

New BHS 200 Building Supports Student Learning



Photo: Nick Felley

New BHS 200 Building (above). The new library (below) is the heart of the building. It supports simultaneous teaching and research activities, along with a variety of active and quiet study areas. Students in one of 18 new classrooms (right) enjoy the natural lighting, interactive technology, and sustainable "green" features throughout the new facility.



Photo: Pete Sabouris

THE NEW BHS 200 BUILDING OPENED to excited students and staff on January 5 and to an awestruck community on January 10, 2009. This remarkable new facility brings functional and sustainable elements together to positively impact student learning.

From rain gardens and natural daylighting to open areas, this facility supports environmental stewardship as well as the district's instructional goals. Principal Brent Peterson commented, "As we explored design options for the new 200 Building, we looked carefully at how a facility impacts learning. We took every opportunity to provide natural lighting and to create a sense of openness."

The 200 Building is one of the projects completed from the voter-approved 2006 capital facilities bond. It was among several projects in Phase I of the district's Facilities Master Plan.



Photo: Nick Felley



www.bainbridge.wednet.edu
For more on learning and design elements

IN THE KNOW

Budget Corner

ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Schools in Washington State are not fully funded by state and federal allocations. Budget reductions become necessary when local revenues (primarily tax levies) cannot make up the difference. This year (2008-09) BISD reduced expenditures by \$1.5 million to maintain a balanced budget.

With the Governor's current budget proposals, the district expects more dramatic funding decreases in 2009-10. Therefore, the District Budget Advisory Committee, composed of staff and citizen representatives, began its work on the 2009-10 budget last October. Using continually updated district financial and enrollment reports, district policies, and the latest state and federal allocation information, their objective is to develop a budget recommendation for the upcoming year that reflects the district's goal of providing an outstanding public school education.

Building Our Schools

BOND MEASURE TO FUND ONGOING ESSENTIAL RENOVATIONS

The comprehensive Facilities Master Plan reflects extensive committee research and public input and provides an implementation plan for the district's facility needs through 2015. With Phase I of this plan coming to completion, the Board is planning to place a bond measure on the May 19 ballot to fund Phase II. This would not increase the tax rate.

The proposal includes: ongoing essential renovations to worn-out roofing, electrical and heating systems district-wide; improving energy efficiency and sustainability to reduce operating costs; addressing ongoing life, health and safety issues at all schools; and replacing Wilkes Elementary School, which is 50 years old and beyond its functional life.

did you know

... the School Board decided to move forward with Phase II of the district's Facilities Master Plan by placing a bond measure on the May 19 ballot? Thanks to the work that went into the FMP, the proposed measure would not increase the tax rate. Facts will come to all Island residents, and there will be several opportunities to learn more and provide feedback (see below).

Faith in Our Community

New Superintendent Faith Chapel reaches out to involve *you* in current critical issues. Please join her to discuss these topics and more on any of the following dates:

February 5 or March 11, 7 pm, New BHS Library

March 5, 10 am, Bainbridge Library Conference Room, especially for pre-school parents

March 18, 10:15 am, BI Senior Citizen Center, especially for senior citizens

Stars in Our Schools

Students Giving Back to Our Community



Students in the all-volunteer Earth Service Corps (ESC) want to preserve our island environment. They work to raise awareness of the costs and benefits of daily behaviors, for example, the negative impact of throwing away half-empty water bottles or the advantages of biking to school. Students also influence policy at city hall by speaking out for the pristine nature of Blakely Harbor or an under-the-street filtration system.

To create a sustainable campus, three years ago ESC set an ambitious goal: to reduce trash on campus 50% by 2010. To achieve this goal, ESC volunteers have written six grants to raise money for a high-tech composter. They have also asked that paper trays be replaced with reusable plastic trays. The new 200 building has helped, too. It was designed with sustainability in mind, and now the kids think they may reach their goal a year early. The success of this ambitious effort demonstrates that anyone, no matter how old or young, can "be the change."

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Open and Read About Your Schools

- New 200 Building at BHS Ignites Student Learning
- Facilities Master Plan—What's Next
- Budget Stewardship and Planning

OpenBook is a publication by the Bainbridge Island School District to connect with and bring timely information to our community.



School Events— Too good to miss!

FEBRUARY

- 4 Kindergarten 2009-10 Orientation
- 5 Commodore Portfolio & Science Fair
- 13, 17 No School - Non-Contract Days
- 16 No School - Presidents Day
- 24 Odyssey I-8 Multiage Program
- Open House for the community
- 25 Blakely Science Fair

MARCH

- 4 Grades 5-12, Early Dismissal
- 4-6 Grades K-4, No School - Conferences
- 5 BHS Parent Night, Running Start
- 19 Blakely K & 2nd Grades Concert
- Ordway Science Fair
- 24 Wilkes Science Fair
- BHS 11th Grade Parent Night
- 25 WMS Spring Band Concert
- BHS 10th Grade Parent Night
- 30-4/3 No School - Spring Break



www.bainbridge.wednet.edu
For a complete list of district events



Remember to use your
60+ Gold Pass!