

Press Release



Battle Ground Public Schools

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Central School controlled burn postponed

The burning of the old Central School in downtown Battle Ground has been postponed from Saturday, Dec. 10, to Saturday, Jan. 21. The giveaway of bricks from the deteriorating school, built in 1941 and last occupied in 2001, is also being postponed to take place in connection with the new burn date.

The date for the controlled fire – a training opportunity for firefighters across Clark County -- was changed until after the holidays to meet requirements for allowing comment, particularly from various public agencies. Robert Maul, the community development director for the city of Battle Ground, said the process is required for buildings larger than 4,000 square feet.

In addition, the Southwest Washington Clean Air Agency said there is a possibility that weather conditions next weekend will force a ban on all outdoor burning.

Despite the postponement, training at the old school by several fire departments in Clark County will continue through next week, Mike Ciraulo, training chief for multiple fire agencies, said Friday. Firefighters have been practicing such tactics as forced entry, escape when exits are blocked and search and rescue of occupants.

The Battle Ground School District Website, battlegroundps.org, will have updates, including details about the giveaway of bricks, as the Jan. 21 burn date approaches.

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