

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FORUM ON GROWTH AND CHANGE

Community Comments:

(What concerns do you have? What are your thoughts or ideas? What else should we consider?)

- It is great if we can build another high school. At the same time, how do we know that there won't be any bond or propositions passed by local or state government? In 2016 we had RTA tax, EMS tax, and criminal justice propositions passed leading to increase in property and car taxes. So my question is – What will state and local government give up so the bond for new school can pass? All of these hit household pockets, but what can be given up? I am also open to year around school. This is the second meeting I have attended. First meeting was at Jackson High
- Why does it take 4 years before construction can begin? Even with a new high school, we will still be at 25 portables at Jackson. Only 5 less than doing nothing. Can we expedite this process? We are paying for a new school and most of the portables
- What will new boundaries be for HS & ES?
- How did we get to this point? Couldn't past projections predict this growth and help us get ahead of it?
- Don't bus my kids to Cascade!
- Regarding growth, there needs to be more transparency about the fees developers pay to help cover the cost of growth in schools. They need to stop getting deals – same fees for every developer based on size
- Thank you for working to give our kids the best possible education and facilities. I support the bond/levy and am willing to pay higher taxes for strong schools.
- Please do not consider bussing southern students north. It will unfairly disadvantage those students and families
- Please no bussing! I came from a bussing district and it was terrible. I support a new high school but I have some concerns about getting it passed.
- Bussing is detrimental to participation
- Is school enrollment taken into account when approving new housing?
- If all these new houses have been added, where does the extra taxes go – with that many houses there should be money available or accumulating. Don't tell me it is shared between all houses, a percentage. My taxes went up \$700 this year. If it is a percentage, why do my taxes go up?
- You sold the old admin building for 3.325 million, where is that money going?
- We all knew this was happening, they have been adding lots of houses for the last 5 years. You wait until some of the schools are over capacity to realize we need to do something now?

- I voted no on the first high school bond. I felt the tactics used “for” it used false information and tried to trick us into voting for it
- I moved to this area from downtown Everett specifically because I didn’t want to raise my kids in that area
- Is really moving 300+ kids going to make that much of a difference? That number seems too low to make a difference
- What is the potential for a freshman campus/building at Jackson HS?
- We paid more for our houses than people on the other high schools.
- Cascade and Everett are not as good of high schools
- It is a temporary solution with a huge social cost
- Property values of our homes will decrease
- Who is allowing all this new construction while this overcrowding problem is happening?
- Security of portables
- How does new construction assist with infrastructure needs, especially apartments?
- I support a new high school, Option A
- Could pushing more students to running start alleviate the crowding? Consider year round school. Prioritize based on safety and health concerns
- Developers should be paying a much bigger portion into the pot – please lobby the county.
- Have a plan B if bond doesn’t get passed in February. Adjust for the April ballot to get something passed
- School board – please provide leadership. People are going to whine no matter what
- Many south end elementary schools are overflowing - with playgrounds covered in portables, but Silver Firs elementary is not full. Why has the Highly Capable program not been moved from Forest View to Silver Firs? These classes are segregated from the rest of the grade level activities anyway.
- Why not add onto some of the existing elementary schools? Wasn’t there originally a plan to add onto Forest View? Wouldn’t this be cheaper than new schools?
- If the state fully funds education, will existing levies that currently fund salaries be discontinued? Will these funds be available for construction?
- Where does all of the additional property tax revenue from all the new residents to our area go? When I asked previously I was told the same levy/bond total \$ amount is distributed among all residents, so as new people move in each individuals property taxes should go down. However, none of our property taxes have gone down, even a little. Where is this money going?
- I understand the Longfellow building has been sold for 3 million. Where will that money go and why is it not being allocated to a new high school? Wouldn’t it go a long way to appease voters resentful of the new admin building to use this money for a new high school?
- What can be done to speed up this process? Everett SD is years behind on construction of a new high school. Year round school and busing are NOT good options in the short or long term. New HS should be a priority!

