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Boise School District  
Dan Hollar  
October 7, 2009



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## ◆NEWS RELEASE◆

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### WHITNEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DEDICATED

Boise, ID -- 10/07/09 – Whitney Elementary School was officially dedicated on Wednesday, October 7, 2009. Boise School District officials, students, parents, Boise City Council President **Maryanne Jordan**, Boise Parks and Recreation Department officials, architects, engineers, and construction company representatives gathered for the formal dedication ceremony at the site of the school, 1609 S. Owyhee St., Boise.

Construction of Whitney Elementary School was made possible due to the overwhelming support by voters of the 94-million dollar bond to consolidate, renovate and rebuild a number of schools. The successful bond made construction of a number of schools possible, including construction of Whitney Elementary School. In March of 2006 voters passed the bond with 70.45% of the yes vote.

During the Whitney Elementary School dedication ceremony, Boise School Board Vice President **Derick O'Neill** thanked voters for making the new school possible. "On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to express how grateful we are to live in a community that has supported its public school system for more than 125 years," said O'Neill. "We certainly do not take this support for granted. It is because of this support that the Boise School District continues to enjoy outstanding success in student academic growth and achievement."

Boise School District Superintendent Dr. **Stan Olson** also thanked the community for its support of the new school, as well as for a new community center which is housed inside Whitney and is the result of a partnership program between the District and City of Boise Parks and Recreation Department. "Our community made Whitney possible, and our community will continue to make it successful," said Dr. Olson. "By embracing strong school/community relationships we will not only foster an environment of success for our students, but also an environment of success for our community, as well."

Grace Jordan Elementary School, which opened for the start of the 2000-10 school year, serves 550 students. The following are further facts regarding Whitney Elementary School:

- 19 general education classrooms;
- 2 resource classrooms;
- Computer lab;
- Library
- Music room;
- Cafeteria;
- Gymnasium;
- Administrative spaces;
- 4,000 square feet Community Center;
- 2,000 square feet for *Just for Kids* - District childcare program;
- Boise Volunteer Dental Clinic, which has operated for many years out of Ft. Boise Mid High School, has moved to Whitney. This enables volunteer dentists in our community to serve our students in a new clinic;
- Approximate cost to construct: \$10,750,000.00

Whitney Elementary School also offers the the following “green” features:

Classrooms and hallways which incorporate natural lighting, carpeting made from 100% recycled materials, a heating and cooling system using a ground water exchange system rather than a traditional boiler, and an Energy Star rated roof are a few examples of “green” decisions that have gone into the construction of the new Whitney Elementary School.

“We have high hopes for this new facility, for what it will provide to our students, staff and community and for what it will allow our students to accomplish in their lifetime,” added Dr. Olson.

In addition to the dedication of Whitney Elementary School, Boise School District will soon hold a dedication ceremony for the following new school:

East Junior High School  
5600 E. Warm Springs Ave.  
Friday, October 23, 2009  
9:00 a.m.

**Note: Members of the media and public are invited to attend the East Junior High School dedication ceremony.**

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