

Capital projects making a difference in the classroom

Several significant capital projects have been completed and others are now in the planning stages as part of the \$149.5 bond issue approved by voters in February 2006. This includes improvements made to facilities and technology for students and staff.

By law, capital projects funds may only be used for facility or technology improvements, and are separate from general fund monies for basic education and instructional materials.

Shoreline Stadium now sports a new all-weather track, replacing one that was more than 20 years old. The track is used not only for athletic events, but also as a walking and jogging path for the community. Built adjacent to the stadium is a new storage building for track and field equipment. Overlooking it all are new enhancements to lighting. This completes the improvements to the stadium which began in 2006 with the installation of a new synthetic turf field.

At Shorecrest, synthetic turf was installed on the football/soccer field and baseball/softball fields at the school. The project also included an all-weather track, enhanced lighting, security cameras and an equipment storage facility.

"For our PE classes, it has had an enormous impact," says Brandon



Adaptive technology allows students with physical challenges to use touch screens to access educational programs.

Christensen, PE/Health department head at Shorecrest. "We have been able to elongate our initial lessons and activities because the new surface allows us the opportunity to go out after a night of rain, or in slightly damp weather.

"I think this has also had a direct impact on our students. The extra time spent outside really seems to energize them."

Christensen is also head track coach and an assistant football coach at Shorecrest, and the new fields at the school have enhanced those programs as well.

"The state-of-the-art field has made all the difference in the world, and has allowed our staff to really focus on coaching the kids. It has made my job as a teacher and coach more rewarding than ever."

At Shorewood, new lockers were installed in both the boys and girls locker rooms.

Two schools, Parkwood and Echo Lake, are receiving new roofs this fall, expected to last 30 years.

In the classroom, new adaptive technology allows students with physical challenges to access technology by use of touch screens. Students can touch menus, pictures, letters and words on a screen without using a keyboard or mouse.

The "Phonic Ear" system has been installed in elementary classrooms, allowing clear, articulated speech and enhanced hearing from the teacher anywhere in the room with the use of a collar microphone and wall-mounted speaker.

"I love my mic system!" says Kaydee McGillivray, sixth grade teacher at Brookside. "I am no longer over-using my voice. With the mic, I am missing fewer days of work because I am not out with chronic laryngitis. Also, all students hear me, not just the ones I am facing at that moment. It is as if they are surrounded by sound."

Laptop computers are now provided to all fifth and sixth graders in the District for daily classroom use. The laptops remain at school, stored in special carts that provide for overnight recharging.

Projects planned for 2007-08 include:

- New synthetic turf fields at Kellogg and Einstein Middle Schools;
- Replacement of portable classrooms (used for before and after school care and band and orchestra programs) with restroom-equipped modular buildings.
- Beginning of design of upgrades or replacement for Shorecrest and Shorewood High Schools. The District will be selecting an architectural firm to lead this work.

For more information on capital projects, visit www.shorelineschools.org, or watch the new capital projects presentation on Channel 26.



Students and staff at Shorecrest High School are enjoying the new synthetic turf field and track.

Superintendent's Message:

Brighter fiscal future on the horizon

Dear Shoreline Families:

With the closing of the FY2006-07 financial books, it is now possible to envision a brighter fiscal future for the Shoreline School District. For the first time since 2002-03, Shoreline is living within its means. In other words, revenues exceeded expenditures by over \$2 million. This

is a significant accomplishment, considering in FY2005-06 we actually overspent revenues by \$2.4 million. Overall, expenditures exceeded revenues by approximately \$6.5 million over 10 years. (See chart at right.)

As difficult as the budget reduction process has been for the past two years, we have now begun to see the positive results of our efforts. Our staffing is better in line with our resources, our facilities are running more efficiently and our programs are more sustainable. If we stay on course, we should be able to restore our ending fund balance in the next few years and ultimately regain the full use of our resources.

When all resources become available, we will be better able to support our classrooms, provide necessary professional development for our staff and adequately maintain our schools, buildings and grounds. Our community deserves a quality educational program in all of these areas and we are headed in the right direction.

Sincerely,



Give us your feedback

Let us know what you would like to see in future issues of *Update*. Send your suggestions to public.info@shorelineschools.org or call 206-361-4412.

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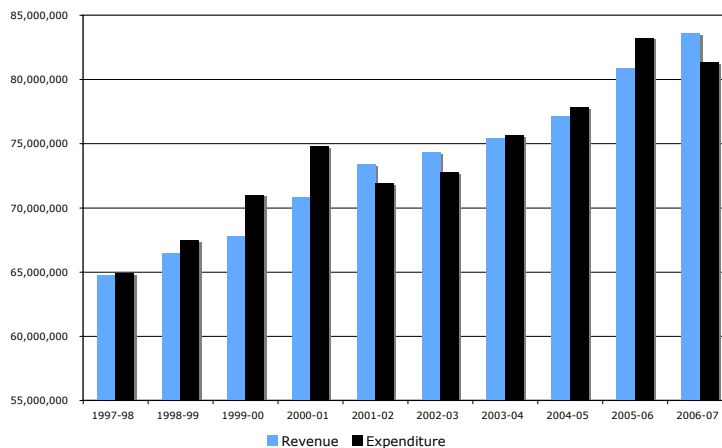
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Shoreline Revenue and Expenditure History



Clarifying high school WASL and graduation requirements

The class of 2008 is the first class to be required to pass the WASL in order to graduate. Recent changes made by the legislature have caused some misunderstanding about what students must do in order to be eligible for graduation.

Reading and Writing

Students must pass the reading and writing WASL in order to be eligible to graduate.

Math

If a student does not pass the Math portion of the WASL they may graduate if:

- They earn one math credit each year until they graduate and
- They take the WASL (or an approved alternative) every year.

These students will NOT receive a certificate of academic achievement, but they will still receive a Washington state diploma if they meet the above criteria. For more information, parents should contact their student's high school counselor.

The WORKS moving to North City portables

The WORKS, a Shoreline PTA Council Family Resource, is moving this month to the portables at the North City building, 816 NE 190th St. in Shoreline.

The "Grand Opening" date is set for Wednesday, Nov. 28. The WORKS is open on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

"We thank the Shoreline Center for their support in providing the space needed to adequately serve families with the Back to School Event and our opening month," said Sarah-Ann Woodfield, chair of The WORKS for Shoreline PTA Council. "Over 500 students received clothing in the first six weeks we were open."

Donations will be accepted at the south portable on the west side of North City beginning Wednesday, Nov. 28. Donations may be dropped off on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 8 p.m.

For more information on The WORKS, call 206-393-4916.

District calendar updates

There have been a number of changes to the District calendar for 2007-08 since the printed wall calendar was sent to families in August.

Here is the updated calendar:

Nov. 21: Early release students and staff, (PM Kindergarten comes in AM)

Nov. 22-23: Thanksgiving Break

Dec. 3: Non-student workday

Dec. 17-20: Elementary parent conferences (grades 1-6 half days)

Dec. 18: Elementary evening parent conferences (grades K-6)

Dec. 19-20: Kindergarten parent conferences (ADK half-days, AM/PM regular schedule)

Dec. 21-Jan. 2: Winter Break

The last day of school is now June 18.

The revised calendar is available at www.shorelineschools.org