

OUR SCHOOLS



NEWSLETTER FALL 2022



IN THIS ISSUE

TRANSITIONAL
KINDERGARTEN

2022 CAPITAL
LEVY UPDATES

KEEPING
STUDENTS AND
STAFF SAFE

SENSE OF
BELONGING

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We have had a great start to the school year!

From day one, as I walked the halls of every school, I saw quality instruction and students engaged – what amazing teachers and staff we have. It was a smooth and successful start to what I feel is going to be a strong year.

We have a laser focus on student achievement and making sure every student gets the support they need to grow and reach learning goals. District and building leadership will work together to closely monitor systems and instruction so our kids get the best possible education in our schools. Led by our strategic plan, our incredible staff is supporting student proficiency and growth to aligned standards.

One aspect that supports this learning is ensuring a culture of safety. In this issue you will read about our safety practices and protocols to ensure our students have a safe place to learn and staff have a safe place to work. Another important piece is a sense of belonging, and you will read about a full day training we had for all our staff on October 14.

You will also learn about the classroom technology that supports our work, and how we as a district are engaging with our community through Let's Connect sessions.

I am proud of the work in our district. I am encouraged by the passion our educators have and the engagement of our students. I appreciate your partnership and support in educating our future generations.

Be safe and be well,

Dr. Ian B. Saltzman




TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN JANUARY – JUNE 2023

Everett Public Schools offers Transitional Kindergarten (TK) for children who are not currently in an early learning program and are scheduled to enter kindergarten in the fall of 2023. The program focuses on basic academic, social and self-help skills to jumpstart qualifying students toward success in school.

Students will be screened and may qualify based on need.

To be eligible for screening, children must:

- be five years old by August 31, 2023
- live within the boundaries of Everett Public Schools
- not be currently enrolled in an early learning program
- demonstrate academic and/or social-emotional needs

Requests for screening will be open in November. If you are interested in Transitional Kindergarten and believe your child may qualify, please visit our website at www.everettsd.org/TransitionalKindergarten and submit an interest form by **Friday, December 16, 2022.**

Transitional Kindergarten begins in late January 2023 and will run through the last day of school in June 2023. School locations will be determined in January and will be communicated directly to eligible families.

For preschool options, please visit our Early Childhood Education & Assistance Program (ECEAP) webpage at www.everettsd.org/ECEAP.

We are looking forward to meeting you and your student soon!



2022 CAPITAL LEVY UPDATE

We are grateful to our voters for approving the 2022 Replacement Capital Levy. This is a 6-year, \$325.5 million levy with the funds collected in installments between 2023 and 2028.

The first funding available to begin work on these projects will be in April of 2023, and the work will be spread out over time to align with the collection timeline.

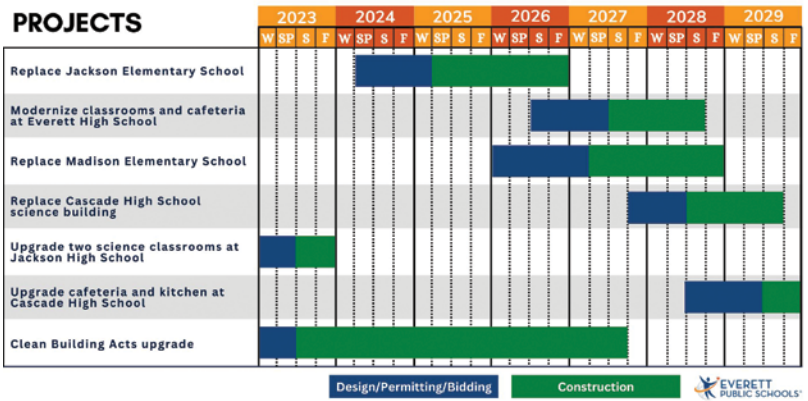
The capital levy includes \$229.5 million for facility projects to replace Jackson and Madison elementary schools and the Cascade High School Science Building, modernization of classrooms and cafeteria in the Everett High School Civic Auditorium building, cafeteria and kitchen at Cascade High School and two STEM classrooms at H.M. Jackson High School, as well as a variety of safety and security upgrades, HVAC upgrades, roofing replacements, Clean Buildings Act upgrades and other projects.

