

Check out these videos to learn more about the February bond!

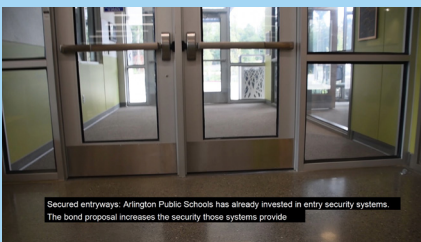
Arlington Public Schools has produced several videos to explain the purpose behind the upcoming bond. The videos can be found on the district website under the "Bond" tab.



Top Four Reasons to Build a New Post Middle School



Arlington High School Expansion



How the Arlington Public Schools Bond Proposal Improves Safety and Security

Arlington Public Schools Board approves running bond in February

During its meeting on Dec. 10, the Arlington Public Schools Board of Directors approved running a bond proposal on Feb.12, 2019. The requested amount has been decreased from \$107.5 million to \$96 million. Based on the district's Facilities Advisory Committee recommendation, the new bond proposal would focus on improving safety and security at all schools, build an improved Post Middle School on the same site as the current building, and add eight classrooms to a crowded Arlington High School. The total local schools tax rate from bond approval would be one-third less than the tax rate paid in 2018.

Over the course of 2018, Arlington Public Schools surveyed community members and conducted public meetings that showed the Arlington community places a high priority on school safety and security. The surveys also showed community members were concerned about property taxes. In addition to the rebuild of Post Middle School and added classrooms at Arlington High School, the revised bond proposal funds improved classroom door locks, security vestibules at entrances, and security cameras at all Arlington schools at a lower tax rate than 2018.



The February and November 2018 bond proposals, both of which received majority approval by voters but did not reach the 60 percent supermajority approval required, included improvements to athletic facilities, the district's transportation center and drainage for elementary playfields. These projects have been removed from the February 2019 bond proposal to reduce the requested amount. The district will still be eligible for state matching funds of \$11.5 million dollars and may use these funds to pay for projects removed from the bond.

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

"Construction costs continue to escalate," said Brian Lewis, Executive Director of Operations. "Any effective improvement of the current Post Middle School would trigger code compliance requirements for seismic, energy and other building codes. Remodeling Post would be a waste of money. Building a new Post is the most efficient use of public funds and provides the longest lasting, safest school building with better classrooms. The longer we wait to address these building needs, the more it will cost in the long run."

WWW.ASD.WEDNET.EDU/BOND

How will passage of the February bond help students?

New Post Middle School

Build a new Post Middle School to replace the existing building. The New Post will:

- Be earthquake resistant- The current school has no steel framing to resist seismic activity
- Have interior hallways for security- In the current school, there are no interior hallways and all classroom doors open to the outside.
- Be protected from fire with a fire sprinkler system- The current school does not have fire sprinklers throughout
- Have bigger classrooms equipped to support technical and science education- Current classrooms do not have adequate electrical supply or enough learning space needed for technical and science education
- More windows for natural light- Natural daylight encourages higher student achievement
- Safety & Security Upgrade Package- Secured entry ways and access control, improved classroom door locks, add security cameras

Arlington High School Expansion

- Add eight classrooms to C wing. The high school's student population is expected to increase by 300 students by 2025 due to the number of students currently enrolled in our schools elementary and middle schools.

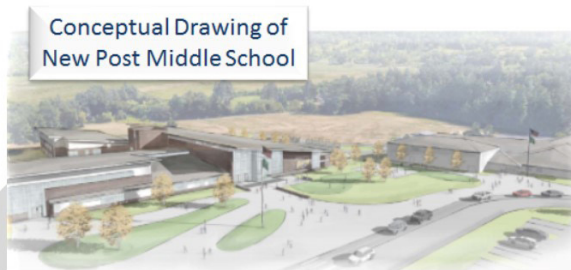
Safety and Security Improvements to Every School

Each school will be equipped with:

- Quick action door locks in every classroom. Nearly every classroom in the district has door locks that must be locked with a key from outside the classroom. With a quick action lock, no key is required and doors can be locked from inside the classroom, reducing lockdown from a minute or more to five seconds. The United States Department of Education recommends all classrooms be equipped with quick action locks.
 - Secure entry vestibule at every school- a series of bullet resistant glass doors that help control entry to the school's instructional areas.
 - Security cameras at every school inside and out- cameras in hallways and common areas help reduce bullying and harassment inside the schools. Outside the schools, cameras protect the community's investment and decrease the occurrence of property and other crimes.

