1. Relieves overcrowding – By building 56 new, permanent classrooms across the district – including replacing and expanding three aging elementary schools. The bond will address critical overcrowding at the elementary level, reduce reliance on portables, and prepare our district for the 1,483 additional students projected by 2030.

2. Improves safety and security – By making critical safety and security upgrades to all of our schools, from new fire alarms and locks to secured entries. While the district’s newer schools are built with secure, monitored entrances, many older schools are badly in need of updates.

3. Creates STEM career pathways – By modernizing high school classrooms for STEM career programs in high-demand industries like healthcare and aerospace and upgrades high school science classrooms across the district. Every child deserves the opportunity to succeed, regardless of background or household income.

4. Keeps the local tax rate low – The lowest it has been in 10 years! Everett Public Schools has consistently delivered bond projects on-time and on-budget and has demonstrated its ability to adapt and deliver critical services to our community.

5. Funds critical maintenance – By repairing or replacing HVAC, plumbing, roofing, and security systems that are critically past their expected lifespans. Taking care of these upgrades now prevents more costly repairs down the road and reduces operating costs through improved energy efficiency.

6. Creates badly needed jobs – By hiring hundreds of new, living-wage construction positions, which contributes to the economic recovery and growth of our communities.

7. Interest rates are the lowest in decades – Similar to a home mortgage, bonds allow school districts to collect money up front for major construction projects, and the debt is paid off over 10-20 years. Voting YES now locks in lower interest rates that stretch the value of bond by reducing borrowing costs.

8. Overcrowding is already here – The recent months have only amplified the challenges with overcrowded schools and the need for more classroom space. Our elementary schools are already 1,226 students over permanent building capacity. Adding more space now is essential for the future health, safety, and learning for all of our students.

9. Every student deserves a good school – Some of the district’s oldest schools lack proper safety and seismic standards and are not ADA compliant. They also do not have spaces that reflect today’s learning environments. The bond replaces three aging elementary schools to make sure every student has a safe and modern space to learn.

10. Schools are the heart of our community – The recent pandemic has demonstrated how schools are critical to providing support in a time of need. From free meals and technology to childcare for frontline workers, school buildings are fundamental to supporting our community.