



News release

July 9, 2018

Board awards childcare bid to YMCA

Subject to a renegotiated agreement, parents will have greater access to childcare

At their regular meeting on July 3, the board of directors conditionally authorized an award of bid for before- and after-school care to the YMCA of Snohomish County. To be final, the agreement depends upon further negotiations between the district and the YMCA.

This fall when school opens, families will not see any changes to the before- and after-school childcare programs they are familiar with in district schools now.

If further YMCA negotiations are successful, the Y may begin offering more childcare options at more schools later in the year, during 2018-19 – especially in crowded elementary schools in the district's southern region. During the following school year, 2019-20, the program will also likely expand.

The district's Request for Proposals (RFP) process was designed to explore ways to enhance and expand before- and after-school childcare programs at schools. The RFP process detailed the district's goals to increase parent choice and flexibility. The process addressed the rising demand for childcare options caused by enrollment growth, and it offered transparency for stakeholders. The RFP selection criteria specified:

- alignment with district academic standards and programs
- ability to meet the diversity of student and family needs
- costs and fee structures
- staff qualifications, training, and supports
- parent outreach

District staff will work this summer with YMCA of Snohomish County to revise the current agreement. The board will consider an updated agreement this fall.

"After reviewing the five bids, we are pleased to select such a foundational community partner as the strongest bid proposal for our students and families," shared Everett Public Schools Director of Categorical Programs Cynthia Jones.

"We are honored to be selected as Everett Public Schools' before- and after-school childcare provider," said Scott Washburn, President and CEO, YMCA of Snohomish County. "As the county's largest childcare provider, we look forward to working with the district to expand our services to support more schools and families in our community."

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For more information:
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