

RHS Modernization Project Director Newsletter #2 Nov. 6, 2013

A number of you may have been following the district conversations on capacity at the modernized high schools. District staff initiated this conversation at the end of September with a staff recommendation to the school board, increasing the capacities of both Franklin and Grant High Schools. As part of this recommendation, Roosevelt was to remain as described in the original bond language as a 1200 student capacity / 1500 student core school.

For clarity, here is some background on what that means: A 1200 student capacity describes how many students Roosevelt would be capable of supporting at its completion, through its classroom facilities. To allow flexibility for a future potential expansion, the school's common spaces would be sized for 1500 students, the reason being that spaces such as gymnasiums, libraries and cafeterias are much more difficult to expand later than adding an additional classroom wing.

While Roosevelt was recommended to remain at the 1200/1500 size, the Roosevelt and North Portland communities have been talking and the district has been listening. In particular, at the RHS Design Workshop #2 on October 19, a meeting-wide conversation occurred between the community and district staff that told us that additional options may need to be considered for Roosevelt.

A new staff recommendation to the board is currently in the works, and will be discussed at the school board meeting **Tuesday**, **November 12 that begins at 6:00 p.m**. Several options for Roosevelt High School are likely to be presented and discussed. Should members of the community feel strongly or like to be part of the conversation regarding the future size of Roosevelt, they are strongly recommended to attend.

The outcome of the board's decision will have great bearing on the master plan design that is currently in the works for Roosevelt High School, so we will be following the decision closely.

We appreciate all of the comments and participation that we have seen from so many over these past few months and look forward to seeing both familiar and new faces as we move forward with the development of our school.

Michelle R. M. Platter

Capital Project Director – Roosevelt High School "Go Riders!"