The capital levy also includes \$96 million for technology improvements over six years. These improvements include refreshing student and staff devices, keeping software subscriptions current, providing professional development to staff and upgrading infrastructure, systems and network security, among other technology system improvements.

As the levy funding is spread over six years, project timelines for the facility projects and technology improvements have been developed to align this work with the revenue stream.

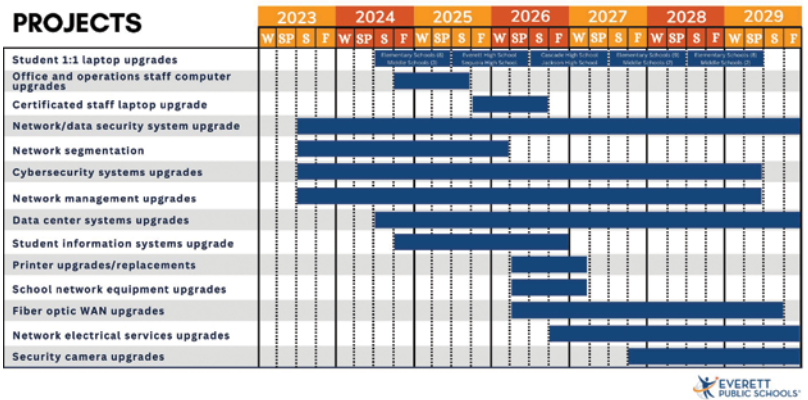
2022 Capital Levy Projects Schedule

PROJECTS



2022 Capital Levy Projects Schedule - Technology

PROJECTS



These timelines and the rationale for prioritizing these projects and improvements, along with other information regarding the 2022 capital levy, is available at www.everettsd.org/CapitalProjects.

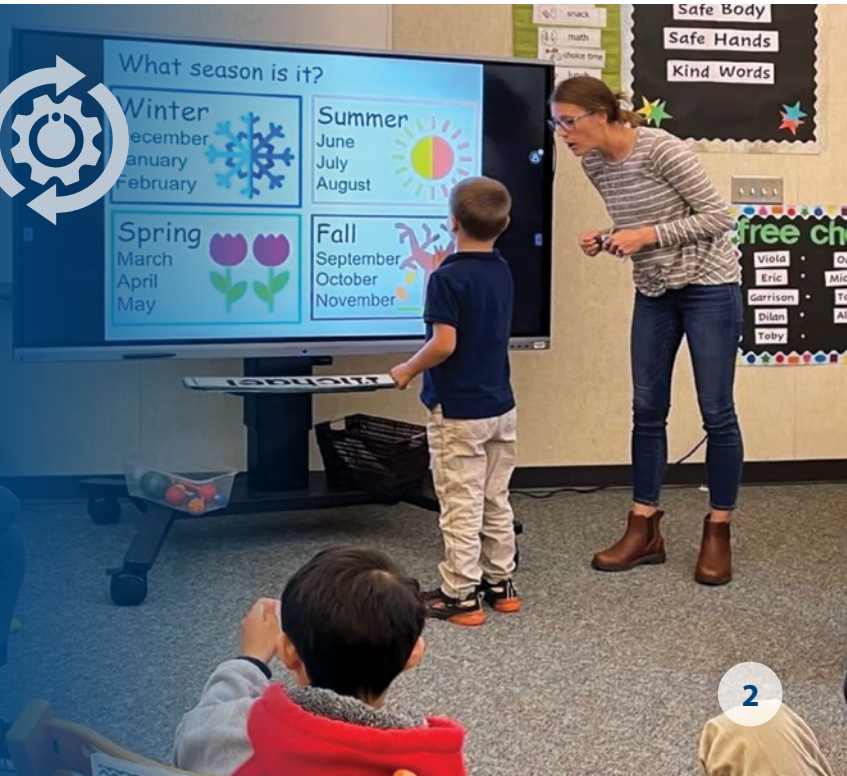


EQUITY IN DIGITAL RESOURCES

With the passage of the 2016 bond and 2022 capital levy, the district upgraded standard classroom technology with 21st century digital tools.

