

Keizertimes

SECTION A

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Complaints, solutions abound at McNary community forum

Officials also unveil plans post-bond measure

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

The Salem-Keizer School District (SKSD) is already planning how it might revamp the McNary High School campus in 2019 if a new bond measure passes next year.

That may sound like putting the cart before the horse, but the cost of what might be a massive project is a factor.

"We are moving forward as if the bond will pass because, if we don't it, it will delay the whole program and cost \$30 million more. It makes sense to do that prep," said SKSD Chief Operations Officer Mike Wolfe.

Wolfe and Principal Erik Jespersen unveiled a conceptual map of potential changes in the works at the school during a community forum at McNary Thursday, Oct. 12. School and city officials called for the forum to deal with the impacts of a growing student body on

A conceptual redesign of the McNary campus was unveiled at a forum last week. Any work is dependent on the passage of a bond measure in 2018.

KEIZERTIMES/Andrew Jackson

parking and traffic in the surrounding neighborhoods.

"One of the reasons McNary is one of the first in the queue is because of parking issues," Wolfe said.

For the past two years, neighbors along Newberg

Drive North have voiced complaints to the Keizer City Council and Salem-Keizer School Board regarding drastic increases in school-related traffic and parking on their street.

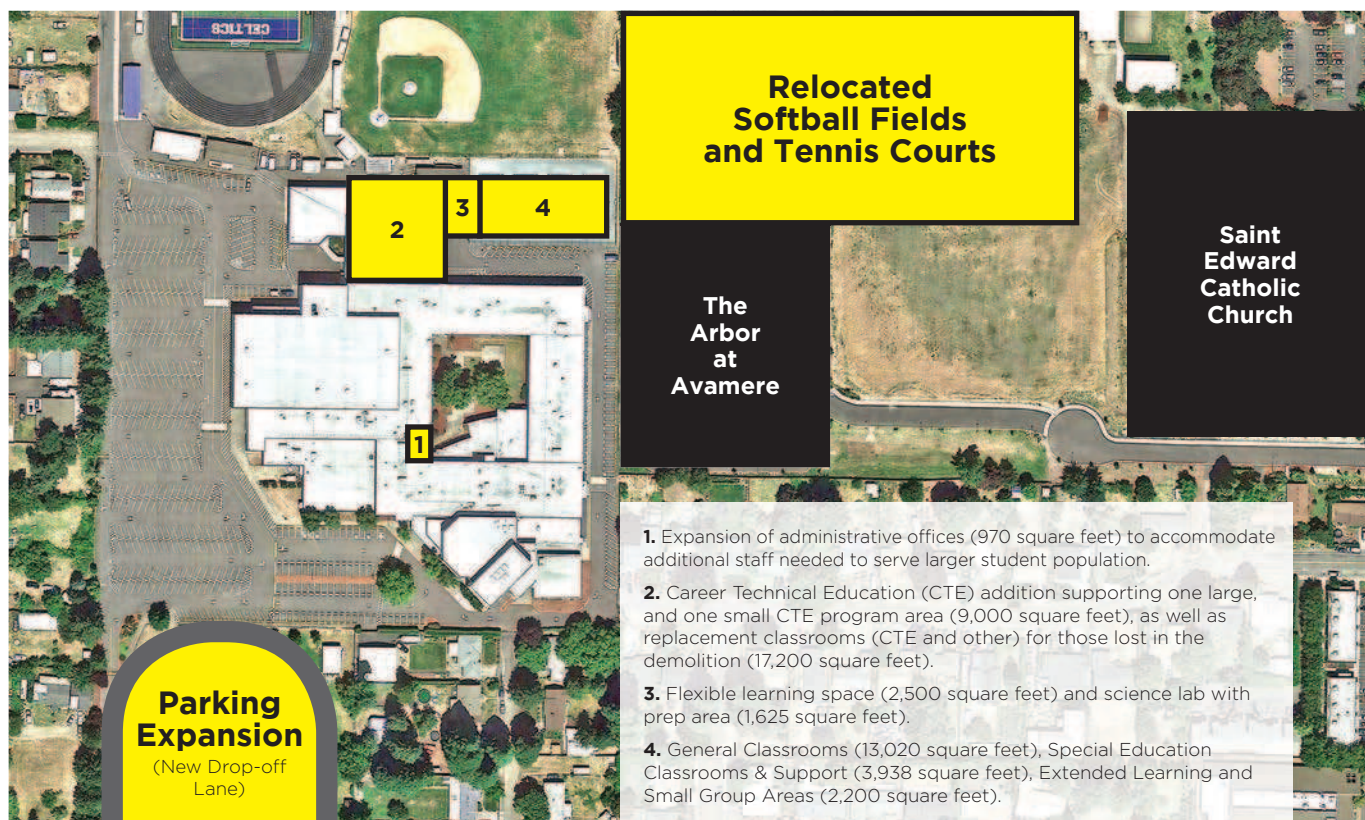
The conceptual map,

and the changes it forecasts, hinge on striking a deal for additional land behind St. Edward Catholic Church. School district and church officials are already in talks for an acquisition.

