

News release

March 25, 2015



Woodside Elementary is district's largest elementary school

Some Woodside students will move to Silver Lake when school starts this fall

To alleviate the overcrowding at Woodside Elementary, some students now attending there will start school at Silver Lake Elementary this fall. The 125-150 students switching schools live near the northern border of the city of Mill Creek in the Heatherwood, Reserve and Hawthorne apartments, Nature's Landing condominiums and the Woodside Walk neighborhood.

The board's decision is driven by rapidly increasing enrollment growth in the southern portion of the district and especially among elementary families at Woodside. Woodside has a capacity for 540 students from kindergarten through fifth grade. This year the 34 year old school and its 10 portable classrooms are the learning home for more than 800 students.

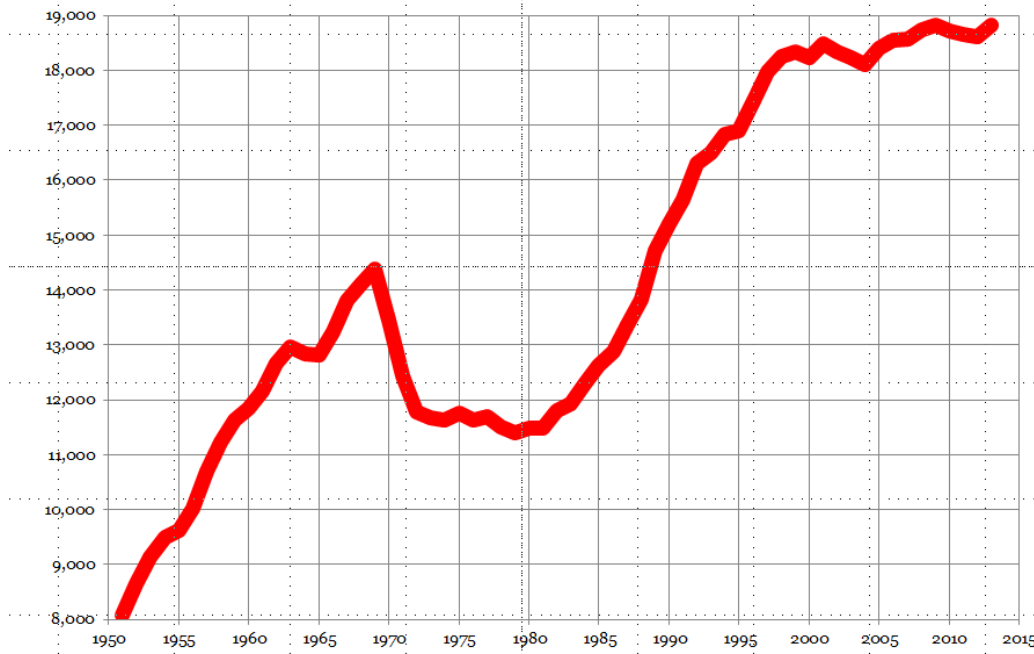
The boundary change will ease Woodside's congestion until more permanent elementary classroom space can be added in the region. Building more classroom space across the district will require voter approval of a capital bond.

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BACKGROUND – why southern portion of district has over-capacity schools and student enrollment growth projections into the future

Enrollment from 1951-2013

See how we've grown!



School district enrollment follows the population patterns and economic shifts of their communities.

The mid-1970s enrollment dive in Everett Public Schools mirrored The Boeing Company's business struggles of that time.

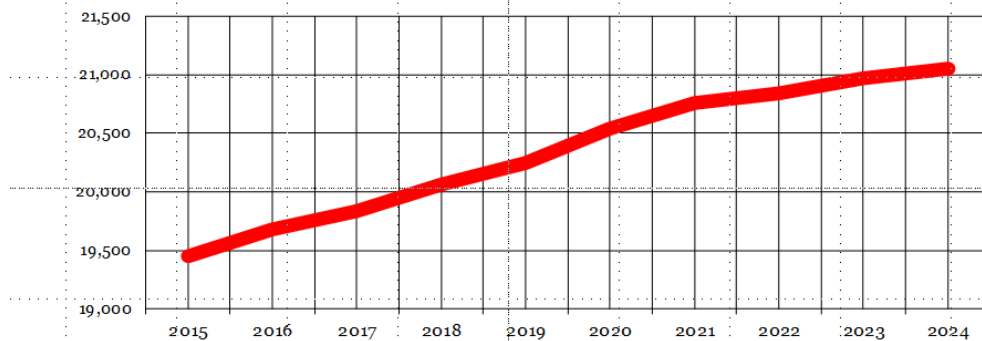
Since about 1990, the district has steadily grown to its more than 19,000 students this year.