Each classroom has a flat panel display teachers use for projection and delivering content in interactive and engaging ways. The flat panel communicates with the teacher's laptop, classroom computer and document camera. These four tools make up the standard classroom technology in our schools.

Teachers have the same digital resources to support student learning no matter where they teach in the district and students have the same experience no matter which school they attend, ensuring equity across the district.



KEEPING STUDENTS AND STAFF SAFE

Academic growth and achievement - Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) - School safety. Not surprisingly the three highest priorities for school families today. It is hard to elevate one over the other because they are intricately combined. Schools often talk about academic growth, and there has been a spotlight on SEL recently, but what are schools doing to keep students and staff safe?

Everett Public Schools takes safety and security very seriously. We work to create an environment where people feel safe, understand safety protocols and rehearse safe practices to help build confidence and competency. Here are just a few things you might not know about safety in Everett Public Schools:

PHYSICAL SAFETY

- Exterior doors are to remain locked in all buildings.
- Video intercom systems help provide building safety by controlling who enters our schools. Once allowed inside, guests must report to the main office, sign in and wear badges. Only those with district-assigned badges are allowed to enter schools freely.
- Where the physical layout of a school allows, security vestibules have been constructed and provide a glassed-in double entry system.
- Security cameras are installed at exterior and interior locations.



PROACTIVE SCHOOL SYSTEMS

- Staff access and use of Rave Panic Button phone application for emergency reporting is directly tied to the Emergency-911 system.
- Campus security officers are assigned to all secondary schools.
- School Resource Officers (SROs) are police officers that serve secondary school campuses.
- District security staff perform checks of the district after hours and on weekends to prevent unauthorized access, ensure campuses are secure and deter illegal activity.
- We employ school security staff and commissioned police officers for large sporting events and school-sponsored activities like graduation.



CRISIS PLANS AND PREPAREDNESS TRAINING

- Emergency communications plans are updated annually.
- In-person safety training is delivered at each district site to provide updates for response and prevention best practices. In August 2022 we provided a comprehensive four-hour training for all district administrators and supervisors as the first of a series of trainings scheduled for this year. Topics included: Maintaining a culture of safety, Incident Command protocols in emergencies, Run Hide Fight principles, emergency alert and communication systems and reunification procedures. This training also supports administrators with reinforcing safety procedures at their respective sites throughout the year.
- District systems are currently in use for student threat assessment, suicide prevention, incident reporting and incident response.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE DRILLS

Schools are required to complete one drill per month during the school year. This includes:

- 3 fire evacuation drills
- 3 earthquake drills
- 3 lockdown drills
- 1 shelter in place drill

REUNIFICATION DRILL

In mid-October of this year, 95 Jackson High students and district staff and community volunteers practiced a reunification drill at Everett Memorial Stadium. Everett Memorial Stadium is the reunification site for the entire district. Several factors make it ideal including the proximity of district support staff at the Community Resource Center, the size of the stadium including separate entrances, the ability to store emergency supplies as well as spaces for health, counseling and special services rooms.



The reunification drill involved 25 volunteers who posed as parents coming to pick up their student so staff could rehearse the process of reuniting families. Upon completion, participants gave feedback on the process and district safety staff were able to improve upon the process.

Rehearsals like this are vital to ensuring the district can handle a variety of emergencies.



Reunification drill at Everett Memorial Stadium

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

In conjunction with our community, families and staff, we developed a new strategic plan in 2021. This is a five-year, student-focused plan to inspire all students to achieve and thrive in our schools. The six priority student outcomes, listed below, are evidence of this focus and target important areas for growth.

Our focus is on student achievement — every student making progress and an increasing number of students reaching academic proficiency.

