



# **NOOKSACK VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Pioneering Excellence  
ESD #189

## **CAPITAL FACILITIES PLAN**

Approved by the NVSD Board: 25-03-20



## **PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND**

The purpose of the Plan is to provide an inventory of current Nooksack Valley School District Capital Facilities; identify future school capital facility needs based upon projected student enrollment through the year 2045, identify district goals and future projects and other relevant factors to support the District's growth.

This plan is written in conjunction with the Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan, to assist the County in fulfilling the requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA). These include the public facility and service provisions of RCW 36.70A.020(12) and the capital facilities plan requirements of RCW 36.70A.070(3). The **GMA's** required components for a School District's Capital Facilities Plan are as follows:

- An inventory of existing capital facilities owned by public entities, showing the locations and **capacities** of the capital facilities;
- A forecast of the **future needs** for each capital facility;
- The **proposed locations and capacities of expanded or new** capital facilities;
- **A Six-Year Plan** that will finance such capital facilities within project funding capacities, identifying **sources of public money** for such purposes;
- A requirement to **reassess the land use element** if probable funding falls **short** of meeting existing needs, and
- to ensure that the land use element, capital facilities, financing plan are *coordinated and consistent* with the Capital Facilities Plan for the County.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Nooksack Valley School District provides public education services for students in the Central region of Whatcom County, West of the Cascade Mountain range. This Capital Facilities Plan provides an overview of the School District's existing student body, its facilities, future needs and projects, and financing methods.

The School District currently operates five schools: The Primary or Elementary schools are sited in the Nooksack Valley within each of its respective communities; Everson, Nooksack and Sumas. The NV High School is located central to all three communities in unincorporated Whatcom County on Badger Road; the Middle School is sited along SR-544 between Everson and Nooksack, within the Nooksack municipal boundary (Map/P.8).

This Capital Facilities Plan analyzes the school district's capacity to serve projected student populations in the years to come. In summary, with planned capital improvements and the ability to utilize school facilities in a flexible manner, the district will have sufficient classroom space to support projected student growth within the district for the next twenty-year, comprehensive planning period: 2025-2045.

Current funding for facility upgrades and new construction includes two municipal bonds approved by voters in 2014 for \$27.9 million, and in 2019 for \$29.7 million. These bonds will be retired in December 2034 and May 2039 respectively. Future funding to support upgrades to the NV High School is anticipated to be reviewed in 2038-2040.



Matt Galley, Superintendent  
Nooksack Valley School District



## SCHOOL DISTRICT DESCRIPTION

Nooksack Valley School District No. 506 provides public school services to 1,970 students in PreSchool through 12th grade in Whatcom County. The NVS District operates one high school, one middle school, and three elementary schools. An elected, five-member Board of Directors governs the District with the Board appointing a Superintendent to oversee the District's daily operations and 301 employees. Matt Galley has served as Superintendent since 2021.

The Nooksack Valley School District provides public education services for students in the region and cities of Everson, Nooksack, and Sumas. Both the estimated population of the School District and its student enrollment has steadily increased from 2015 to 2024. See the following tables.

### GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES

For fiscal years 2023 to 24, the District had general fund expenditures of \$34,291,565 (for 8/2023) and \$35,444,384 (8/2024).