Most of that growth has been in the southern portion of the district.

Enrollment Projections

Where are we going?

2015-2024



District enrollment projections through the year 2024 show steady increase will continue for another decade to a projected enrollment in 2024 of 21,050 students.

Projection	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
District-wide	19,451	19,682	19,831	20,060	20,246	20,539	20,759	20,845	20,973	21,050

Where elementary students are in 2015

Elementary School	Permanent Building Capacity	Actual Student Enrollment	Students (Over) or Under	Total # of Portables
Cedar Wood	568	629	(61)	6
Emerson	544	605	(61)	7
Forest View	571	613	(42)	0
Garfield	441	377	64	0
Hawthorne	520	454	66	1
Jackson	384	376	8	2
Jefferson	485	554	(69)	1
Lowell	472	478	(6)	4
Madison	484	438	46	0
Mill Creek	559	678	(119)	5
Monroe	542	538	4	2
Penny Creek	670	728	(58)	4
Silver Firs	496	528	(32)	2
Silver Lake	487	528	(41)	4
View Ridge	580	573	7	0
Whittier	434	446	(12)	0
Woodside	540	800	(260)	10
Other***		83		
Total	8,777	9,426	(566)	48

Everett Public Schools has 17 elementary school buildings.

This chart shows how many students the schools were built for, compared to how many are attending those schools this year.

Eleven of the 17 schools are **over capacity** by the numbers indicated in **orange**.

Six have space **(the numbers in blue)** for more students. However, the total space available in those six schools is only enough for 195 students.

Overall, the district is short space for 566 students. Put another way, today, the over-enrollment at elementary schools is enough to entirely fill a new elementary school.

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Where middle and high school students are in 2015

Middle School	Permanent Building Capacity	Actual Student Enrollment	Students (Over) or Under	Total # of Portables
Eisenhower	851	818	33	5
Evergreen	1,027	931	96	6
Gateway	941	809	132	2
Heatherwood	820	970	(150)	10
North	951	658	293	1
Other***		36		
Total :	4,590	4,222	404	24

High School	Permanent Building Capacity	Actual Student Enrollment	Students (Over) or Under	Total # of Portables
Cascade	1,825	1,788	37	1
Everett	1,897	1,418	479	0
Jackson	1,765	2,104	(339)	11
Sequoia	336	235	101	0
Other***		28		
Total :	5,823	5,573	278	12
District Totals:		19,221		84

This chart shows the capacity and current enrollment of the district's five middle schools and four high schools.

In 2015, Heatherwood Middle School is over capacity by 150 students and has 10 portables.

In 2015, Henry M. Jackson High School is over capacity by 339 and has 11 portables.

The fastest growing elementary schools today send students to Heatherwood and Gateway middle schools, which send their students to Henry M. Jackson High.

What are some solutions to overcrowding in the southern portion of the district?

"This is not a long-term solution to overcrowding," explains Mike Gunn, Executive Director of [Facilities and Operations](#). "It does not make the pain of rapid growth go away; it more equitably distributes the pain of enrollment growth."

In February and April of 2014, the district's capital bond proposal included enough classroom space to build a new elementary school, additions to some elementary schools and high school classroom space. It also included modernization and safety upgrades throughout the district.

"Twice in 2014 the majority of voters said 'yes' to that bond proposal," Gunn emphasizes. "However, a 58 percent 'yes' vote does not meet the 60 percent supermajority required to build school classroom space."

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He added, "The board has talked about when to put another bond proposal before voters. They are putting a lot of time and care into that conversation before making any future bond decision. For the time being at least, we are making interim adjustments to ease overcrowding."

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