

**“The longer we wait to address these building needs, the more it will cost in the long run.”**

*- Brian Lewis, Executive Director of Operations, Arlington Public Schools*



## What will the bond do?

- Improve student, staff and community safety at ALL schools
- Build a new Post Middle School on the same site
- Add classrooms to Arlington High School
- Improve learning environments
- Make district eligible for \$11.4 million in state matching funds
- Safety, Security and Educational Improvement to Every School

Learn more at  
[asd.wednet.edu/bond](http://asd.wednet.edu/bond)



## Board approves running bond in November election

During a special meeting on June 18, 2018, 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.

In Spring 2018, 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 on the same site, 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 placed new portables at Kent Prairie Elementary and remodeled portables at 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.”

## Do you have questions about the bond?

These videos will help answer those questions!

Arlington Public Schools has produced several videos to explain the purpose behind the upcoming bond. The videos can be found on the district website under the "bond" tab:



[How the Arlington Public Schools Bond Proposal Improves Safety and Security](#)



[Top Four Reasons to Build a New Post Middle School](#)



[Arlington High School Expansion](#)



[Facts about school taxes](#)



## New volunteer and visitor management system designed to strengthen safety and security

Arlington Public Schools is using a new visitor management system called SafeVisitor Solutions. Visitor management systems strengthen safety and security in schools by conducting an instant background check on all visitors, creating an electronic visitor log, and streamlining the volunteer approval process. Eagle Creek Elementary and Haller Middle School were the first schools to use the system in September, with all other schools following in October.

"Currently, volunteers and visitors sign a paper log and receive a visitor badge when entering our schools," said Brian Lewis, Executive Director of Operations for Arlington Public Schools. "With the new system, visitors will be asked to show a state issued identification like a driver's license, or answer a few questions about their name. Their names are checked against the National Sex Offender Registry and, once cleared, staff print a self-expiring name badge for the visitor that cannot be reused."

This system also simplifies the volunteer background check process. Volunteers will be asked to complete an on-line application, review the district's volunteer policy and expectations, and answer questions about their identity and criminal history. By completing the on-line application, volunteers submit their names for a Washington State Patrol background check. Once approved, volunteers will be sent an email with a barcode they can print and use to sign in when they volunteer at a school building. SafeVisitor Solutions also offers a mobile phone application that allows volunteers to store their approval barcode on their phones. The app barcode can also be used to print a badge at their school. To complete an application, volunteers can go to the school district's website, select "Community" and then "Volunteering."

"The purpose of the system is to further improve the safety and security of our students, staff and visitors," said Lewis. "SafeVisitor helps us with that."

**ELECTION DAY IS NOV. 6!**

# Total local schools tax rate **DECREASE**

Compared to the total local schools tax rate in 2018.  
Total bond amount is \$107.5 million.

## WHY BUILD A NEW POST MIDDLE SCHOOL?

- Students at Post will have access to instructional space comparable to Haller Middle School, such as interior hallways, single entryways and centralized heating.
- New school building would better support science & technology education with more lab rooms for specialized equipment and instruction.
- The new school would have interior classroom doors and secure hallways. Post Middle School's existing classroom doors open to the exterior making the building difficult to secure.
- Post shares electrical service with Eagle Creek Elementary and the Stillaguamish Valley Learning Center. A power outage in one school affects all three schools. Bond would provide separate service for each school.
- Remodeling current building costs 75% of new construction just to meet code requirements and doesn't address security or ability to support instructional needs.
- The new Post would be more seismic resistant; the current Post has no steel in the structure, making the structure susceptible to seismic events.
- The new Post would be built with a fire suppression system, something the current Post does not have.
- Construction costs are escalating +6% annually with more school construction on the way.
- Building a new Post Middle School makes the district eligible for \$11.4 million in state matching funds.

