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Your Lewiston Schools

489538E-17

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

“So, what’s different this time?” This type of question is often asked as I meet with various citizen groups to bring information about the proposed new high school and career technical education center project that will go before voters on March 14, 2017. The Board’s thorough approach over the past four years, since adopting the Comprehensive Grades 9-12 High School Resolution in 2013, laid out a transparent process that carefully vetted the major objections that hindered past bond elections, such as:



Dr. Bob Donaldson

- Including professional technical education programs in the design.
- Developing viable options for future use of the Normal Hill campus.
- Developing a plan for funding construction of outdoor athletic competition facilities at the new high school site.
- Keeping construction work local.

Career Technical Education Center Included

Responding to the need to expand career technical education opportunities for area students, the Lewiston School District and Lewis-Clark State College have partnered together to construct new state-of-the-art Career Technical Education (CTE) facilities to meet the needs of both high school and college students in preparing for high quality manufacturing jobs in Idaho’s robust economy.

The preliminary design includes construction of a 34,000 square foot Career Technical Education Center as the centerpiece of the project. Lewis-Clark State College has announced a plan to construct a larger CTE Center on its portion of the jointly-owned property as well. Having both programs operating in close proximity greatly enhances opportunities for students, starting at grade 9, to seamlessly transition between high school and college classrooms.

Preliminary floor plans for the new high school and CTE center are available on the District’s

website www.lewistonschools.net/proposed-new-high-school/. For more information about the Lewis-Clark State College CTE center project, visit their website at www.lcsc.edu.

Current High School Campus Repurposing

The Board of Directors approved a business plan on February 6th that would utilize the current high school’s main building for office space for the District’s administrative offices, rental space for fine and performing arts, community events, and business incubator space. Additionally, Memorandums of Understanding are in place with both the City of Lewiston and the Lewiston Urban Renewal Agency to explore acquisition and utilization of certain buildings and land at the current campus should voters approve the bond on March 14.

Plans for Future Athletic Competition Facilities

Recognizing the need to plan for upgrading outdoor athletic venues on the site of the proposed new high school, without incurring further debt, the Board of Directors adopted a resolution to fund athletic venue upgrades over a five-year period

by selling District assets, setting aside School Plant Facility and Permanent Levy funds and self-performing a portion of the field work.

Construction Manager/General Contractor Selected for Project Management

The Board chose to employ the Construction Manager/General Contractor model under Idaho law enacted in 2014. This model gives public entities the benefits of expert construction management services throughout the planning and design phases of a project and allows the establishment of a fixed price or guaranteed maximum price for construction by a qualified contractor backed by performance and payment bonds. The competitive bidding will be managed by the CM/GC and not the public entity. The CM/GC may self-perform portions of the project and sub-contract other portions, creating a bidding environment to include responsible contractors of all sizes, which will help ensure that local contractors will have the ability to participate.

SPECIAL BOND ELECTION MARCH 14, 2017

The Board of Directors adopted a Bond Election Resolution calling for a Special General Obligation Bond Election to be held on Tuesday, March 14, 2017 on the question whether the District shall be authorized to issue general obligation school bonds in the principal amount not to exceed \$59,800,000 for construction of a new high school and career technical education center in the Lewiston Orchards.

The election will be held at the regular polling places for elections in Nez Perce County, Idaho, and administered by the Nez Perce County Clerk. Polls will open at 8:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. on the date of the election.

Form of Ballot Question

Shall the Board of Directors of Independent School District No. 1, Lewiston, Idaho (the “Board”), be authorized to issue general obligation school bonds of said District in the principal amount not to exceed \$59,800,000 for the purpose of financing the costs of acquisition, construction, furnishing the equipping of

a new comprehensive grades 9-12 high school, including a career-technical education center, a gymnasium and an auditorium, together with all related furnishings and equipment necessary to operate said facilities, the final installment of such bonds to fall due not later than September 15, 2037, all as provided in the Bond Election Resolution adopted by the Board on November 15, 2016?

