everett Page 1 of 1

News Release

Everett Public Schools March 1, 2007

For more information: Mary Waggoner, 425-385-4049 Mike Gunn, 425-385-4190

School board to take comments about proposed boundary changes March 5

On March 5, 2007, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the <u>Educational Service Center</u>, the school board will take public comments about middle school boundary change recommendations being considered for a year and a half from now.

Growth in the southern region of the district is causing overcrowding in schools there. To make room for even more students expected to arrive with increased housing development, district boundaries are being adjusted to move students north where there is more available space. Doing so saves the cost of building another middle school and makes good use of schools with more available space — in time for the 2008-09 school year.

A middle school boundary committee concluded its work in January and submitted their recommendations to Superintendent Carol Whitehead who forwarded them to the school board in February.

Included with the boundary recommendations are <u>variance options</u> for this year's 5th- and 6th-graders who might want to start attending their new middle school a year early, in 2007-08. Also under consideration is a <u>variance option</u> for students who will be 8th-graders in 2008-09 (when the boundary changes take place) and who want to remain at the middle school they have attended since 6th grade.

The middle school boundary change recommendations and variance proposals will not be final until approved by the board, possibly at the March 13 regularly scheduled board meeting.

The <u>rationale for middle school boundary final recommendation</u> is available on the Web site as are various maps depicting the boundaries under consideration.