



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 21, 2018

Gary Sabol
360-618-6217

Arlington Public Schools Board of Directors approves running bond proposal in November

ARLINGTON- During a special meeting on June 18, the Arlington Public Schools Board of Directors approved running a bond proposal in November 2018. The district previously ran a bond proposal in February 2018 that fell short of a 60 percent threshold required for approval by a little over 300 votes.

This spring, the district held focused discussion groups with parents, staff and community members and also conducted telephone surveys to gain insight as to why the February bond proposal did not meet the threshold. The Facilities Advisory Committee also provided insight and recommendations to the board.

“The feedback we received indicated that there were some factors that worked against the passage of the bond in February, including uncertainty about taxes and school funding,” said Superintendent Dr. Chrys Sweeting. “The needs presented in the February bond package still exist.”

In November, voters will decide on a \$107,500,000 bond proposal which will include a rebuild of Post Middle School, the addition of classrooms at Arlington High School, and several safety and security upgrades at all schools in the district. Approval of the November 2018 bond proposal will not result in a local tax rate increase.

“This summer, we’re constructing new portables at Kent Prairie Elementary and the Stillaguamish Valley Learning Center,” said Brian Lewis, Executive Director of Operations. “Growth is coming to Arlington and we need to be prepared to handle that growth. Two-hundred eighty-three housing units have been completed in the boundaries of the school district in the past year and another 146 are under construction or in the permitting process right now. The projects in the bond proposal will help the community prepare for growth. The longer we wait to address these building needs, the more it will cost in the long run.”

###



Community members tour Post Middle School in January 2018. A rebuild of Post Middle School is one of the projects included in a bond proposal that will be included on the November 2018 ballot.