

Citizens' Advisory Committee Notes
December 9, 2019

Board of Director's report: Deana Brower, school board member

- This was Director Brower's last meeting
- Board members will transition on December 11 meeting – three new members will be sworn in and three will go off, including Director Brower, who served 8 years
- Safety and security will be the most prominent and public amongst the significant work ahead
- Current strategic plan finishes in 2020; new board will develop the new plan with community involvement
- [Graduation rate](#) is approaching 90 percent

Superintendent's report: Dr. Shelley Redinger, Superintendent

- U.S. News and World Report published [a story on AVID and Rogers High School](#)
- WEA selected Grant Elementary for an award for the Kindness Club
- Process for selecting planning principals for the new northside middle schools; principals will receive a stipend to assist with design and planning to ensure schools meet neighborhood needs and engage the community
- The [attendance boundary review process](#) will begin after the first of the year

School construction update: Dr. Mark Anderson, Associate Superintendent, Capital Programs and Facilities, and Greg Forsythe, Director of Capital Projects

- Delivered a [summary of current capital projects](#)
- Two bond issues working on simultaneously – [2015 and 2018](#)
- 2015 bond project highlights:
 - [Franklin Elementary expansion](#) was one of the [highlights](#) of the 2015 bond
 - A [new Linwood Elementary](#) opened for the [start of the 2018-19 school year](#)
 - [Work is underway](#) on the Wilson Elementary [classroom addition and new gym](#)
 - Adams Elementary improvements to HVAC, windows, and elevators; also developing a master plan for future improvements
 - Work is underway on additional [classrooms and cafeteria/commons](#) at Lewis and Clark
- 2018 bond project highlights:
 - Highest bond issue in Spokane Public Schools history and second-highest approval rate
 - Opens three new middle schools, moves sixth graders to middle school, and makes room for lower class sizes at elementary school
 - Starting with existing schools out of need; doing two replacements (Shaw and Glover) to open in 2021-22, two new middle schools (northeast and northwest) to open in 2022-23, and southside last (Sacajawea replacement and new south) to open in 2023-24
 - [Hosted a middle school design summit](#) to discuss [attributes of new middle schools](#)
 - Classrooms located in closer proximity to incorporate more of an elementary model to build “neighborhoods”
 - [Ground has been broken](#) on the new Shaw Middle School, which is being developed as a campus model with the Hillyard Public Library, On Track Academy, and Newtech Skills Center

- Glover Middle School design is ongoing and [ground has been broken](#)
- Hired architect to design the new stadium; groundwork will begin next spring; working with a youth sports advisory committee
- Partnerships with the City of Spokane
 - Libby Center and Spokane Public Library “The Hive” project will add meeting and maker space across the street from Libby and new home to Spokane Virtual Learning program; partnering with Spokane Public Library will free up space in Libby for additional classroom space
 - Hillyard Public Library and Shaw Middle School (highlighted above)
 - About doubling Shadle Park Library, which will include additional space for SVL
- All SPS Stories videos are [available on the district’s YouTube channel](#)

School closures and delays update: Dr. Linda McDermott, Associate Superintendent, School Support Services, and Brian Coddington, Director of Community Relations

- Shared an overview of the decision-making and communications process when there is inclement weather
- [Closure and delay information](#) is available on the Spokane Public Schools website
- [Answers to winter weather questions](#) can be found at SpokaneSchools.org
- Closure and delay decision-making process is also [discussed in a video](#)
- Communication is multi-level, including media, social media, and directly to families; the goal is to begin communicating by 5 am to give high school families enough notice for students with early classes
- **Next meeting:** January 13. Planned topics: safety/security update