



July 2010 | Vol. 15 No. 3 | Learning locally, competing globally | [www.issaquah.wednet.edu](http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu)



# Focus on building the future

## Successes this school year, looking forward to next fall

The 2009-10 school year has been defined by building. In the figurative sense, the Issaquah School District has spent the last nine months laying foundations for the future through achievement initiatives (educator professional development and comprehensive academic monitoring), resource planning (three levies passed in February), bargaining (four new labor contracts), and preparation for large-scale school boundary shifts this fall.

In the literal brick-and-mortar sense, the Capital Projects team has been on a (steam) roll! The District is on time and budget to rebuild, expand, or modernize seven schools.

"This is the fruition of the 2006 bond," Superintendent Steve Rasmussen said. "Because of the community's support, our school facilities contribute to the quality of a student's education because they are safe, clean, comfortable, and equipped for optimal learning. They are true educational assets."

For those who do not have time for a complete driving tour around the District, here is a snapshot of current school construction:

# Focus on building the future

continued from front page

## Creekside Elementary

When it opens, the District's 15th elementary will relieve overcrowded schools on the Sammamish Plateau. The new campus features a two-story design with 28 classrooms organized around a central library, two covered play areas and a sand playfield, and an emphasis on daylighting and natural ventilation strategies to reduce energy use. "Wireless technology capabilities and flexible learning areas inside and outside the classrooms will support multiple learning styles and help promote student success," said Principal Robin Earl.

- **Budget: \$22.4 million**
- **Timeline: Opening in fall 2010**

## Issaquah High School

Originally built in 1962, the school is undergoing a complete rebuild. The new campus features enclosed three-story classroom wings, an expanded gym and core facilities, a 600-seat performing arts facility available for community use, and green elements such as rain gardens and classrooms designed to maximize daylight energy. "I have to thank the community for entrusting us with this new building—we are going to be good stewards," said Principal Paula Phelps. "We have done well and thrived in less-than-ideal building conditions, and now I can't wait to see where we go with a state-of-the-art facility."

- **Budget: \$84 million**
- **Timeline: Completion of classrooms and core areas by fall 2010; completion of remaining facilities by fall 2011**

## Liberty High School

Built in 1975, Liberty High School is undergoing a modernization and expansion. The project features new science labs, eight new classrooms, a new performing arts facility, and improved heating and air ventilation. "The new design will bring the thriving performance arts programs at Liberty to the front of the building, create an airy and open entry/commons space, and allow us to expand our science courses for next year," Principal Mike DeLetis said.

- **Budget: \$15.4 million**
- **Timeline: Design and preparation work in summer 2010; completion in summer 2012**

## Maywood Middle School

Built in 1969, Maywood Middle School is undergoing a modernization and expansion. The project will add two science labs, four classrooms, and an expanded and updated commons, gym, and cafeteria. "We are very excited," said Maywood Principal Jason Morse. "We have invested a lot of time and effort into the planning phase of our project and are anxious to get underway and to have it completed. The additional classroom space and improved science labs will create a much improved environment for our lab-based science courses."

- **Budget: \$10.5 million**
- **Timeline: Completion in fall 2011**

## Skyline High School

Built in 1997, Skyline High is undergoing an expansion and remodel. The project features a new gym and expanded core



Artist's rendering of Liberty High School (detail).

facilities, a three-story classroom wing with more science labs, and reconfigured office locations for safety. "We are looking forward to dynamic discussions in all curricular disciplines!" said Skyline Principal Lisa Hechtman. "With the new technology in every classroom, including the Wi-Fi capability, students and teachers will increase their opportunity to interact with various media in 'real time' rather than the more traditional 'take-home, develop, and present' model."

- **Budget: \$42.1 million**
- **Timeline: Completion in fall 2010**

Other 2006 bond projects in the planning stage include a rebuild of Briarwood Elementary and a reconfiguration of Challenger Elementary; construction is scheduled to begin on these projects in the summer of 2011. Ongoing construction updates are available on the District's homepage, [www.issaquah.wednet.edu](http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu).

Flip inside this edition of *FOCUS* to read more about the District's year of building.

# Everything's online!

Here's your handy home-page guide

[www.issaquah.wednet.edu](http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu)

**1** Issaquah School District logo

**2** Home button

**3** Navigation menu: Academics, Directories, District, Family Resources, News, Our Community, Our Schools, School Board

**4** Search bar

**5** Mission statement: "Our students will be prepared for and eager to accept the academic, occupational, personal, and practical challenges of life in a dynamic global environment."

**6** "Learn more about us" link

**7** Point of Pride: "The Lion King—not just on Broadway anymore!"

**8** Upcoming Events section

**9** What's Happening section

**10** June Links section

**11** Video clip of the month link

**12** Sign up for eNews link

**13** Twitter link

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MORE POINTS OF PRIDE »

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Wed., June 23, 3:00 PM:  
District Surplus Sale  
at Skyline High School

Wed., June 23, 7:00 PM:  
School Board meeting  
The Issaquah School Board will hold a regular business meeting at 7 p.m.

Tue., June 29, 3:00 PM:  
District Surplus Sale  
at Issaquah High School

Wed., July 14, 7:00 PM:  
School Board meeting

**MORE UPCOMING EVENTS »**

Family Access

Intranet

**1** Construction updates — updated June 11  
Get the latest construction news and see project photos, site maps, and floor plans.

**4** The District has been bargaining with four labor groups with expiring contracts — updated June 10  
Update: District signs new four-year contract with Issaquah Education Association

**4** Optimal High School Experience — updated April 14  
Find out what's happening this year.

**4** Budget 2010-2011 — updated April 14  
Follow the 2010-2011 budget process.

Le Louvre d'Issaquah: the Kateri Brow Memorial Art Collection acquires five student masterpieces  
ISD purchases five student art pieces for Kateri Brow art collection

District signs new four-year contract with Issaquah Education Association

Newcastle Elementary wins state ecology award  
Prize will support on-going "Waste Watchers" program.

**MORE NEWS RELEASES »**

Find your school  
New boundaries are in effect this fall. Find your school here, and your specific bus route information late in August.

High School Proficiency Exam  
Score reports: registration for August testing is open June 1-27 (new end date for registering)

Math options for next year's 6th graders.  
Is Math Path II right for you?

Sports and athletic eligibility forms  
Requirements for middle and high school athletes

Summer School Information and forms

Video clip of the month  
Watch IMS seventh-grader's national award-winning choreography

The Issaquah School District provides equal opportunity in its programs, activities, and employment.  
About this website | Please report website issues to the webmaster.

**1** **Directories:** Look up contact information for any employee.

**2** **Family Resources:** Find information about community events, sports, health, and more.

**3** **Our Schools:** Look up information about individual schools.

**4** **Language selection:** Click to translate content into nine world languages.

**5** **Community report:** Get an annual overview of the District's achievement, finances, and programs and services.

**6** **Rotating school snapshot:** Hover the mouse over the image for a caption; click on the image for the archive.

**7** **Point of Pride:** Discover wonderful things happening in schools! Click to read more or for the archive.

**8** **Upcoming Events:** Don't miss out on District-level events and activities.

**9** **What's Happening:** Keep updated on hot topics and news.

**10** **Seasonal Links:** Get easy access to the month's most-requested links.

**11** **Video clip of the month:** Watch a sneak peek of events and activities in schools.

**12** **eNews:** Subscribe to District and school eNews.

**13** **Twitter:** Follow the District on Twitter.

