

## **2007 STUDY AND SURVEY EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This Study and Survey makes the following recommendations on use and expansion of facilities to accommodate student enrollment growth. These recommendations are based upon current enrollment projections through the year 2022. These projections show a moderate growth of approximately .5% per year resulting in an increase of 10.6% from the October 1, 2007 enrollment.

These projections illustrate two major issues relative to facilities. First, the overall growth of the general population will be offset by a lower student/household ratio. The result is a slower growth of students than the general population. Second, with this growth, there will be a shift of student populations within the district. Generally, this shift will be to the east and the north, with declining student population in the central portion of the district, the near southwest (South Hill and Fairhaven neighborhoods) and the north central corridor (Cornwall Park and Meridian neighborhoods). Generally speaking, this will result in declining enrollment near Parkview, Carl Cozier, Lowell and Larrabee Elementaries and growth in the vicinity of Alderwood, the new Northern Heights Elementary, Silver Beach, Geneva, and the site the district owns in the southeast on Yew Street. At the middle school level, this shift will reduce pressure on areas around Fairhaven, and Whatcom Middle Schools and they will need to accommodate growth further to the east and north of their current service areas. The high schools are currently positioned to adjust to the population shift. Both the high school and middle school populations should be adequately serviced by the existing schools through the years 2015 to 2020.

At the elementary level, with the addition of Wade King Elementary and Aldrich Road Elementary, it is anticipated that the elementary population would be accommodated to 2015. Acquisition of an additional site in the north/northeast area would accommodate long-term growth, anticipating development between 2010 to 2015. Additionally, the school district is examining potential sites in the Sudden Valley area Southeast of the city.

Shuksan Middle School is scheduled for replacement in 2008-2009. Although immediate projects are not defined, the following schools are candidates for future modernization.

Sehome High School  
Whatcom Middle School  
Birchwood Elementary School  
Carl Cozier Elementary School  
Columbia Elementary School  
Happy Valley Elementary School  
Sunnyland Elementary School

As enrollment trends solidify, the district shall select schools from this menu to be the first schools to be modernized, based on condition, enrollment and grade span.