



Grant High School

School Building Improvement Bond Project

Frequently Asked Questions

October 2016

What is the School Building Improvement Bond?

In November 2012, Portland voters approved an 8-year, \$482 million school improvement bond by a two-thirds majority. Based on a citizen-developed plan, the bond will fully modernize 3 high schools and replace 1 K-8 school. It will also replace roofs, improve seismic safety, access, and grade 6th-8th science classrooms at up to 63 other schools.

How was Grant High School chosen for modernization?

Franklin, Grant and Roosevelt high schools were chosen for modernization because they reflect public input that prioritized comprehensive high schools in poor seismic condition with major accessibility deficiencies and high free and reduced lunch populations.

What is a full modernization?

Full modernization addresses all of the deficient systems and significantly rehabilitates a school. A fully modernized school is expected to have fully operational and highly efficient building systems; sustainable, clean and maintainable interior finishes; bright and “healthy” classrooms and public spaces; and be fully accessible and compliant with all applicable building and safety codes. It will also be flexible, functional and focused on educational needs while accommodating desired community activities.

What are the highlights of the new design?

- A plan that blends Grant’s century old history with new, innovative facilities to prepare students to face the challenges of the future.
- A welcoming two-story common area that provides a student eatery and a community gathering space.
- New spaces for career and project-based learning will allow student to dream, design, and create.
- A new athletic building featuring a gym that accommodates up to 1700 students for assemblies, an auxiliary gym and weight room.
- New library and media center.
- Outdoor learning spaces and courtyards.
- Student based health center and teen parent clinic.

Why would some school buildings be modernized rather than replaced?

The decision to fully modernize or completely replace a school building depends on its age, historic significance, condition, deficiencies and size and programmatic space needs.

PPS has many historic neighborhood schools. Historic buildings are being rehabilitated through the School Building Improvement Bond in a way that is consistent with the building's historical designations and building components, while providing up-to-date teaching and learning environments and more durable, sustainable finishes. Teachers, staff and families are involved in planning to help preserve the unique aspects of each school and its integration into the surrounding community.

What happens to Grant during Construction?

Because of the size and scope of construction, Grant will be closed during the two-year construction period. The entire Grant community, staff and students will move to Marshall Campus in SE Portland. During that time, Marshall will be designated temporarily as Grant High School at the Marshall Campus.

What is being done to prepare the Marshall Campus for Grant students and staff?

The Marshall Campus was modified to accommodate the educational and safety needs of the Franklin High School staff and student population who have used it for the last 2 years. These improvements will also serve the Grant High School students when they relocate there in the fall of 2017. The work includes; fire alarm and IT system updates, roof repairs, classroom modifications as needed, and accessibility improvements.

Why was Marshall High selected as the temporary home for Franklin and Grant?

During the planning for the voter approved bond measure, the Marshall Campus was selected as the best site to act as the temporary home for schools under construction (Franklin and Grant). As a recently closed high school facility, Marshall has all the space and infrastructure needed to provide a temporary home for the Franklin and Grant communities. Funding from the 2012 Bond Program was specifically allocated to upgrade Marshall to support both Franklin and Grant High Schools.

Were other options considered?

PPS Staff reviewed several options before finalizing Marshall as the preferred option for the Grant community.

How long will the Grant students be the Marshall Campus?

Grant High School staff and students will be at Marshall High School from the beginning of the 2017-18 school year until the end of 2018-19 school year. Students are expected to return to the "fully modernized" Grant High School in the fall of 2019.

How will Grant students get to the Marshall Campus?

Grant students will be able to use both private and free public transportation to reach the Marshall campus at 3905 SE 91st Ave. Portland Public Schools does not provide regular yellow school bus service to high schools in the District. However, all Grant students are issued a free Portland Public Schools High School Student Transit Pass. To learn more about bus routes for your trip to the Marshall Campus check out the TriMet schedule page: <http://trimet.org/schedules/index.htm> or, if you're looking for the right Trimet app for your mobile device, go here: <http://trimet.org/apps/index.htm> The Student Transit Pass program is a partnership among TriMet, the school district and the City of Portland.

All special education students currently receiving PPS transportation will continue to do so. Yellow bus service for special education students will not change simply due to a change in school location. If your student is eligible now, they will still be eligible unless the IEP team makes a service change.

Will there be tours of the Marshall campus?

For those who are interested tours of the Marshall Campus will be offered starting in the spring of 2017. Please check for upcoming dates at GrantBond.pps.net

What is the schedule for the Grant High School modernization?

- Fall 2015 - Master Planning
- Winter 2016 – Schematic Design
- Spring 2016 - Spring 2017 - Design Development and Construction Document Phases
- Summer of 2017 - Construction begins, Grant students/staff move to Marshall H.S
- Summer 2017 – Summer 2019 - Construction of Grant H.S.
- Fall 2019 – Students/staff return to a fully Modernized Grant H.S.

How did community members, teachers and families have input on how Grant High School was designed?

Grant High School will be designed through an extensive community engagement process that included obtaining input from teachers and school staff stakeholders, the Grant Design Advisory Group as well as students, families, neighbors, and service providers.

Although the school district has common educational goals and design guidelines, each school has a unique community. Particular factors might include: partnership opportunities, services to be offered to students, historical significance of the building and community use of the school facilities.

A Design Advisory Group (DAG) was formed for the Grant High School modernization project. The Design Advisory Group consisted of parents, teachers, students, service providers, and the community. The DAG was engaged in master planning and design through design development providing feedback to the design team and facilitating outreach to the broader community.

In addition to the DAG, the Grant High school staff working in the building – including principals, teachers, aides, secretaries, nutrition workers and custodians – were a targeted resource to the design process. They provided the design team with unique insights since they know the operations of the school, the students who learn there and the opportunities that exist for improvement.

How did Design Workshops offer community members an opportunity for input?

Both Master Planning and Schematic Design workshops were held at both Grant High. These workshops were followed by Open Houses at Grant where the preferred master and schematic design plans were informally presented to the community. These open meetings gave members of the community an opportunity to directly engage with the Design Team in defining a collective vision for their school.

People were able to share their thoughts and ideas on: What should the future Grant look and feel like? What parts of the building and campus work well? What parts don't? How can Grant better support its students and families? These sessions were designed to allow everyone to equally contribute their unique perspectives, priorities, ideas and comments.

Who are the Design and Construction Teams?

Mahlum is the architecture firm that PPS selected for the modernization of Grant High School. Deeply rooted in the Pacific Northwest, Mahlum creates spaces that express the culture, aspirations and identity of the communities they serve, distinctively honoring the character of each K-12 school they design.

[Andersen Colas Construction](#) joint venture team is the CM/GC contractor for the modernization of Grant High School. As two locally owned, multi-generational, family-run construction companies, Andersen Colas is excited to play a vital role in the transformation of this historic community school.

How do I learn more about the project?

For more information please join our mailing list email: GHSMOD@pps.net. Visit our website for the Bond Program: www.pps.net/bond or the Grant Project website (<http://GrantBond.pps.net>) or call 503-916-2222 for the latest information on the upcoming Public Design Workshops and the Design Open House.