As district leaders and administrators visit classrooms, we are looking for consistent implementation of high-impact instructional strategies. We are also using monitoring tools and mini assessments to keep a real-time pulse on student learning. We are fully committed to supporting all students with their academic goals.

The most recent data from the spring 2022 Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) scores shows consistent growth from Fall 2021, and Everett Public Schools

students on average outperformed the state average. We are pleased with the results, but in no way satisfied.

We understand we should all be cautious about viewing state assessment scores as the primary indicator of student learning and growth. The assessment has changed over the past few years and the results are complex to interpret. That is why teachers use mini assessments throughout their teaching to determine how students are learning and retaining concepts. With the help of tools such as i-Ready and Performance Matters, teachers and administrators have real time information on how a student is progressing toward standards so they can make adjustments in instruction to support individual needs.

The use of these tools and the observation of teaching to aligned standards is an ongoing focus for administrators and district leaders as they visit classrooms. By being present and observing the implementation of high-level strategies, we are going to understand which tools are working and those needing to be adjusted for our students to demonstrate both proficiency and growth to aligned standards. Our call-to-action is to ensure 3rd grade literacy, increase science and math achievement, reduce gaps in achievement and make sure students are prepared for college and career while keeping them engaged and safe.

As we review the data, we are very proud of students and staff. We will continue to look at data to make the right decisions for students. We have amazing teachers, school-based administrators and staff. We will continue to strive for excellence.



SIX PRIORITY STUDENT OUTCOMES

Ensure
3rd grade
literacy

Increase
science
achievement

Increase
math
achievement

Reduce gaps
in achievement
among student
groups

Ensure students
are prepared to
succeed in college
and career

Strengthen
student wellness,
engagement and
safety



PSAT, SAT, ACT, ASVAB – DEFINITION AND WHY THEY ARE IMPORTANT



PSAT

The PSAT/NMSQT is the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

The PSAT is a great primer for the SAT, and even the ACT, but it's more than just a trial run. PSAT scores are used to identify National Merit Scholars and award merit scholarships.

SAT

The SAT is a multiple-choice, pencil-and-paper test created and administered by the College Board. The purpose of the SAT is **to measure a high school student's readiness for college and provide colleges with one common data point that can be used to compare all applicants.** Scores show strengths and readiness for college work. But remember, scores are just one part of college applications, along with grades, course rigor and recommendations.

ACT

The ACT is a standardized test used for college admissions in the United States. It is currently administered by ACT (American College Testing), a nonprofit organization of the same name. The ACT test covers four academic skill areas: English, mathematics, reading, and scientific reasoning. It also offers an optional direct writing test. The ACT is a good value because **it offers a college admissions test, college course placement, and a career planning component for one modest fee.** And you can make yourself visible to colleges and scholarship agencies across the country by taking the ACT.

ASVAB

The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is a multiple-aptitude battery that measures developed abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success in the military. It is administered annually to more than one million military applicants, high school, and post-secondary students. Simply put, **studying for the ASVAB is important because your ASVAB score helps determine which jobs you qualify when you enter the military** — and if you can even enter the military at all.

SENSE OF BELONGING

We are going to keep a strong focus on academic achievement for all – every student – this year and provide supports to ensure student success. One integral part of student achievement is Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) and sense of belonging.

SEL sets the tone for learning and makes it more accessible to every student.

This is one of the reasons why our entire staff – over 2,400 of us – took an entire day on October 14 to

focus on SEL and sense of belonging. It is the first time in many years all staff were at one venue together.

During the morning session, we heard from Dr. Marc Brackett, nationally known author, founder of RULER (RULER stands for five areas of emotional intelligence: Recognizing, Understanding, Labeling, Expressing and Regulating emotions) and director of the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence. For the afternoon session, staff had time to process and apply learnings back at their school/department.

For all staff to have the same training on SEL and sense of belonging is wonderful for our students and brings us one step closer to having every student feel welcomed and engaged in our schools.



