



Public Schools Background Report

Planning and Sustainability Commission
Public Hearing on Proposed Draft

May 8, 2012



Bureau of Planning and Sustainability
Innovation. Collaboration. Practical Solutions.



Overview

- Report context
- Portland school districts at a glance
- Issues
- Recommendations
- Next steps



Report Context

- Public Schools is one of 20 + background reports covering existing conditions, trends, issues and recommendations
- Background reports comprise the “factual basis” for the Portland Plan and Comprehensive Plan update

Portland School Districts at a Glance

- Over 100 public schools in six school districts
- **Portland Public, David Douglas and Parkrose School Districts** include facilities exclusively within Portland city limits
- **Centennial, Reynolds and Riverdale** include schools inside and outside city limits

Issues

- State and local funding challenges
- Impacts of local decisions on enrollment and revenue
- Population growth
- Zoning and regulatory challenges
- Distribution of poverty
- Student mobility
- Racial, ethnic and language diversity
- Student achievement
- Special education

Issues

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Recommendations

1. Strengthen the role of schools as centers of community.
2. Continue to build and sustain strong partnerships between school districts, City government and community partners.
3. Consider the fiscal and social effects of land use policies on schools.

Next Steps

Portland Plan implementation:

- Continued commitment to Cradle to Career partnership
- Formal agreements between school districts and City of Portland
- Legislative advocacy
- Comprehensive Plan update



Next Steps (continued)

Comprehensive Plan Update:

- Identify need for future facilities to accommodate projected growth
- Locate new schools to activate neighborhood centers and optimize accessibility for intergenerational use
- Provide flexibility for schools to adapt to changes, while maintaining accountability to neighbors
- Encourage shared community use of facilities and grounds
- Consider implications of land use decisions on enrollment