

SCHOOL BOARD from page 1A

"A remodel will actually be more expensive than a new (high school) facility, if we take into account all the things that are needed for a remodel," Orr said.

Moving forward, the Facilities Advisory Committee recommends requesting approval of a bond measure to fund only a new high school building.

"Ideally, we would keep the bond under \$89.5 million," Aric said.

He and Orr emphasized this would only be possible if sufficient time is allotted for promotion by a political action committee (minimum of nine months); school board members, faculty members and a significant number of community members commit to actively engage in explaining the need to the community; efforts to bridge the gap between community and schools are enhanced to create a more favorable climate for passage of the bond; and all feasible efforts are made to reduce/contain costs, including considering delaying aspects of the construction, such as the auditorium, reducing footprint or changing location.

"One of the things that we do really well is educate kids on Oak Street — but we don't stay out on the street. We don't celebrate with the community when we have amazing things happen," Aric said. "We need to do a better job of engaging with the community so that they understand our completion rate and what our graduation rate is, and so they can celebrate with us. That is key."

Orr added, "It is important that there be more ties between the schools and the community. ... Our feeling is that the more we can do to get people engaged in the community with the schools, to see that there are advantages to having these schools in the community, will make a big difference in terms of the feelings that people have about the schools. The more benefit that people see to having the schools in the community, the better off we'll be."

Orr also discussed the Siuslaw Vision's Education Impact Study, which interviewed individuals over a two-year period ending in April. He read, "The desire for a community center runs deep throughout the Siuslaw region. ... There is a need for a community center to serve as a hub for learning, teaching and sharing information."

Potentially, some of the district's needs, such as for an auditorium for student and school use, could be addressed by creating a space usable by more of the public.

"We could promote understanding that a new high school building could serve as a hub of learning for the entire community," one slide in the presentation said. "Consider Siuslaw High School and Community Learning Center."

Aric said, "We have reached the point in our community where we now have more residents that moved here after their kids were in school than have kids currently in school. We have a lot of residents who have never been in the buildings, they've never been to a sporting event, they've never been to a choir or band concert. Because they don't have grandkids or kids in the school, we are disconnected to them just because of when they arrived in the community. We need to find a way to engage with those members."

According to the committee, there are two dates to target for the next bond, if approved: the elections in November 2020 or May 2021.

"The longer we wait, the

higher the costs will be," Orr said. "And it keeps going up."

If passed, the construction phase for a new high school would take three years, with one for planning, one for construction and one to remove the old building.

By keeping the cost under \$89.5 million, the district also hopes to keep the amount per thousand of assessed value about \$2 for property owners who would pay for the bond.

"As the bonds are sold, the tax rate slowly starts to increase," Aric said. "You wouldn't see a full bond sale until almost completion of the building, if all the things came to fruition."

The Facilities Advisory Committee also made a presentation to the City of Florence Community and Economic Development Committee this week, which emphasized the economic benefits of a new school, not only for students but for construction firms, local businesses and more.

"We saw a vast benefit when we built the middle school," Aric said. "In the construction fields, people came into the community to work on that building, and they realized when they got here how much they love Florence. They are still here today."

Although the district would still have unmet needs after going for a smaller bond, including safety, security and seismic needs at the elementary school, those could be addressed separately.

"At the end of the day, we still need a high school," Aric said. "The cost to renovate (the high school) would be putting good money in a bad situation. It would not be the best stewards of the taxpayer dollars. It would cost us as much to repair as it would be to replace the

building, and we wouldn't gain a square foot. ... A new facility will cost less and we would gain the needed square footage."

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— Aric Sneddon, Siuslaw Facilities Advisory Committee Chair

After hearing some additional reports, the board reached the conclusion of the regular meeting.

The meeting's format ran a little unusually, as the board opened the meeting by going straight into executive session.

