

PROJECTS: SMS
 expected to be ready
 for class in September

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oversight committee member Jay Wilkins noted that the district has been able to do more work — including extra painting and system upgrades — thanks to additional funds that added to the original \$10.7 million approved by Sisters voters in 2014.

The district caught a “tailwind” in selling the bonds,

earning additional money to the tune of nearly \$1 million from favorable market timing. In addition to that, Sisters was awarded \$4 million in state grants.

In adding scope to the original project, Wilkins said, the district went back to the intent of the bill that provided for the grant funding, trying to create “more efficient, better educational facilities (with a) longer lifespan. Safety, obviously, became a big emphasis.”

With a construction boom underway across the region, demand for tradesmen and

materials has been high. Scheduling the trades has been a challenge, Hudson said.

“That’s been the toughest part to manage,” he said.

While the school is one big construction site now, in the second week of August, the school district expects everything to be ready for class in September.

“This time next week, there’ll be a pretty impressive change from what you see today,” Hudson said. “But the race is on... It’s going to be a push — but all of these summer projects are.”



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

A new paint scheme won approval from members of a public tour.



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

A secure, controlled entrance to Sisters Middle School is a major aspect of this summer’s remodeling project.

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