

## **County funding to operate pool at Lindbergh runs out this year**

### ***2010 is first year district would have to find funds to operate pool at Lindbergh High***

January 8, 2010—Funding the pool at Lindbergh High School will become the responsibility of the district this year. Even though the pool is located at Lindbergh High, it was, until recently, the property of King County. The pool at Hazen High School is district property, maintained and funded by the district.

The Lindbergh pool and the building it sits in were transferred from King County to the district in Feb. 2008, and included enough funds to operate the pool through 2010. The transfer did not include funding to repair the building, which needs a new roof, the boiler replaced and other repairs.

Projections to operate the pool this school year is \$476,700. Pool fees and rentals bring in about \$301,700, or 63 percent of the operating budget.

Finding an additional \$175,000 to operate the pool will be difficult for the district as it faces additional cuts from the state. Governor Chris Gregoire recently released her 2010 budget to balance a projected state shortfall of \$2.6 billion, which includes deep cuts to education including:

- Cut preschool for 3-year-olds in low income areas
- Increase class sizes in kindergarten through fourth grade
- Cut gifted education (Discovery program in our district)
- Suspend all-day kindergarten

While no decisions have been made, the district's budget priorities are to first provide education for its 14,500 students. Although it will not be clear how deep the cuts to the district's budget will be until the Legislature and the governor adopt a budget, Renton Schools Superintendent Dr. Mary Alice Heuschel has begun work to prepare the district's budget for next school year that includes the governor's cuts.

The district is scheduling community meetings in mid-February to provide opportunity for public input on the required reductions.

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