

BOND: 7 of 10 Keizer schools would be affected

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thousand of assessed value.

The average price of recently-sold homes in Keizer is about \$275,000. At the highest rate, the bond would increase taxes by about \$380 per year for the one of those homes.

The final LRRP includes \$443.5 million for capacity and core infrastructure improvements, \$66 million for seismic preparation, \$33 million for safety and security, \$73.5 million for non-routine maintenance, \$9.5 million for technology, and \$3.7 million for Americans with Disabilities Act compliance.

While McKay High School and its feeder schools are projected to need the largest increase in capacity during the next 20 years, the McNary area schools are in the top three. At the Keizer elementary level, schools will need to accommodate 140 more students during that time. Claggett Creek Middle School is projected to need space for about 100 more students while Whiteaker Middle School is sufficient for the expected ebb and flow of students to the area. McNary High School is already 10 percent over capacity – even with portable classrooms – and the student body is expected to surge by as many as 200 students around 2025.

The final recommendation includes site-specific upgrades for several Keizer schools:

- Cummings Elementary School would get a renovation to its cafeteria and a renovation/

remodel of the main office to improve security.

- Gubser Elementary School would have its gym renovated; a cafeteria added; and get three additional classrooms.

- Keizer Elementary School would get a gym renovation; a cafeteria added; its library renovated; and four additional classrooms.

- Kennedy Elementary School would get a cafeteria renovation and four additional classrooms.

Changes include everything from increasing capacity to security-minded remodels.

- Claggett Creek would receive renovations or additions to its cafeteria and library and two additional science classrooms.

- Whiteaker would get an additional science classroom as well as a renovation/remodel of the main office to improve security.

- McNary would be part of a program to increase capacity at most district high schools to 2,200 students. The current capacity with portable classrooms is about 1,850. Changes would include the addition of 18 new teaching stations – 14 general classrooms, one science lab, one STEM (science, technology, engineering math) room and two career-technical education rooms.

The exact look of the renovations is yet to be determined, but Mike Wolfe, the district's chief operations officer, said committees would be established at each school to hammer out the details.

McNary is one of the more land-locked schools in the district which would likely mean purchasing additional land for expansion.

Vroom, vroom



The St. Edward Catholic Church Knights of Columbus had their annual car show Saturday, July 15. ABOVE: Visitors and show judges appraise the cars on display.

Volunteers sought

The City of Keizer is looking for volunteers to serve on committees.

Openings include the Keizer Planning Commission, the Mid-Willamette Valley Community Development Partnership, and youth/page liaison opportunities.

Pick up an application at Keizer City Hall at 930 Chawawa Road NE, or access an electronic version at the www.keizer.org. Applications are due Wednesday, Aug. 9.

GRASSROOTS GOVERNMENT

The Keizer Parks and Recreation Advisory Board met most recently on July 11, here's what was discussed:

- The board decided to table a grant application that could pay for fitness trail equipment in Keizer Rapids Park. Board members hoped to apply for the Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) grant this year, but opted to wait until 2018 after discovering a 50 percent match requirement.

"What it boils down to is that we are under a pretty big time crunch and we will be more prepared to be successful (next year)," said board member Matt Lawyer.

- The board opted to continue a discussion on naming the sand volleyball courts and planned picnic shelter in Keizer Rapids Park after Hans Schneider and his family, who have made substantial donations of money and effort to install the amenities. There was also some limited discussion regarding inclusion of "court rules" in addition to the dedication sign.

Keizer Public Works Director Bill Lawyer encouraged the board to take the time to "get it right."

- The Keizer Parks Foundation recently updated its website, www.keizerparksfoundation.org, to include donation pages for every park in Keizer. Residents wanting to donate specifically to their neighborhood park can visit the site, click on the "Keizer Parks" tab at the top and select their local park from the list. Donations can be accepted in any amount with monthly giving options available.

- Resident Pat Fisher spoke to the board about potentially removing an extruding chainlink fence in Wallace House Park. The fence extends from a property line and interferes with the walking path to the extent that cyclists and those in wheelchairs have difficulty accessing it.

Bill Lawyer said he would have public works staff look into the issue and that removing the fence was unlikely to cause any problems.

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