OCTOBER *LET'S CONNECT*

Everett Public Schools strives to include diverse voices, thoughts, suggestions and input in district decisions. We provide opportunities for families, community members, students and staff to express what works well and what might work better to create a positive social and academic climate in our schools.

On October 6, the district hosted three in-person Let's Connect sessions, one for each region, where parents and guardians attended and engaged in conversation about back to school and provided feedback which will be used to help us improve. The questions posed were:

- What are the academic needs your student may have?
- What does student achievement mean to you?

Feedback from each session is available on the engagement webpage at www.everettsd.org/Engagement.



SCHOOL CLOSURE AND DELAY RESOURCES

- **FlashAlert.net:** You can subscribe to receive notices at the same time those notices are sent to media outlets, or you can bookmark this site to check for a listing of regional school emergency schedule information.
- **Media news reports:** (Media get information from FlashAlert)
- **Everett Public Schools website:** www.everettsd.org
- **Mass communication system:** message to school families typically beginning at 5:45 a.m. In some cases, you may receive notification the evening before.
- **Everett Public Schools social media:** Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages.

"No announcement" means schools have normal schedules. More resources are available at www.everettsd.org/Safety.

Have a safety concern related to schools? Report it!

3 easy ways:



Text or call
855-637-2095



Email
1350@alert1.us



Web
<https://everett-wa.safeschoolsalert.com>

Additionally, if there is reason for concern about safety on a designated walkway to school, call 9-1-1 immediately for authorized, quick help. We have strong partnerships with local law enforcement who share our interest in safe schools and neighborhoods.

Student safety is a priority for all of us. Working together, we can help make our neighborhoods and schools nurturing places for students to safely learn and grow.





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Why are you receiving this newsletter? Many residents within the school district do not have school-age children in Everett Public Schools. The purpose of Our Schools, therefore, is to let those members of the community know about the programs and activities taking place in their Everett Public Schools. This mailing publication is not mailed using an address list. Instead, to greatly reduce the cost of postage, we use a bulk mailing process that has it delivered to every residential customer on each letter carrier's route.

Everett Public Schools is hiring for many positions and has an immediate need for substitutes. Please share with friends and family who may be interested in joining our team.

**WE ARE
HIRING**

Visit www.everettsd.org/Jobs for more information and how to apply. Schools are located in Everett, Mill Creek and Bothell, Washington.



HAVE YOU DOWNLOADED OUR MOBILE APP?

News and information about our schools are as close as your smartphone. Download and log into the district app to access your student's info quickly and easily. See top stories, Parent University, Canvas, books checked out from the library, and find the staff directory, school websites, calendars and more.

**Available for Apple and Android devices
and can be downloaded in 3 easy steps:**

1. On your smartphone, go to the iTunes App Store® or Google Play®
2. Search Everett Public Schools
3. Then select our app for free download

Once you've downloaded the app, log in to "student info" with your LMS password to see student-specific information for each of your children. Read content in one of many languages available in the settings. If you need assistance with logging in, go to www.everettsd.org/FamilyTechSupport.

Nondiscrimination statement: Everett Public Schools does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

Title IX/Civil Rights Compliance Officer:
Kevin Allen, 425-385-4100, KAllen@everettsd.org,
PO Box 2098, Everett WA 98213

Section 504 Coordinator:
Dave Peters, 425-385-4063, DPeters@everettsd.org,
PO Box 2098, Everett WA 98213

ADA Coordinator:
Randi Seaberg, 425-385-4104, RSeaberg@everettsd.org,
PO Box 2098, Everett WA 98213

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Pam LeSesne
- Caroline Mason
- Traci Mitchell
- Jen Hirman
- Andrew Nicholls

SUPERINTENDENT

- Dr. Ian B. Saltzman

Board of Directors: (front row) Pam LeSesne, Andrew Nicholls, Caroline Mason, (back row) Binta Kolly (student rep.), Jen Hirman, Traci Mitchell, Alice Gilbertson (student rep.)