If everything goes

according to the concept plan, the softball fields and tennis courts would be moved to the field behind the church. The current softball fields would be converted into additional parking and a

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1. Expansion of administrative offices (970 square feet) to accommodate additional staff needed to serve larger student population.
2. Career Technical Education (CTE) addition supporting one large, and one small CTE program area (9,000 square feet), as well as replacement classrooms (CTE and other) for those lost in the demolition (17,200 square feet).
3. Flexible learning space (2,500 square feet) and science lab with prep area (1,625 square feet).
4. General Classrooms (13,020 square feet), Special Education Classrooms & Support (3,938 square feet), Extended Learning and Small Group Areas (2,200 square feet).

Community support pours in after death of KPD K9

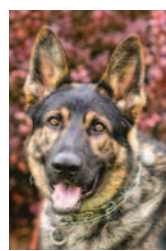


Submitted by KPD
Officer Scott Keniston and Bruno in a Keizer classroom. Bruno passed away Oct. 12 at the age of 5.

Less than a week after the death of a Keizer Police Department K9 the funds to purchase a new one have already been raised.

"We've already received well more than enough to purchase a new dog, but those interested in supporting our K9 unit can donate to the fund to purchase cameras for the dogs," said KPD Chief John Teague at a Keizer City Council meeting Monday, Oct 15.

On Oct. 11, around 4 p.m., Keizer Police K9 Bruno passed



Bruno

veterinarian imaged Bruno's chest. The results showed a few lumps in the chest area and near the lungs. Doctors at the veterinarian clinic recommended Officer Keniston take Bruno to Dove Lewis Animal Hospital in Portland.

Bruno was immediately taken to Portland where it was discovered he was suffering from a severe bacterial infection. There was an attempt to clear the infection, but the infection had spread

away from a severe bacterial infection. Officer Scott Keniston, Bruno's partner, took the K9 to the veterinarian on Tuesday, Oct. 10, to have an abscessed tooth removed.

Bruno exhibited a couple other symptoms that were not related to the abscessed tooth, so the

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Some Keizer parks may get designated smoking areas

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

The Keizer Parks and Recreation Advisory Board has recommended establishing smoking areas in Keizer parks.

If the Keizer City Council agrees with the recommendation, designated smoking areas would be established in parks where such spaces make sense. Smoking would not be permitted in some

of the city's underdeveloped parks where the space is small or does not lend itself to creating such a space. Smoking is currently permitted in Keizer parks, but state, county and even Salem parks have smoking bans in place.

The discussion was prompted by a request from Darrell Richardson, who lives adjacent to Sunset Park in west Keizer.

"I would like to see someone do something about it. I've been to the city council and now I am asking you," Richardson told board members.

The request sparked sometimes heated debate between members of the board and Richardson himself. Richardson said smoke in Sunset Park wafts across his

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Keizer man headed to prison for at least 25 years in murder

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

A Keizer man has been sentenced to life in prison with a minimum of 25 years after pleading guilty to stabbing another man after his car crashed into a tree.

Darnell Harris, 37, was sentenced by Judge Tracy Prall for the murder of 32-year-old Andrew Ramon in Salem in November 2016.

Salem police officers responded to a report of a single vehicle crash into a tree at the intersection of Liberty Street Southeast and Superior Street Southeast in Salem about 1:30 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 28, 2016. Officers found a Chevrolet Trail Blazer that had run into a tree and found Ramon deceased inside.

An autopsy revealed that Ramon had died from multiple stab wounds and not the result of the crash. An investigation into the circumstances surrounding the incident found that Ramon had been involved in an altercation with Harris hours before the crash. Harris was arrested three days later.

Court records show that Harris threatened potential



D. Harris

witnesses on the day of the murder, but those charges were dropped as a result of Harris' guilty plea. However, in January 2017, Harris was indicted for soliciting another inmate at the Marion County jail to kill a witness who testified in front of a grand jury regarding Ramon's death. Harris was convicted of solicitation of murder and tampering with a witness in connection with the jailhouse incident. He received sentences of 9 years and four months and 13 months, respectively, on the latter charges.

Prior to sentencing, Harris' attorney filed a memorandum to the court asking for leniency and shedding some light into Harris' background. Harris is the father of a 19-month-old child and graduate of McKay High School who joined U.S. Marines shortly after receiving his diploma. He was injured during military

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Price of adding Bend schools to GVC: \$700K
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Domestic violence in spotlight
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WMS choirs perform
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Lady Celts soccer rout N. Salem
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File photo

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