



High School Growth Public Forum

November 27, 2018

Jackson High School Comments:

- No Boundary change, rather alternate i.e. as double shift.
- Students w/pedestrian access should not have to be transported to different school i.e. 1 mile from school, or currently doesn't get bus. Mill Creek home address = Mill Creek school address.
- Do not bus kids past JHS to CHS
- Keep kids furthest south @ furthest south school; consider bus time and cost.
- Keeping small communities together is less of a priority.
- Keep HMS going to JHS; they already are part of community.
- Concern: If bond w/new high school passes; will there two Boundary changes?
- How is consideration of bond planning informing boundary change planning?
- Consider driving (safety) and time spent on bus.
- Families impacted by elementary boundary change – consider impact on family when planning high school boundary.
- Consider any student who has started at a high school to continue through.
- Include community/population/student # on website or otherwise accessible to public (w/route maps)
- Will JHS students be grandfathered slot at JHS?
- Send communication/social media/email of specific meeting dates (some participants didn't receive this information for tonight's meeting).
- Consider strategy for electronic input.
- How early would students have to be picked up? (Concern of how early bus pick up)

- No new construction in City of Mill Creek. If live in Mill Creek, should go to school with Mill Creek address.
- Sports: Younger feeder teams raise \$\$ for JHS sports but then wouldn't get to do JHS sports.
- Start school an hour later.
- Change HS to 10, 11, 12. Change MS to 7, 8, 9. Elementary schools K-6.
- Change Heatherwood to a high school and one elementary to a middle school
- Take the kids closest to CHS (just south of 132 SE) to CHS. This will mitigate commute time.
- Keep walking radius, would like students to walk.
- Safety of students driving (in the dark) on highways; I-5
- Seniors – Can they stay at their school?
- Siblings of seniors – Can they stay at the same school?
- Can the newest housing occupants be moved? (not established houses)
- Will other districts take our students?
- Can incoming freshman be moved; not sophomores-seniors?
- Class/program continuity from MS to HS should be considered (language class, band, etc. that feeds from MS to HS).
- Rumor has it that current GTWY MS are being moved to Ike in prep for moving them to CHS.
- Base the move on the northern most neighborhoods at JHS and CHS.
- Can apartment housed students be moved?
- Consider student safety in the move (driving/bussing).
- Can HS be condensed into 3 years with HS classwork in MS?
- Don't move students that currently walk to their school.
- Consider bussing costs when picking students from a large area (students from several neighborhoods as opposed to a single neighborhood).
- But do allow students to finish their education at their high school if they are already enrolled in HS.
- Consider socioeconomic or diverse student populations and resist moving these students. (apartment students)
- Bust through the perception that Mill Creek kids need to go to Mill Creek schools.

- Change the name of Mill Creek Elementary that perpetuates the issue above.
- Reasonable time to get on bus (wake times), when considering boundary changes.
- Disregard former map which was distributed/communicated.
- New map for next forum
- Map that showed everyone not a walker was misunderstood.
- Silver Firs family – concern over start time and possible hour long bus ride. Not fair.
- Parents are concerned over length of bus ride.
- Can school busses use same services, lane priorities as city bus system? For example, dedicated bus lanes, light triggers.
- Wondering if HW could be used as freshman campus? OR, could keeping 9th graders at their middle school help?
- Move for senior students would be disruptive. Can seniors finish out at current school?
- Parent concern that priority would be given to Mill Creek addresses – that they would not be given priority. Same with Bothell-Everett. Distance on map versus home address.
- Make it an option to move in 2019 to start transition.
- Anticipate possible new bond and therefore new high school so students don't move twice.
- District boundaries should be looked at.
- Concern over possible schedule changes including year-round, double shifting.
- Parent is in support of possible schedule changes, especially if it is an opt in.
- Classrooms are available during lunch periods and will continue to be able to be used by clubs, academic meetings, students and teachers.
- Dedicated campus space for online students and free periods.
- What are projections in enrollment 5-10 years out and will boundaries need to be changed again?
- When considering new boundaries, take into account nearby schools, even if in different district.
- If lunch period needs to be added, no earlier.