New Post Middle School

Conceptual Drawing of New Post Middle School



Feb. 12 Bond Major Projects

Additional Classrooms at Arlington High School



Safety and Security Improvements to Every School



Learn more at asd.wednet.edu/bond

Total local schools tax rate decrease

Total bond amount is \$96 million repaid over 20 years. A customizable tax calculator is available on the district's website.

Tax collections on the new bond would begin in 2020. A home valued at \$300,000 would generate combined total local schools tax of \$876 per year or \$73 per month. In 2018, the same home cost \$1,404 per year or \$117 per month.

The new bond would replace the existing bond, which is paid off in 2020. The total local schools tax rate, including the voter approved Educational Programs and Operations levy, would be less than the total local schools tax rate paid in 2018.

Local School Tax Rates at a Glance			
	Educational Programs and Operations (EP&O) Levy Rate	Bond Levy Rate	Total Local Schools Property Tax on a \$300K Home (EP&O + Bond)
2016	\$3.58	\$1.58	\$1,548
2017	\$3.51	\$1.42	\$1,479
2018	\$3.31	\$1.37	\$1,404
2019 (estimate)	\$1.50	\$1.33	\$849
2020 (estimate)	\$1.50	\$1.42	\$876
2021 (estimate)	\$1.50	\$1.42	\$876
2022 (estimate)	\$1.50	\$1.42	\$876

Safety and Security at School a Basic Need: How Arlington Public Schools Work to Meet That Need

Across Washington State and the country, public schools are taking steps to continually improve safety and security on their campuses. The need for safety and security is primary for humans. This need must be met before humans can progress to realizing their full academic potential. (Image Credit: Simply Psychology)

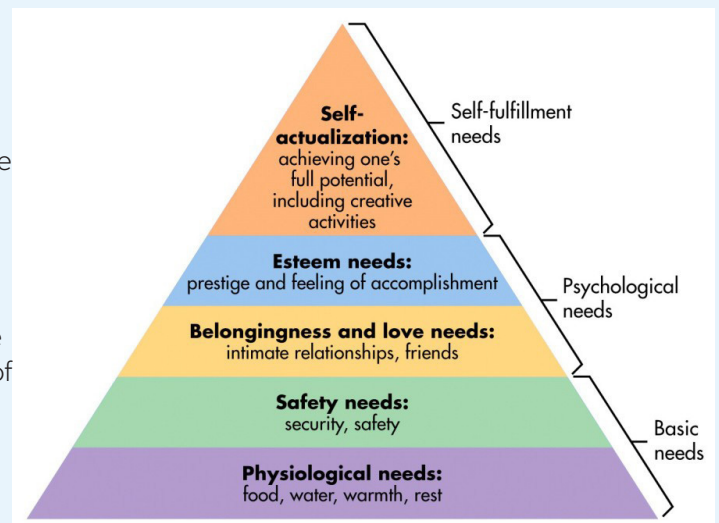
Arlington Public Schools conducted a series of Safety and Security Forums in the fall at schools across the district. The goals of the forum were to inform people about the steps the district takes to provide safe and secure schools for our community, to communicate needs the district has to continue improving safety and security and to find out from attendees what they thought was working well and where they felt improvements can be made.

Arlington Public Schools promotes safety and security through a wide range of initiatives. Buildings and Grounds staff utilize the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) to reduce opportunities for the commission of criminal acts in our schools and on school properties. Students and staff participate in emergency response trainings throughout the year. Administrators and staff provide counseling services for students at risk and incorporate equity principles and trauma informed practices to assess and guide instructional programs to improve the educational and counseling environment.

