



## Bond Planning Public Meetings: Input Summary

Portland Public Schools held public input sessions on potential school construction bond on May 22 (at Roosevelt High School), May 23 (at Madison High School) and May 24 (at Lincoln High School). Meetings were led and facilitated by community members who served on the Long Range Advisory Committee, which recently updated PPS' long-range facilities plan.

### Public engagement commitment

At the meetings, PPS *consulted* with the community on:

- Priorities for school modernization as reflected in 4 potential bond scenarios.
- Whether PPS should seek voter approval of a school construction bond in November.

### Input summary

While comments were diverse and sometimes reflected substantial disagreement between participants there were a number of recurrent themes.

1. Participants expressed support for a **bond measure** by substantial margins and identified November, 2012 as a good time to move forward.
2. **Seismic issues** were consistently identified as a concern. This was the single most common comment. Improving safety conditions in general and seismic safety in particular was expressed as an individual concern and as an important community priority.
3. Many participants identified **facilities condition** as an important consideration.
4. The **cost** of a bond measure was a concern. Most participants favored a smaller taxpayer cost in the next bond proposal, particularly based on lingering concerns about the economy.
5. There is considerable support for an initial **focus on high schools**. Many participants favored investing in high schools with the most frequent reason cited being the larger number of students at those schools. The meeting at Lincoln High School had the highest density of these comments.
6. Several participants expressed the need for an **inspiring vision** in an initial bond. There was also interest in a long-range plan to consolidate schools and in a resolution of community questions about K-8s and Middle Schools.