## SAFETY, SECURITY AND EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS TO EVERY SCHOOL

### ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

- Safety & Security Upgrade Package- Secured entry ways and access control, improved classroom door locks, add security cameras
- Add eight classrooms to C wing
- Add Technology and Arts Workshop
- Heating and Ventilation Improvements
- Improve site traffic safety
- Improve baseball and softball fields

### EAGLE CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- Safety and Security Upgrade Package
- Heating and Ventilation Improvements- (Update digital control system for heating and ventilation-improves performance and saves on utility costs)
- Install fire suppression system (was not installed in original construction)
- Improve site traffic safety
- Replace 30 year old floor coverings throughout building

### HALLER MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Safety and Security Upgrade Package
- Heating and Ventilation Improvements
- Replace existing cinder track with new, all-weather surface

### KENT PRAIRIE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- Safety and Security Upgrade Package
- Heating and Ventilation Improvements
- Improve site traffic safety
- Replace 29-year-old floor coverings throughout building
- Improve Playfield drainage

### PIONEER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- Safety and Security Upgrade Package
- Heating and Ventilation Improvements
- Improve playground area- drainage and play surfaces

### POST MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Build a new Post Middle School and replace existing, obsolete building
- Safety and security upgrades and education, technology, and HVAC improvements included in new building
- See "Why build a new Post Middle School?" on this page

### PRESIDENTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- Safety and Security Upgrade Package
- Heating and Ventilation Improvements
- Improve Playfield drainage

### STILLAGUAMISH VALLEY LEARNING CENTER

- Safety and Security Upgrade Package

### WESTON HIGH SCHOOL

- Safety and Security Upgrade Package
- Heating and Ventilation Improvements

Postal Customer ECRWSS

## Partnering with you and Keeping our Focus on Student Learning & Achievement

During the 2018-19 school year, we will continue to embrace our commitment to increase student learning and achievement where each Arlington student is educated, prepared and inspired to graduate and seek their full potential as a lifelong learner. TOGETHER with you and our staff, we will cultivate high levels of growth in learning for EACH student.

Our Strategic Plan states our mission and outlines goals in four areas: Student Learning and Achievement; Safe and Caring Environment; Resource Stewardship; and Parent and Community Partnerships. Each goal identifies actions and metrics for measuring progress. Throughout the year, progress toward these goals will be shared.

This summer, the school board approved bringing a bond to voters on Nov. 6. The bond projects will:

- Provide better instructional learning spaces
- Improve safety and security at every school
- Improve efficiencies across the district
- Prepare us for present and future growth

This *Our Schools* publication provides information regarding the bond's purpose and projects. If you have questions or would like more information about the bond, please visit the district website at [www.asd.wednet.edu](http://www.asd.wednet.edu) or contact us at 360-618-6200.

Three Safety Forums were scheduled during October. During these forums, attendees heard more about what we are doing about safety and security in our schools, had an opportunity to provide

feedback, and learned more about the safety and security projects in the bond.

Making progress toward our Strategic Plan and keeping our focus on student learning is enhanced by partnering with you! We always better together and our students and community continue to benefit from the amazing support you provide in a variety of ways.

Thank you for partnering with us to support Arlington students!

Dr. Chrys Sweeting  
Superintendent



**Dr. Chrys Sweeting,**  
Superintendent

## You're invited to visit our Schools!

The annual "Know Our Schools" tour takes place on Thursday, Nov. 15. The tour provides an opportunity for community members to tour a few of our schools to talk with staff and students. More details will be available soon so mark your calendars!

Arlington Public Schools provides equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students in all aspects of the academic and activities program without discrimination based on race, religion, creed, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, marital status, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. The District will provide equal access to school facilities to the Boy Scouts of America and all other designated youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society. District programs will be free from sexual harassment. Auxiliary aids and services will be provided upon request to individuals with hearing, vision, or speech disabilities.

The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

TITLE IX OFFICER AND COMPLIANCE COORDINATOR  
Mr. Eric DeJong  
Executive Director, Human Resources  
315 N French Ave.  
Arlington, WA 98223  
360.618.6212  
[edejong@asd.wednet.edu](mailto:edejong@asd.wednet.edu)

SECTION 504 COORDINATOR  
Mr. Dave McKellar  
Director of Special Education  
315 N French Ave.  
Arlington, WA 98223  
360.618.6209  
[dmckellar@asd.wednet.edu](mailto:dmckellar@asd.wednet.edu)