SafeSchools Tip Line reporting, School Messenger, Skyward Family Access, and the RAVE Panic Button notification application are communication tools the district uses to notify students, staff, and families about security related issues and prevent harassment, intimidation and bullying. In 2018-19, we're deploying the SafeVisitor visitor management system to complete instant background checks on adults volunteering or visiting our school buildings.

Feedback collected from forum participants suggested three primary areas of improvement: 1) install quick action door locks on all classrooms and secured entryways at all schools; 2) provide training to school volunteers, who may be in our schools, about how to respond to emergency situations in school buildings; and 3) spread awareness of the SafeSchools Tip Line to students and families. The SafeSchools Tip Line (1-844-241-1346) can be used to report threats to students or incidences of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Reporters can remain anonymous. The district's webpage (www.asd.wednet.edu) has a link to the SafeSchools Tip Line that allows reports to be submitted via text message, email, or through the website itself. School staff monitor the Tip Line and act immediately on submitted tips.

More information on Arlington Public Schools' Safety and Security procedures can be found on the district's website.



Thank you board members!

January is School Board Recognition Month. Thank you to our dedicated board members for their service to students and the community.



(Left to right) The Arlington Public Schools Board of Directors: Brooklynn Hill, Student Advisor to the Board; Dr. Chrys Sweeting, Superintendent; Judy Fay, Director; Dr. Jeff Huleatt, Director; Kay Duskin, President; Marc Rosson, Legislative Representative; Jim Weiss, Vice President; and Annika Hatfield, Student Advisor to the Board

Happy 2019!

Dear Arlington Community,

As we welcome a new calendar year in the middle of our current 2018-19 school year, it is a great time to take note of the progress we've made and the opportunities that lie ahead. During the 11th annual State of the District Address on Jan. 24, I shared what progress we are making toward our District Strategic Plan goals. In addition to hearing about our progress, middle school students joined me to share their thoughts on what is working well, what improvements are needed, and suggestions they have to improve learning in each school classroom. Our wonderful Air Force JROTC students led the evening by presenting the colors. Our talented "Choir on Fire" from Kent Prairie Elementary awed us with their music, and the culinary arts students from Arlington High School delighted us with delicious sweet desserts. It was a wonderful evening! Highlights from the evening can be found on the district website at https://www.asd.wednet.edu/administration/superintendent/state_of_the_district.

We are very fortunate in Arlington to have you, a passionate community that provides a unique strength of character and support for schools, community service and more. We value the partnership with you to provide a rigorous education and a safe learning environment for every student. Replacing deficient facilities or building facility additions requires community support. The state does provide a small percentage of state matching funds for facilities and school construction. Even still, we cannot replace deficient facilities without community support.

The Arlington Public Schools School Board approved a Resolution on Dec. 10, 2018 to bring a revised bond package for \$96 million to voters on Feb. 12, 2019. This bond package reflects an \$11.5 million reduction from the two previous requests to voters. The main projects are essential to ensure deficient facilities are taken care of like replacing Post Middle School and enhancing safety and security needs, which would include internal locking classroom doors and cameras. You should have received a ballot to consider the prioritized needs. If you didn't receive a ballot, please contact the Snohomish County Auditor's Office at 425-388-3444 and ask that a replacement ballot be sent to you. Ballots were mailed on Jan. 24.

On Jan. 14, the Board directed me to establish a Bond Oversight Committee. The purpose of this committee is to carefully monitor the delivery of the proposed bond package to ensure accountability, fiscal transparency and foster community trust. More information regarding the bond projects and the Bond Oversight Committee is available on the district website. If you are interested in serving on the Bond Oversight Committee, please contact me.

I am proud to be the superintendent of this amazing place we call home – Arlington! It is a great place to live and learn. We are always live and learn better together!

Passionate for Student Learning,

Dr. Chrys Sweeting
Superintendent

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

SECTION 504 COORDINATOR

Mr. Dave McKellar
Director of Special Education
315 N French Ave,
Arlington, WA 98223
360.618.6209
dmckellar@asd.wednet.edu