

FIGHT,

continued from Page A1

Bowlby said. "It's hard because you have first graders who have 30 minutes and they're having to get their lunch and they're having to wait. We have kids who won't even get back to the room after 15 minutes so then they're ending up with 10 minutes to eat. It makes it a real challenge."

The Salem-Keizer School District estimates that the lost instruction time for elementary schools that do not have a cafeteria is about nine days over the course of a school year.

Since Keizer Elementary doesn't have a dishwasher, trays and silverware are boxed up and shipped off everyday to be cleaned and then returned the next day.

Both Keizer and Gubser are growing at rates so fast that they've already passed projections by Portland State University's Population Research Center.

While Gubser was



Keizer Elementary students wait for condiments in a hallway at the school. Keizer Elementary is one of two elementary schools in Keizer that were built without a cafeteria.

projected to have 568 students in a building designed for 467 by 2035, the school is already at 605 students and Bertholf is planning for 620 kids next school year.

While Gubser would be one of the first schools to be renovated under the bond, with construction possibly beginning as early as fall of 2018 and finishing the following September, a portable with two classrooms

will be installed next school year since classrooms are already at 31-34 students.

"We can't wait," Bertholf said.

Along with a new cafeteria and kitchen, Gubser would get three new classrooms, a relocated covered play area and improvements to its gym and HVAC system through the bond.

Keizer, the largest elementary school in the

city, was projected to have 736 students by 2035 but has already surpassed 740.

With construction scheduled to begin in 2022, Keizer would get four new classrooms, a multipurpose fitness room, additional parking and reoriented drop-off lanes. The school would also see improvements to its plumbing, increase visibility of main entry from the office and library improvements.

Both schools would also get partition walls replaced, intercom and card access system upgrades and expanded wireless capacity.

Gubser was scheduled for construction before Keizer because of a rapid increase

in enrollment this school year which led to a lack of classrooms. Keizer also experienced growth and while overcrowded, has been able to accommodate the student body for the time being.

Cummings Elementary, which is just under its capacity at 430-plus students, would get its existing cafeteria expanded as part of its \$1.8 to \$2.8 million. With construction beginning in 2020, Cummings would also see sidewalk additions on Delight Street, heating and ventilation improvements, seismic improvements and increase visibility of the main entry from the office.

Clear Lake would receive \$175,000 to \$225,000 for music room and site drainage improvements as well as removal or replacement of end-of-life portable classrooms.

Weddle would get \$850,000 to \$1.6 million to replace its roof and to improve its music room.

Forest Ridge, the newest of the Keizer schools, built in 2002, would receive \$75,000 to \$125,000 for improvements to its HVAC system. All schools will get intercom and card access system upgrades as well as expanded wireless capacity.

Ballots were mailed out Wednesday, April 25.

If passed, the \$619.7 million proposed bond would increase the current property tax levy rate by an estimated \$1.24 per \$1,000 of assessed property value.

RYAN,

continued from Page A1

Aside from the accomplishments, Ryan said there are other issues she wants to bring to the forefront of the public conscience. First among those is finding a way to incorporate a domestic violence advocate into the Keizer Police Department. Ryan said she has been working closely with Sgt. Andrew Copeland on the matter and took part in ride-alongs with KPD officers twice a year to get a better handle on the need.

"I've taken the time to try to understand the department and we occasionally use services provided by Salem Police Department, but I want to see someone working alongside our officers," she said.

In some ways, her attempts to create space for a domestic violence advocate took a back seat to the larger issues of funding — and now hiring — additional officers, but she can see opportunity on the horizon.

"It could be a volunteer position or there are grants we can apply for," Ryan said.

Sticking with the public safety theme, Ryan said finding a way to round up more volunteers and stable funding for KPD's annual BLAST camp is another priority.

The other major issue Ryan hopes to tackle is bringing the city's various youth athletic organizations together for a Kumbaya session.

"I want to put all the athletics leaders in the same room with Cathy (Clark's) support to bring people together and make unity happen," Ryan said. "We have a lot of organizations and not everyone is communicating."

"And I will always be a voice for businesses in Keizer. That was one of the main issues I ran on, but I feel like I've become a strong voice for the community overall," she said.

Voters will determine if Ryan gets another term on the council in November.

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