Secretary, Board of Directors

Seattle School District No. 1

King County, WA