

Business Directory

CLASSIFIEDS/BIDS



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REQUEST FOR BIDS

**MWH-Kiewit Joint Venture (i.e., CM/GC)
PORTLAND WATER BUREAU'S
FILTRATION FACILITY PROJECT**

MWH-Kiewit is currently accepting bids from prequalified sub-contractors for the following bid packages:

- Package S-16 - Raw Water Pipelines.
- Package S-17 - Concrete at Areas 20, 30, and 40.
- Package S-19 - Balance of Buried Piping.
- Package S-21 - Concrete at Clarifier, Gravity Thickener, Sludge Storage Tank, and Overflow
- Pump Station.
- Package S-22 - Buildings at Dewatering Building, Chemical Building, Ozone Building.
- Package S-23 - Mechanical at Area 30 (Flocculation, Sedimentation, Filtration).
- Package S-24 - Balance of Plant Mechanical.
- Package S-25 - Plant Electrical.

These packages will be awarded based on best-value criteria. Bids are due August 4, 2023, no later than 4:00PM PDT.

Be advised that MWH-Kiewit, a member of the CM/GC Joint Venture, and/or Affiliate, intends to compete as a bidder on the S-16, S-17, S-19, S-21, S-22, and S-25 packages.

If interested in receiving a list of prequalified bidders, please contact MWH-Kiewit's Preconstruction Manager Ben McGeachy at ben.mcgeachy@mwhconstructors.com

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Is Education Taking a Back Seat?

(AP) — Funding for schools, literacy programs and special education teachers in Oregon — a state where 60% of third graders can't read at grade level — could be jeopardized by a Republican walkout that has stalled hundreds of bills and derailed the Legislature for nearly six weeks.



Attendees chant during a rally calling for an end to the Senate Republican walkout at the Oregon State Capitol in Salem, Ore., May 11, 2023.. (AP Photo/Amanda Loman,File)

The standoff over a bill that would expand access to abortion and gender-affirming health care could scuttle much-needed education funding in a year when the stars seemed to align for Oregon's budget.

Tax revenues have exceeded state economists' projections, allowing lawmakers to approve a record K-12 budget of \$10.2 billion. But the education spending legislation needs a vote from the Senate, which hasn't been able to conduct business since May 3 because of the GOP boycott, and time is running out, with just two weeks left until the legislative session ends.

"Supporting strong schools and improving student outcomes should be enough to make anyone show up for work," Democratic state Rep. Courtney Neron, the House Committee on Education chair, said at a recent rally against the walkout. "From early childhood through higher education, our schools and students need us to respond to serious challenges."

Oregon's Senate Republican office said in an email that "it is critically important that we make sure education is fully funded." Republican minority leader Sen. Tim Knopp also said in an email his caucus will return by June 25 to pass "substantially bipartisan" bills and budgets.

But Democrats say waiting until the session's last day to pass budgets isn't feasible and school districts need a sense of potential funding by early July to begin planning for the next school year.

"There's no way that we can pass all the budget bills on June 25," Democratic state Sen. Michael Dembrow, the Senate Committee on Education chair, said in an email. "Just doing budget bills in both chambers will take several days."

If lawmakers don't return soon, Dembrow said he suspects Democratic Gov. Tina Kotek "will need

to convene a special session at some point to do the budgets."

As in other states nationwide, reading and math scores plummeted in Oregon following the pandemic. School closures hit young children particularly hard, depriving them of critical in-person instruction on how to read. About 60% of third graders in Oregon are not proficient in reading or math, according to the latest state assessment results.

"This should be an emergency, a wake-up call," said Gini Pupo-Walker, an executive director of nonprofit advocacy group The Education Trust. "It's unfortunate that those really important bills that could really reshape the way reading is taught and could really transform student experiences with learning are ... now being held hostage to a totally separate issue."