

Bend needs 7 schools to keep up with growth

BEND (AP) — The City of Bend will need to open seven new schools to keep up with the projected growth over the next 20 years, officials say.

A Bend-La Pine School District committee presented a report on projected enrollment to the school board last week, reported *The Bulletin*. The report does not say when the new schools should open, but predicts when the district will be over capacity and where the demand will be highest.

A 20-member facilities committee including district staff, principals, teachers and community members will decide which projects the district should tackle first. It will also look at how much they will cost and if the district should go out for a bond. Those decisions are expected in the fall.

“It would be really difficult to build new schools without a bond,” said Brad Henry, the district’s chief operations and financial officer.

The district’s most recent bond was passed in 2013

and paid for the construction of Silver Rail Elementary and Pacific Crest Middle schools, which opened last fall. Those schools helped relieve overcrowding, but that’s not expected to last long.

Bend-La Pine had about 17,000 students this year and expects to grow every year, hitting nearly 24,000 in 2034.

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The committee is relying on enrollment projections from Portland State University Population Research center, building permits, county population forecasts and plans for Bend’s expanded urban growth.

Henry said schools can operate over capacity, but it’s not ideal.

Sisters lifter medals in Texas event

Mason Haro-Kobernik, 17-year-old junior from Ridgeview High School, won two national medals Sunday at the 2016 USA Weightlifting Youth National Championships in Austin, Texas.

Mason, who lifts for Level 5 Strength and has trained here in Sisters for the last six months, competed against 14 other nationally qualified lifters in the 94kg weight class in the 16- to 17-year-old age group.

Mason earned a silver medal by placing second in the snatch competition with a lift of 111 kg/244 pounds, just 1 kg below the top lift.

Mason placed fourth in the clean & jerk competition with a lift of 136 kg/300 pounds, just 1 kg below the third-best lift.

Mason earned the overall bronze medal in the total, with a total of 247 kg, just 1 kg under the silver medal.

Mason made all his lifts, going six-for-six with three new personal records set.

His silver-medal snatch was the best technical lift of the entire group, and his final clean & jerk to secure the bronze was the highlight of the session as it was the first time in his young career he



PHOTO PROVIDED

Mason Haro-Kobernik had an outstanding tournament in Texas.

has been able to hit the 300-pound mark.

Mason now moves on to

the junior 17-20 level and his next big meet will be Junior Nationals in February, 2017.

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