



Grant High School

School Building Improvement Bond Project

Frequently Asked Questions

June 2015

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.

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. Decisions about methods of transportation are still in process

What is being done to prepare Marshall High School for fall of 2017?

The Marshall Campus has been modified to accommodate the educational and safety needs of the Franklin High School staff and student population. These improvements will also serve the Grant High School students when they relocate there in the fall of 2017. The work completed 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 at Marshall High School?

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 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 eligible for 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.

When does the work begin for Grant High School and what is the timeline for completion?

The Grant Modernization project schedule is as follows;

- 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 move to Marshall H.S
- Summer 2017 – Summer 2019 - Construction of Grant H.S.
- Fall 2019 - Students return to a fully Modernized Grant H.S.

What can I do to help determine how Grant High School should be designed?

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

A Design Advisory Group (DAG) will be formed for the Grant High School modernization project. The Design Advisory Group will consist of parents, students, service providers, and the community. The DAG will provide feedback to the school's master planning and architectural design process as well as facilitate outreach to the broader community.

Beginning in the fall of 2015, Portland Public Schools will be hosting Public Design Workshops for the Grant High School community 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?

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.