- How crowded Jackson will be in 2017 and onward. If my child will be able to attend or if boundaries will change.
- Jackson HS as 10, 11, 12; Middle Schools as 7, 8, 9; and K-6 for elementary
- If one child attends Jackson is the other sibling automatically enrolled into Jackson as well?
- Don't like the bussing idea
- 100% for a new high school
- Is this a surprise? Does it match what was projected 5 years ago
- Is there some way the developers can pay more for these schools (impact/mitigation fees)?
- Has it been considered to split the district?
- 6th grade campus?
- Bus most new/southern students to other schools
- Put new HS on bond – build that new HS
- Get parents involved – even mobilized, go door to door
- Get senior citizens involved
- Problem with bussing is that property values may drop
- Social problems – feeder patterns
- Zoning matters
- Need HS and ES – suffocated by overcrowding
- Worried about Cascade busing “option C”
- Keep kids together with feeder patterns
- Home values will be affected
- During interim, while HS is built, will boundary revisions take effect?
- Consider HS @ 10-12 grade
 - Move 9th grade to middle school, 6th grade to elementary
- Need new high school – concerned about crowding
- No busing north to Cascade HS – already up early
- Portables, how secure are they? More security is needed
- Lunch room is beyond packed
- Open to shift idea
- District really needs to let taxpayers know how greatly new high school is needed – Particularly seniors who don't have kids in district
- Put 6th graders back in elementary where there is the capacity
 - HS: 10-12
 - MS: 7-9
 - ES: K-6
- Staggered start times?
- Tearing down other elementary schools, where do those kids go during modernization?
- Concerns about shifting borders. How will this impact families that can't attend community events at schools that are not within their residential community?
- Concerns about moving to Cascade – should we move out of this district? Won't bus to Cascade – too far
- Social media connected
- High school is still in the works – what ____ has the board been having in light of this?

- Why does it cost \$185 million to build a HS?
- Contactor/Development fees, this fee may vary. Do the developers pay these fees? More transparency – what's the contribution to schools to support?
- Leading option – new school. Are we projecting out far enough? Don't want to wait past the point of no return
- Year round school may be a good 2nd option
- Not worried about tax/levy on top of the bond – the money is here and families support
- These sessions are positively buzzing in the community.
- More things like these meetings to help parents be informed
- Breaking off into different districts; our rapid growth in the south end, perhaps the SE needs its own district – need our own budget to meet the specific needs of this region.
- Bussing is not a good idea, impacts study club, activities, family participation
- Will they move kids mid-HS?
- Already have a problem – not just in 4 years district is behind the ball on growth compared to Northshore, proactive on growth.
- Moved here for a reason – for the schools. Frustrated if as a senior she gets shipped to another high school
- Where is the tax money from all the new housing going?
- Busing to alternative location bought houses for the schools – particularly for the high school
- Possible magnet schools/programs
 - STEM
 - Auto
 - IB
- Interested families could transport to alleviate enrollment
- Adding portables doesn't add common areas for students – this is important
- Property taxes climbing
- Concerned that a bond wouldn't pass – other options feel like "Sophie's Choice"
- Where is the money from all those new houses going? Is it not enough?
- Have we looked at what has worked in other places (outside Snohomish county) Referenced her experience in TX – where housing developments constructed concurrently with schools
- Something has to be given up by the state government or local government; no more local bonds. No more sales tax.
- I am not okay with rotating schedules
- Why can't we start the building process earlier than 2023?
- What do the local tax payers have to pay for the schools? The home developers and people who approve developments should share the burden of taxes. Have we ever considered coordinating with HUD? It helps to know their plan for population growth for the area.
- I am against the busing out of boundaries (plan C). If the plan goes through – is there a "grandfathered" exception for existing students?

- Make building the HS a priority – it won't be passed if there are too many things going on
- I am against the busing out of boundaries. Why and how did you decide to move a certain group of students to Cascade? If Jackson reaches maximum capacity (30 portables), will it affect AP and honor courses?
- What are the thoughts of teachers about the overcrowding?
- CRC money – how did that impact building?
- Historical levy/bond information – with dollar amounts
- Clear boundaries – the ones that are published are too fuzzy to read.