### SCHOOL DISTRICT GROWTH: 2015 to Present

NOOKSACK VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT																			
GRADES	15-16	16-17	+/-	17-18	+/-	18-19	+/-	19-20	+/-	20-21	+/-	21-22	+/-	22-23	+/-	23-24	+/-	24-25	+/-
K-2	527	559	6.07%	587	5.01%	603	2.73%	622	3.15%	519	-16.56%	525	1.16%	519	-1.14%	512	-1.35%	485	-5.27%
3-5	367	411	11.99%	428	4.14%	471	10.05%	474	0.64%	483	1.90%	451	-6.63%	460	2.00%	471	2.39%	503	6.79%
6-8	330	348	5.45%	356	2.30%	373	4.78%	422	13.14%	431	2.13%	437	1.39%	419	-4.12%	453	8.11%	465	2.65%
9-12	452	459	1.55%	474	3.27%	460	-2.95%	458	-0.43%	490	6.99%	467	-4.69%	519	11.13%	527	1.54%	517	-1.90%
TTLS	1,676	1,777	6.03%	1,845	3.83%	1,907	3.36%	1,976	3.62%	1,923	-2.68%	1,880	-2.24%	1,917	1.97%	1,963	2.40%	1,970	0.36%
Student % of DISTRICT POPULATION	16.78%			17.21%		17.51%		17.80%		17.15%		16.41%		16.59%		16.72%		16.57%	
DISTRICT POPULATION	10,487	10,593	1.01%	10,719	1.19%	10,893	1.62%	11,099	1.89%	11,210	1.00%	11,458	2.21%	11,556	0.86%	11,737	1.57%	11,892	1.32%
DISTRICT HOUSING UNITS	3,787	3,835	1.27%	3,876	1.07%	3,937	1.57%	3,986	1.24%	4,073	2.18%	4,168	2.33%	4,238	1.68%	4,272	0.80%	4,339	1.57%

Note: Pandemic and mask mandates accounted for 20-21 and 21-22 **decreases**.

OFM Small Area Estimates Program: Data Accessed 25-01-17

### SCHOOL DISTRICT CAPACITY and FORECAST

NOOKSACK VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT							
SCHOOL COHORT	CURRENT ENROLLMENT 2024-2025	CURRENT CAPACITY 2024-2025	CURRENT CAPACITY SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	ENROLLMENT PROJECTION @ 2030	ENROLLMENT PROJECTION @ 2045	FORECAST CAPACITY @ 2045	FORECAST CAPACITY SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)
ELEMENTARY	988	1,275	287	774	965	1,275	310
MIDDLE SCHOOL	465	580	115	264	505	580	75
HIGH SCHOOL	517	600	83	593	600	600	-
TTLS	1,970	2,455	485	1,631	2,070	2,455	385



## 1. INVENTORY OF SCHOOL DISTRICT CAPITAL FACILITIES

The Nooksack Valley School District owns and maintains two primary schools, an elementary school, a middle school and a high school. Information regarding these existing schools is provided below:

### **Everson Elementary School**

216 Everson Goshen Road

Everson, WA 98247

**Phone:** 360-966-2030

**Fax:** 360-966-0945

**Property Acquisition / Transfer:** 1992

**Construction Date:** 1994

**Substantial Renovation:** 2021

**Campus Area:** 11.24 Acres

**Student Capacity:** 280



### **Nooksack Elementary School**

3333 Breckenridge Road

Everson, WA 98247

**Phone:** 360-966-3321

**Fax:** 360-966-7512

**Property Acquisition / Transfer:** 1997

**Construction Date:** 1999

**Substantial Renovation:** 2021

**Campus Area:** 21.00 Acres

**Student Capacity:** 405



### **Sumas Elementary School**

1024 Lawson Street

Sumas, WA 98295

**Phone:** 360-988-9423

**Fax:** 360-988-0005

**New Construction Date:** 2021-2022

**Campus Area:** 4.71 Acres

**Student Capacity:** 280



**Nooksack Valley Middle School**

404 W. Columbia

Everson, WA 98247

**Phone:** 360-966-7561

**Fax:** 360-966-7805

**Construction Date:** 1947

**Substantial Renovation:** 2017

**Campus Area:** 14.55 Acres

**Student Capacity:** 580



**Nooksack Valley High School**

3326 E. Badger Road

Everson, WA 98247

**Phone:** 360-988-2641

**Fax:** 360-988-7058

**Property Acquisition / Transfer:** 2004

**Construction Date:** 1956

**Substantial Renovation:** 2018

**Campus Area:** 19.05 Acres

**Student Capacity:** 600



## 2. GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

The Growth Management Act, RCW 36.70A.030(21) and EPA recommendations for “Green Infrastructure” are intended to recognize how communities are addressing stormwater run-off given its impact on regional water quality. For the NVSD service area, stormwater management affects how each participating community or UGA (Nooksack, Everson and Sumas) will incorporate the impacts of runoff management to their respective Municipal Stormwater Management Programs.