The interest rate anticipated on the proposed bond issue, based upon current market rates, is two and seventy-five hundredths percent (2.75%) per annum. The total amount to be repaid over the life of the bonds, based on the anticipated interest rate, is \$77,381,500 consisting of \$59,800,000 in principal and \$19,535,000 of interest, totaling \$79,335,000, less \$1,953,500 in estimated bond levy equalization payments.

As of March 14, 2017, the total existing bonded indebtedness of the District, including interest accrued, is \$0.00.

IN FAVOR of issuing bonds in the principal amount not to exceed \$59,800,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
AGAINST issuing bonds in the principal amount not to exceed \$59,800,000	<input type="checkbox"/>

WHAT WOULD THE BOND BUY?

- Comprehensive Grades 9-12 High School, approximately 205,000 sq. ft.
- Career Technical Education Center. Eight (8) CTE programs designed for expansion as needed.
- 1,000-seat Auditorium for fine arts music/drama, green rooms, storage.
- Gymnasium to accommodate all physical education programs and indoor athletic competitions. Seating for up to 2,000 spectators.
- Furniture, fixtures and equipment.
- Central cafeteria and media/library with gathering spaces.
- Security features, zone temperature and access controls.
- Community event spaces.
- Faculty, staff and student parking.



WHAT WILL IT COST HOMEOWNERS?

Bond Levy Homeowner Information

Bond Amount – \$59.8 million
Term – 20 Years • Estimated Interest Rate – 2.75%

Examples for Homeowners (including Principal and Interest):

Assessed Home Value	\$150,000	\$200,000
*LESS Applicable Homeowner’s Exemption	-\$75,000	-\$100,000
Taxable Value	\$75,000	\$100,000
Rate (\$1.38 per \$1000)	x 0.00138	x 0.00138
Annual Levy	\$103.50	\$138.00
Monthly Amount	\$8.63	\$11.50

*Some homeowners may qualify for additional exemptions including the Circuit Breaker.

Property Tax Reduction Program

The Idaho State Tax Commission provides property tax relief for homeowners qualifying under the property tax reduction (Circuit Breaker) program. The amount of reduction is based on income for the previous calendar year. If you qualify, the property taxes on your home and up to one acre of land may be reduced by as much as \$1,320. For more information about WHO qualifies, HOW TO APPLY, and to find a downloadable application form, visit the Nez Perce County Assessor’s website at www.co.nezperce.id.us/ElectedOfficials/Assessor. The deadline for application this year is April 18. For additional information, call the Nez Perce County Assessor at 208.799.3010.

BIENNIAL DIRECTOR ELECTION

The Board of Directors is preparing to adopt a resolution for a biennial director election to be conducted on Tuesday, May 16, 2017. One director position will be on the ballot to fill the term expiring on June 30, 2017, currently held by Alexis Morgan.

Information about the election will be posted on the District’s website following the Board’s action on February 27. Qualified electors interested in serving on the Board of Directors are encouraged to review the information on the website. Declaration of Candidacy forms and Petition of Candidacy forms can be filed with Board Clerk Katharine McPherson for a two-week period starting on March 3, and ending with close of business on March 17. Forms can be downloaded from the website or requested from the District’s Business Services Office at 208.748.3036, 3317 12th St., Lewiston, Idaho 83501.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION SCHEDULED

March 21, 2017 – 2:00-7:00 PM, Whitman Elementary Gymnasium, 1840 9th Avenue
March 22, 2017 – 7:00 AM-2:00 PM, Camelot Elementary Gymnasium, 1903 Grelle Avenue

Parents of children turning 5 years of age on or before September 1, 2017, are requested to make arrangements to visit one of the Kindergarten Registration sites on the dates/times listed to get your kindergarten-eligible child(ren) registered for school this fall.

The District’s website www.lewistonschools.net, “Upcoming Kindergarten Registration,” under “District News,” is the source for complete information about documentation and immunization records that you will be required to present during registration to complete the process. Or call Nicole Wright at the District Enrollment Office, 208.748.3032, for answers to specific questions you might have.