- Parent concerned about safety issues that relate to longer bus times.
- Safety with long commute for teen drivers.
- Are land use permits and areas that are not yet developed being taken into account for enrollment projections?
- Does each high school have programs not available that the others have? Can those programs be added at the other high schools? Sports, orchestra options?
- What about the special programs that were discussed in last bond?
- Seattle high schools are choice – families apply. Could Everett School District do that?
- What transition plans will be done for kids who are moving?
- What transition plans will be for Everett High in gaining 400 new students
- Could ESD rent space instead of using portables – think outside the box; office or mall space?
- Keep middle schoolers together (feeder school patterns).
- Don't want seniors to move/ upper classmen. x3
- Phase in boundary change – start with younger years.
- Keep families together.
- Keep older grades at their school.
- Keep within 5 miles of Jackson at Jackson (radius). x2.
- Don't want my kids to “pass” Jackson to go north. x2
- Take kids in north Jackson boundary that are bussed (around 128th) to go northbound. x2
- Take neighborhoods closes to major arteries north.
- Take into account commute times; want kid on bus least possible amount of time. x3
- Keep walkers at Jackson.
- Take into account variances.
- Can we send new developments north (even if close to Jackson). New developments within last 5 years) x 9
- If you move a community, move the whole community. x9
- Year around school. x5
- Don't like year around. x5
- Continue to look at “college start magnet” programs/pathways.

- Allowing variances for students to remain in current programs (orchestra)
- Transfer in current Jackson kids (original meant to go to Jackson)
- Special Ed/IEPs who don't want change (priority transfers).
- Move 6th grade back to elementary school.
- Don't divide elementary kids.
- Beware of recent elementary boundary changes (want to stay in original path).
- Take into account future traffic patterns.
- Take into account after school activities – transportation home afterwards (when activity bus won't work).
- Take into account kids having to be on freeway (Boeing traffic).
- Need new high school
- Can we split district?
- Using online classes more/split classes.
- Look at Running Start to thin population in school at one time.
- Consider work study with class to reduce number.
- Transfer full time Running Start to remain at Jackson.
- Activity Bus takes really long time going from Cascade to Jackson area.
- Just because you live in Mill Creek proper, you should not get more weight in this decision. Look at all of Jackson population.
- Traffic time and rush hour to Cascade for after school activities/curriculum night.
- Communicate better with parents about the future.

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Cascade High School Comments:

- Reliable commute time (+/- 5 minutes except catastrophic "stuff")
- Reasonable commute time (30 minutes max each way by bus)
- Safe commute route (avoid freeways if possible)
- Try to avoid passing one high school to get to assigned school
- Magnet school?
 - Draw kids to other schools

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- Program “specialty” at each school? Ask kids/parents what would draw them?
 - Transportation?
- 7th-12th grade campus (Heatherwood/Jackson)
 - Includes Gateway students
 - 6th graders would stay at elementary
 - Gateway would be available for elementary kids
- Online courses – strategic online course times to reduce load in buildings
 - Replaces a class period on campus
 - Where do online kids go during their online period? “internet café” study hall somewhere on site?
 - Transportation challenges
 - Sports concerns
- Team Allegiance (sports, clubs)
- Public Transportation options?
- How to mitigate folks “cheating the system” with addresses to remain at Jackson?
- Consider keeping students for whom change is very disruptive (i.e. special needs) at the same school.
- Prioritize the existing homes at the same schools, move new developments to other schools.
- Keep a 2-mile walking radius from high schools.
- If bond passes, consider accelerated building schedule.
- Concern programs; for instance, student starts at Jackson with a path for a certain program or laid out plan. Gets moved to Cascade that doesn’t offer that program. Could the student variance and go to Jackson? Conversely, there may be programs offered at Cascade that students who get moved as Soph/Jr/Sr that they missed out on (for instance, marching band).
- Consider leaving students within a 1 mile radius at their home school.
- Students who live directly southwest of CHS but are beyond the 1 mile radius should not be bussed to EHS (should not be bussed right past CHS on the way to EHS).
- Consider socioeconomic factors when making this change (and special ed students, etc.)
- Consider the time on buses; move those close to major thoroughfares.

- Consider not moving seniors and/or their siblings.
- Look for ways to “incentivize” a student’s move.
- Consider leaving special needs students at their home school.
- Consider providing a support team for the students/parents that move.
- Be mindful of not cutting a neighborhood in half when making this decision.
- Consider moving JHS students to EHS. However, do consider the bus time. Don’t do this if bus time is too long.
- Add more portables to JHS and do not move students.
- Be mindful of the school’s “ranking score” and how it will affect property values of students who move from one school to another.

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Everett High School Comments:

- Move all students from one elementary school (i.e. Penny Creek and Lowell Elementary) to same middle school and high school
- How long on bus is important. (30 minutes reasonable)
- Reducing size is important for attention/education.
- Keep juniors and seniors (have option) at current school.
- Give an option for siblings to attend original high school.
- All students need to be on same schedule (Not AM/PM).
- What about programs that are at only one school i.e. marching band/orchestra?
- Keep each magnet specialty at only one school so that program forces students to choose other places.
- Look at moving Evergreen Middle School boundary to encourage MS friends to go to Everett High.
- Teen drivers – keep distances short (there would be a lot more doubled travel time with a boundary change)
- Move students from south end to Everett HS and add a later start time to attract students.
- Take into account prior moves for elementary boundary change and not move again.

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- All elementary schools should be considered for moves (including Mill Creek Elementary).
- Take only incoming 9th graders each year until capacity at EHS.
- Don't break up elementary schools between two high schools.
- Lab space for new students.
- I'm curious if the philosophy includes some space for school choice after the boundaries are moved? Will each school be maxed or will there still be space?
- I'm a mom of a 5th and 8th grader who are not currently enrolled in the Everett School District. We are zoned for CHS, but we would prefer to transfer/variance to EHS. Would we be able to voluntarily shift north?

Individual Comments received during Forums

Let's Talk About High School Growth!

Please share your ideas:

- The State needs to redraw the district boundaries and/or merge some.
- Consider grandfathering existing high school students. In this case, what will be done with siblings who are younger and entering high school the same year?
- High school athletes – asking them to move to another high school half way through their high school years would be hard.
- Travel time – students living south, this would be a huge issue.
- New housing developments should move before existing neighborhoods.
- Consider grandfathering juniors and seniors so they don't have to change schools.
- Length of travel time to Cascade and new drivers driving long distances on major roads and in traffic.
- Kids who are in sports and having to switch schools after being with same group/team. Kids who letter and have jackets – what do they do?
- People have bought their houses and raised their kids to attend specific schools – have attended them for whole schooling – to move their last two years of high school would be brutal!
- Friendships – hard to re-make friends/friend groups at end of high school.

- Clubs/extra-curricular activities. ASB officers, etc. – all impacted.
- In deciding boundary moves and how it affects current students, my student doesn't want to have to establish new friendships half way through high school. He doesn't want to switch school alliances. I don't personally like the lengthy commute. When this happened at my high school, all current students were grandfathered in. They had the option to stay or go. All new to the school, or district did not get the option. I think that would satisfy the current families.
- Why don't we move the kids that are currently in Gateway MS territory to Cascade HS and move the kids that are currently in Eisenhower MS territory to Everett HS? Not sure of that population, but at least both seem pretty dense and make a large impact on relieving Jackson, and limit travel time for moved kids.
- Boundary changes should be considered across current school district lines. South end of the Jackson area is very close to the new Northshore High School. Makes much more sense to let kids go there rather than bussing past Jackson to Cascade.
- Consider: Length of time kids spend on bus. Local high schools already have very early start time. Many health care professionals recognize this as hard on teenager's need for sleep. Longer bus rides mean even earlier mornings.
- Members of Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints attend a daily religious instruction class at 6:00 AM for 1 hour. Increased bus times make that impossible for them. Also, affects any other morning extra-curricular activities.
- In any case, bussing students past Jackson to go to Cascade makes no sense in regards to time on a bus. Or keeping neighborhoods together.
- Please consider using boundary changes as just one piece of the overall puzzle. Schedule changes such as staggered start times and/or year-round school should be considered as well to mitigate the effects on students and families. Also, consider making the middle schools cover 7,8,9th grades, while moving 6th grade to elementary schools.

- Consider taking students close to Bothell/Everett highway or 35th Ave SE to Cascade High School as they are closer to Cascade HS and will spend less time on a bus. More direct route to Cascade HS.
- Limit time on the bus
- Students with sibling at Jackson should stay at Jackson
- For students who are currently within walking distance, please prioritize them into their local school. This will cost less than providing additional busses for kids who wouldn't need transportation if kept near their school.
- Bottom line questions I had when I came:
 - When would this take effect? (2020?)
 - If my child started at X school, they would finish there and not be forced to move, yes? (no)
 - What specific programs might NOT be available at this new school my child expected/depended on i.e. specific long classes, band/orchestra, or other special classes/training. (statistics, drivers ed, community programs/sports teams etc.)
- Now I have questions about:
 - Demographics of those forced to move
 - Poorest who can't economically make up for lost time on bus (less time for a job), can't afford car, etc.
 - Safety of new drivers driving greater distances or negotiating tricky highways.
 - Compatibility of programs; extra-curricular classes, sports, special programs, languages, band, etc. that enrich life, but not available at all three schools
- I think one of the most important consideration is continuity – whatever the new boundaries are, I believe they should start with the incoming class. In other words, once someone starts at High School "X", they should be allowed to remain there.
Switching a high school, say, in the 10th or 11th grade can be devastating for a student. They already have their friends and routine. So, in 2020, start the changes with the freshmen class and go from there.

- Consider not moving a student who has been 1 year at Jackson to Cascade the next – too much upheaval as a teenager (my son will be a freshman next year).
- Consider including all students from a particular middle school in a move to preserve those relationships.
- It seems fair to consider boundaries based on miles from the school (the new one)
- Facilitate approval of transfers to; for example: Glacier Peak High School
- Look at portables solutions
- As with any parent that could see an outcome that changes the high school boundaries for their child, I too have many concerns. Not only am I concerned with the thought of my daughters attending any high school other than Jackson, I'm concerned about the transportation time that would result from moving Cascade. To that end, I believe bus times should be factored in for all changes. No neighborhood should be excluded even if that neighborhood is closer to Jackson than others. Areas like Silver Firs and Apple Tree will face excessive bus times that are unhealthy for young adults. I also believe neighborhoods that are new and causing the overcrowding should be more likely to be reboundaried out of Jackson.
- Would like seniors who have attended Jackson for high school be able to graduate from Jackson. (be 1 year exceptions to the boundary change)
- Consider feeder schools and keep families together
- Move 6th grade to elementary school. Shift 9th grade to middle – 7th-9th. Make Jackson a 10th-12th school.
- Allow current students at each high school, stay attend and graduate. Start boundary changes for current middle school students. Population changes at each school will be at desired levels in a few years.
- Concerns: “Leaked” map showed SW area bussing past JHS to Cascade (nearly 10 miles). All for rezoning but imperative to keep as local to school as possible. Affects bus times, bus length, young drivers on road, after school activities, volunteering, and parent involvement.
- Take volunteers among students to make boundary changes first. Other high schools may have programs they want. Or, make assigned school boundaries more fluid.

- Can district make students more aware of on-line high school district class options? Do families realize their student can take 1 or 2 classes online and the rest on site? (help alleviate crowding). Do families understand the awesome program Sequoia High School offers?
- How does this affect or partner with the new specialization focus at each high school? (aviation, tech, etc.)
- SW section is really unique. Any possibility to partner with Northshore and look at capacity at North Creek High School which is so close?
- Shifted schedules – have some start earlier and some start later.
- With changing boundaries, take the opportunity to change school times. Studies have proved that a later start = better grades for high school students!
- Bussing kids from far south end makes for incredibly long commutes to Cascade. Really concerned about how early kids would have to be on bus. (and, waiting in the dark!)
- Consider what projected long-term boundaries will be when new high school is built to minimize families having to move schools twice.
- Keep kids who go to Heatherwood at Jackson. Does not make sense to bus kids from far southwest end up very trafficked Bothell-Everett Highway.
- If bussing to Cascade from the far south end (Mays Pond area) I am concerned about:
 - Time – time school starts, time it would take to get there and home.
 - Safety/Security for students waiting for the bus so early in the morning. Plus, safety of student drivers for a longer commute.
 - After-school activities and availability of parents to pick up so far away.
- Make one class online high school. Already exists-Use it! Good resource, good practice on self-motivation, frees up classrooms!
- Consider how distance between neighborhood and high school affects commuting and families and students, time on the road, traffic, after school activities, parents picking up and dropping off, young drivers on road early and late.
- Have more online or partial day options in the building IN the building with other classes online.

- Washington STEM Academy being built on 527. Idea to partner with them and cut deal to move most local students?
- My concern about bussing is the hour the kids will need to catch the bus. How dark it is in the winter, their ability to attend extra-curricular activities like after school games (i.e. traffic & parent's need to drive them), their sense of community when they live so far away, Parent involvement reduced and disconnected.
- I'm concerned my son is going to want to enroll into the technology high school track which is slated for Jackson. I see the potential of not just being bussed north to high school; just to be bussed back south for tech classes. Waste of time and transportation and NOT in the classroom.
- We moved to this area for the schools. We value education and family and community. I'm concerned if my children are bussed up north, they'll spend over an hour on the bus. If they ride the bus home from Heatherwood every day, they are on the bus for 40 min. If they are to go to Cascade or Everett High, how long will that ride take? Will it be a 2 hour commute each day? That takes time from our family, from extra-curricular activities. How much would that be in transportation costs to the district? It doesn't make sense.