The NVSD has identified the following areas which will affect retention and run-off of storm water:

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

**Middle School Field:** 12.3 Acres including Western Ball Field

- Raised Vegetable and Gardening beds
- 5 drainage fields with native plants
- Various trees and plants throughout the parking lots and around the building
  - Approximately 0.4 Acres of Natural Drainage Beds
  - Front Lawn: 0.25 Acres
- Grass Fields:
  - Soccer Field: 5 Acres
  - Baseball Fields (2) and Open Space: 7 Acres
- Natural drainage areas around each building and grounds perimeter

### 3. GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE *cont'd.*

#### ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

##### Everson Elementary School

**School Field: 5.5 Acres**

- 10 Raised Gardening beds (480 SF)

##### Nooksack Elementary School

**Rear School Field:** 9 Acres includes 1.35 Wooded Acres along Breckenridge Creek.

Front Landscaping at North/Entry: 5.5 Acres.

This portion of the facility contains a natural drainage/retention area (3 Acres)

- 10 Raised Gardening beds (480 SF)

##### Sumas Elementary School

**School Field:** 2.7 Acres

Landscaped Area at Drop Off: 1 Acre

Parking Lot Drainage Areas: 0.20 Acres

The new parking lot has been designed with natural drainage which drains into 15 Raised Gardening Beds. The design serves to naturally filter and irrigate the beds.

#### HIGH SCHOOL

**School Field Area:** 11 Acres

Outside Sumas, Nooksack and Everson UGAs

- 2 Raised Planter Beds (48 SF)
- Native Plant Garden (500 SF)
- Field space includes Stadium, Practice fields, Baseball Stadium

#### NOOKSACK VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Ostrum Conservation Site.** 38.6 Acres of dedicated conservation area on South Pass Road. Provides public education to the community and includes a portion of Breckenridge Creek.

### 3. LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS / CONTINGENCY PLANNING

Level of Service analysis examines the ability of a school district to provide adequate classroom space for students that the District serves. The analysis includes both the current and future conditions.

Student enrollment is projected to increase in the future at a rate of 1.09% per year, based upon the District's student enrollment growth between 2022-24 and the current 2024-25 school year.

The Nooksack Valley School District's student enrollment is projected to decrease from 1,970 in 2024 to 1,630 in 2030 (p.4) (WA Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction) and recover/increase to approximately 2,100 students by 2045. A net increase of 100 students over the 20-year forecast period.

With recent elementary / middle school construction completed, the NVSD has adequate classroom space to serve the students of the District. Projected elementary classroom capacity expansion will be addressed through recently installed portables able to provide instructional space for growth which may exceed the 20-year forecast period. Any emerging enrollment deficit for the high school program will be addressed as current bonds expire and growth shifts in demographics are indicated.

Changing demographics and educational options such as home schooling, the Running Start program at Whatcom Community College & Bellingham Technical College, and on-line classes have affected student



enrolment numbers. Growth continues to increase - however at a lower pace than previous growth periods prior to the Pandemic.

#### 4. IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AND FINANCING PLAN

The Nooksack Valley School District recently completed renovation and construction of the following:

##### ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS:

**Everson Elementary School** (Fall 2020 to Summer 2022)

Addition of 8 classrooms

**Nooksack Elementary School** (Spring 2020 to Summer 2021)

Addition of 12 classrooms

**Sumas Elementary School** (Spring 2021 to Fall 2022).

New Facility

##### MIDDLE SCHOOL:

**NV Middle School.** New Construction/Relocation.

Flood Protection

Bond measures in 2014 and 2019 combined, financed renovations and new construction. These two bond measures will be retired in 2034 and 2039.

##### CURRENTLY PLANNED PROJECTS AND FUNDING SOURCES (2024 – 2045):

While the district does not have current plans to add additional classroom space, discussion whether to renovate, expand or build a new high school will begin prior to the current bonds full expiration in 2039.

The district will continue to invest in facility improvements as needed.

The district does not have plans to expand beyond its current facility locations.





DISTRICT MAP:

