

## **CHAPTER ELEVEN:**

### **SCHOOL FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION**



#### **11.0 Introduction**

The purpose of this chapter, as described in the Local Land Use Planning Act, is to allow cities and school districts to better communicate the school district's future planning needs. The intention is for the school district to partner with cities to identify the locations of future building sites and the implementation of public infrastructure to the site.

The unique needs and goals of private schools, charter schools and any schools of higher education should also be considered in the planning effort as well. The goals, objectives, and strategies that are identified will assist in guiding the city planning effort for future infrastructure needs. Developers and City staff will be able to coordinate closely with the educational community before and during the development process.

This Comprehensive Plan highlights the importance of partnering more closely with School Districts to meet demands of the District. The District should place schools in a location where students can safely and efficiently access the facilities. By partnering with the City, developers, and existing neighborhoods, school districts can help meet the facility and recreational needs and can contribute to the culture of an area.

#### **11.1 Payette School District #371**

The Payette School District #371 encompasses approximately 167 square miles of area in Payette and Washington Counties. It is considered a smaller sized Idaho School District

servicing a rural community. The Payette School District was first organized in 1885. At that time Payette was part of Ada County. The first school was a small one-room building with one story that was utilized until the early 1890s. Currently the District’s 1,500 students are in four separate schools: Payette Primary, Westside Elementary, McCain Middle and Payette High School.

**11.2 Payette School District #371 - School Enrollment**

As detailed in Exhibit 1, enrollment in the Payette School District has decreased by a little more than 200 students between 2007 and 2017. The school district has healthier student teacher ratios than State recommended maximums. According to District calculations, student teacher ratios average 19:1 (not including counselors and administrators).

**Exhibit 1: Enrollment**

Year	Fall Enrollment	Change	
		Number	Percent
2007- 2008	1724		
2008 - 2009	1729	+5	+0.3%
2009 - 2010	1727	-2	0
2010 - 2011	1664	-63	-3.6%
2011 - 2012	1554	-110	-6.6%
2012 - 2013	1549	-5	-0.3%
2013 - 2014	1552	+3	+0.2%
2014 - 2015	1539	-13	-1%
2015 - 2016	1555	+16	+1%
2016 - 2017	1528	-27	-2.6%
Total Change from 1998 - 2005	1987 - 1797	-190	-9.6%

**11.2.1 Student Profile** - With only two percent of the student population transferring in from other areas, student demographics reflect the community for which the schools serve. As of 2018, 62% of the population identifies as white, 34% Hispanic and less than 1% of each Black, Native American, Asian and Pacific Islander. Fourteen percent of the student population are English Language Learners (ELL) and 10% qualify for Special Education services.

### **11.3 Special Programs**

Beyond the traditional programs associated and supported in public schools, the Payette School District offers several extended programs to meet the advanced and special needs of unique student populations.

- The District offers full-day kindergarten access for all students to address the early learning needs of at-risk students. The State of Idaho currently funds half-day kindergarten and the Payette 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center (21<sup>st</sup> CCLC) Grant provides funding for the rest. This competitive grant obtained funding for 5 years.
- The District has established a before/after school enrichment program, funded through an additional 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC grant. The after-school program provides a safe environment for students to receive academic help, participate in engaging activities, and develop social skills while making connections with caring adults.
- Payette School District offers enhanced vocational opportunities to students from Payette and other surrounding schools. In 2017 the District added commercial welding, certified nursing assistant and automated manufacturing courses to the high school curriculum. Students can graduate from Payette High School with a welding certificate or CNA license. The District is expanding its Career Technical Educational offerings each year.
- In partnership with the City of Payette, a School Resource Officer is assigned to work with students and be available at the schools on a regular basis.
- Summer school programs are offered by the District for both elementary and secondary students. These programs are designed to improve student achievement and eliminate the ‘summer slide’ noted in national research. At the secondary level, course offerings assist students in credit recovery to meet ever-increasing graduation requirements.
- Through the Food Service program, all students in the Payette School System can receive a free breakfast or morning snack as well as a well-balanced lunch. Fruit and vegetables are offered to students at a different time of day to help meet the nutritional needs of all students.

Exhibit 2 describes the students eligible for Reduced School Lunch Programs in Payette County.

**Exhibit 2: Students Eligible for Reduced School Lunch Programs in Payette County**

	2001 - 2002	2002 - 2003	2003 - 2004	2004 - 2005	2005 - 2006	2006 - 2007	2007 - 2008	2008 - 2009	2009 - 2010	2010 - 2011	2011 - 2012	2012 - 2013	2013 - 2014
<b>Fruitland School District 373</b>	39.0	40.1	41.4	41.5	42.6	42.2	36.8	39.2	46.7	50.7	48.5	47.9	46.2
<b>New Plymouth School District 372</b>	35.6	39.7	44.6	44.8	37.8	39.0	40.2	41.2	44.8	46.7	51.6	52.3	48.4
<b>Payette Joint School District 371</b>	47.3	50.6	44.1	50.9	53.2	52.0	52.0	52.7	58.2	62.3	71.6	69.5	<b>67.2%</b>

Source: 1998-1999 to 2012-2014: National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES), Public Elementary/Secondary School Universe Survey Data, <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/data/ipedsuniiv.html> for school districts

**11.4 School Facilities**

Public school facilities located within the city of Payette consist of:

- Payette Primary School built in 1992 on 11.7 acres offering 7.3 acres of green space; Payette Primary School educates students in grades PK-3.
- Westside Elementary School built in 1948 on 9.1 acres offering 6.2 acres of green space; Westside Elementary School educates students in grades 4 - 5.
- Warren McCain Middle School built in 2004 on 70.4 acres offering 7.6 acres of green space; McCain Middle School educates students in grades 6-8.
- Payette High School built in 1964 on 20.9 acres offering 9.3 acres of green space. The Payette High School facilities include the gymnasium, multipurpose building weight room,

shop for welding classes, greenhouse for student agricultural programs. Green space includes a baseball field, football field, softball field and practice fields. The Payette High School educates students in grades 9-12.

- The District’s administration building is located at 20 North 12<sup>th</sup> Street and sits on 10.9 acres. The district site includes the soccer complex and track and field facilities on 7.4 acres of green space.

## **11.5 Chartered or Private Schools**

The City of Payette is further served by two private parochial schools:

**11.5.1 River of Life Christian School** - River of Life Christian School has a daycare and school from K-12, previously known as the Payette Christian Academy, is located on a 15-acre site on 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue North by Centennial Park and Riverside Cemetery. Between the daycare and school, it currently serves approximately 100 students. The facility does not offer transportation services.

**11.5.2 Treasure Valley Seventh Day Adventist Elementary School** - The Treasure Valley Seventh Day Adventist School is located at 350 ½ South 9th. It serves students from grades K through 8th.

## **11.6 Home Schooling**

It is recognized that some children located within District # 371 are home schooled. There are no state records on the number of students within this category.

## **11.7 Movement of Students**

School transportation is offered through the Payette Joint School District # 371. Currently, the District operates nine route buses with an average daily ridership of 640 students in the morning and in the evening. Two additional route buses transport approximately 50 students home following the after school program.

**11.7.1 Safety Issues** - The District provides “safety busing” to all students who live within 1 ½ miles from their school but must cross US-95, US-52, canals or any railroad tracks. Because students are eligible to ride the bus, crossing guards are not used at the schools.

**11.7.2 Safe Routes to Schools** - Safe Routes to School aims to create safe, convenient, and fun opportunities for children to bicycle and walk to and from schools. The goal is to reverse the decline in children walking and bicycling to schools, increase kids’ safety

and reverse the alarming nationwide trend toward childhood obesity and inactivity. Students attending Payette schools have other issues regarding safe routes.

- Some students must cross one or more state highways.
- Others must cross railroad tracks or ditches.
- There is concern about the proper use of the crossing walks. Some students hit the button and proceed into the street without waiting for the lights to flash and cars to respond by stopping.

Under these circumstances the school district has stated that providing bus service will provide the safest routes to school.

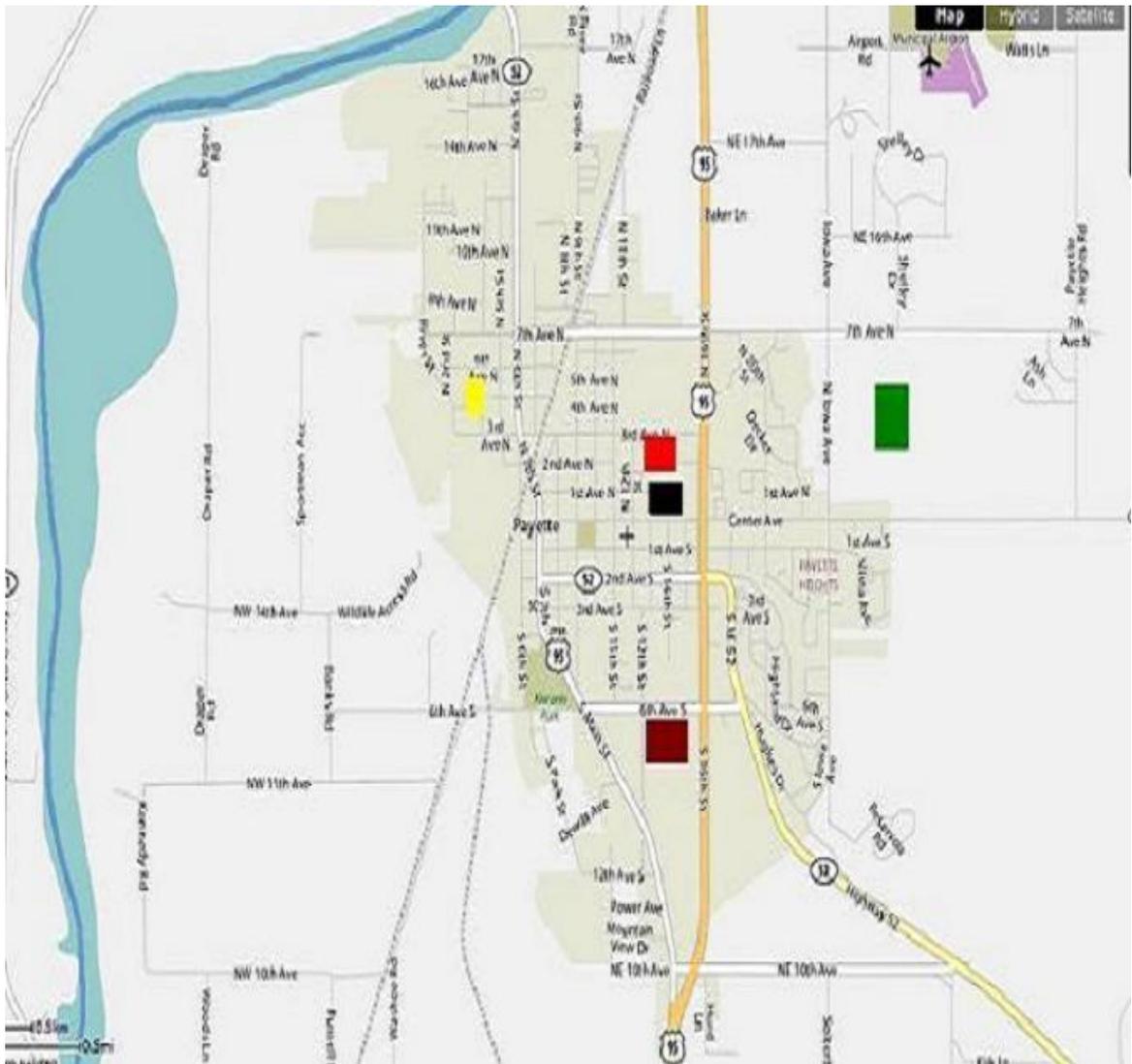
**11.7.3 Transportation** - The District continues to provide school bus transportation for Payette and the surrounding areas that are in the district. The district follows standard school bus stop laws:

- Vehicles may not pass until the flashing red lights and signals are turned off.
- Drivers traveling in the same direction as the bus are always required to stop.
- Drivers moving in the opposite direction on a two-lane or two-lane (with center turn lane) are required to stop.
- Never pass on the right side of the bus, where children enter or exit. This is illegal and can have tragic results.
- Field trips.

## **11.8 Community Partnerships**

It is important that community, district and business leaders communicate on common issues that affect the common good of the community. In regards to the City of Payette, there should be a common goal that the District should collaborate on common issues such as joint use of recreation facilities and infrastructure needs.

### Exhibit 3: School Facility Locations



#### Legend:

- Red - Primary School, K-3 grades
- Yellow - Westside Elementary, 4-5 grades
- Green - McClain Jr. High, 6-8 grades
- Brown - Payette High School, 9-12 grades
- Black - District offices, Administration, other services

The District's transportation facility is located just south of the high school football field.

## **11.9 Institutions of Higher Learning**

**11.9.1 Treasure Valley Community College (TVCC) Ontario, OR and Caldwell, ID** - The TVCC's rural campus occupies 90 acres on the western edge of the Treasure Valley. The nearby Four Rivers Cultural Center houses the Meyer-McLean theater used by the college to present plays and for other purposes as well.

The Caldwell Center is a satellite of TVCC and offers college preparation, college transfer, and professional-technical classes in a three-story building built in downtown Caldwell on the banks of Indian Creek. The Caldwell Center offers a broad range of student services including advising, placement testing, registration, financial aid assistance, and career planning. Students also have access to tutorial support and student activities. Classes may be taken face-to-face, via interactive video conference with the Ontario campus, or on the web. Students may take classes at both the Caldwell Center and the Ontario campus.

**11.9.2 College of Western Idaho (CWI) Nampa and Boise** - The College of Western Idaho (CWI) is a public, comprehensive community college. It offers undergraduate, professional/technical, fast-track training, adult basic education, and community education. Students have an abundance of options offering over 50 credit programs, and hundreds of non-credit courses. Students can develop career skills or prepare for further study at a 4-year college or university. CWI is critical to fueling southwest Idaho's economy by providing a trained workforce to meet the needs of business and industry.

**11.9.3 College of Idaho (CI)** - The College of Idaho is a private, residential liberal arts college located in Caldwell, Idaho. Founded 127 years ago in 1891, it is the state's oldest private liberal arts college, with an enrollment of 1,140 students.

The C of I has produced seven Rhodes Scholars, three governors and four NFL players. Its PEAK Curriculum allows students to study in the four knowledge areas of humanities, natural sciences, social sciences and a professional field, enabling them to earn a major and three minors in four years.

For sixteen years, from November 1991 until October 2007, the C of I was known as Albertson College of Idaho.

**11.9.4 Northwest Nazarene University (NNU)** - Northwest Nazarene University is a Christian comprehensive university that offers over 60 areas of study, master's degree programs in eleven disciplines, accelerated degree programs, concurrent credit for high school students, and a variety of continuing education credits. The 85-acre campus located at 623 Holly Street in mid-Nampa.

**11.9.5 Boise State University (BSU)** - Boise State confers more undergraduate degrees than any public university in Idaho and offers more than 100 graduate programs, including the MBA and MACC programs in the College of Business and Economics; Masters and PhD programs in the Colleges of Engineering, Arts & Sciences, and Education; and the MPA program in the School of Public Service. Boise State has invested in the future over the past decade, including spending over \$300 million since 2003 on academic, residential, and athletics facilities across campus.

**11.9.6 University of Idaho (U of I)** - Boise provides southwest Idaho with undergraduate and graduate education, as well as professional development for practicing professionals and community education through business incubation and Extension efforts in 4-H.

**11.9.7 Other Institutes For Higher Learning** - The City of Payette is served by the following colleges and universities in the Treasure Valley: Carrington College, Boise Bible College, Brown Mackie College, Steven-Henager College, and the University of Phoenix.

## **11.10 Goals, Objectives and Strategies**

**GOAL 1:** Support the School District's excellence in quality education facilities and programs.

**OBJECTIVE 1:** Continue to encourage the donation of labor and materials from community groups towards school facilities and needs.

**STRATEGY 1:** Support continued partnership between the School District and the City to anticipate future school building needs, expansion sites, and infrastructure availability.

**GOAL 2:** Continue a working relationship between the District, the business community and the City.

**OBJECTIVE 1:** Encourage cooperation between the business community and the School District that enhances learning and employment opportunities.

**STRATEGY 1:** Support future technological needs and improvements of the District.

**GOAL 3:** Schedule annual meetings between the School District and City officials to discuss common interest and needs for the betterment of the District and the community.

**OBJECTIVE 1:** Continue to collaborate with the School District to improve communication, safety and opportunities for the youth in Payette.

**STRATEGY 1:** Involve the school board, staff and volunteers in community meetings, projects and events to support communication between the District and the community.

**STRATEGY 2:** Continue to work together toward ensuring that school children have safe passage to and from school facilities and activities.

**STRATEGY 3:** Collaborate with the District to share, upgrade, and develop parks and pathways, where possible.