Board Chair Guy Rosinbaum opened the meeting, saying, "Welcome everyone. As I said before, we're going to go pretty quick into executive session. We'll probably be there for about an hour, maybe an hour and a half. We're going to hear several things there."

After approving the agenda, Rosinbaum read a statement that the board would meet in executive session under ORS 192.660(2)(h), "to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed," and under ORS 192.660(2)(b), "to consider the dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent who does not request an open meeting."

The first executive session lasted a little over two hours. When the board returned to open session, Director Bob Sneddon moved to amend the agenda to continue with the regular meeting and resume executive session later.

This was approved by the board "in recognition of the number of people who are

here for other items on the regular agenda," as Bob said.

After the presentations, Rosinbaum stated, "We will go ahead and finish our de-

He then read a statement provided by the district's lawyer: "These complaints were considered in executive session in compliance with board policy and state law. Complainants had the opportunity to submit extensive documentation, make oral statements to the board in executive

sessions and hear and read responses from the personnel involved. The board will engage in no discussion in open session due to the confidentiality requirements, but may only vote on the disposition of each complaint."


The board then voted to dismiss each of the four complaints, with Director Dianna Pimlott voting opposed on agenda item 4(b) (i). There was no discussion.

"In addition, the board has asked me to make a statement on the board's behalf in regard to this matter," Rosinbaum said. "There are some concerns that the board is going to look into further, and we would like to understand how the process came about so we can make sure that we don't make any mistakes going forward into the future."

The board voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 p.m.

The Siuslaw School District Board of Directors regularly meets the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Siuslaw School District Office. Future meetings may also begin at 6 p.m. for board work sessions.

For more information about the Siuslaw School District board, visit www.siuslaw.k12.or.us/school-board--169.



Florence Food Share provides food to those who are hungry in our community. If you have four hours a week available, we are in need of volunteers to staff our Front Desk and also act as Guides as clients walk through the pantry. Please call our volunteer coordinator, Sarah Lovejoy, @ 541-997-9110 (Monday - Friday, before noon) to learn more about volunteering. info@florencefoodshare.org 2190 Spruce Street.



Florence Habitat for Humanity
Construction Volunteers needed for each stage of the building process. Experience is a plus, but not required. Help us build a new home. For information call 541-902-9227

Florence Senior Center Needs VOLUNTEERS



For Kitchen Helpers
Tues. & Thur. 10:30 am to 12:20 pm
A fun way to meet new people and help assist the Florence area seniors.
Please inquire at the
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FlorenceSeniorCenter.org

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Free Hot Meals Mon-Wed-Fri
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM



HELPING HANDS COALITION
New Location: Community Baptist Church
4590 Hwy. 101, Florence (Across from Fred Meyer)
Call 541-997-5057 to Volunteer



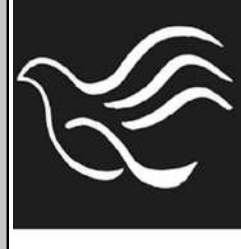
There are many opportunities to volunteer and a variety of skills and talents are always in need. Volunteer interest forms may be found online, at the shelter and at our Thrift Shop on Bay Street.
www.oregoncoasthumanesociety.org/volunteer/

Memory Care Respite of Florence

Your Memory Care Respite Center needs you!
Seeking volunteers for our Coffee Club:
Conversation & companionship in a caring setting while providing respite for caregivers.
Contact us at memcarerespite@gmail.com



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Get involved
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Do your part and volunteer today to help support these local non-profit organizations in our community!



Join the Peace Harbor Hospital Volunteers. You will find an area of interest in a caring organization.
Peace Harbor Volunteers
400 9th Street, Florence, OR 97439
541-997-8412 ext. 2218



SENIOR MEALS PROGRAM
Offering Café 60 & Meals On Wheels

Meals on Wheels are available to people over the age of 60 who cannot get out much due to illness or advanced age and who are not eating properly, regardless of income. Café 60 is available for those who prefer to make new friends in a dining room setting.

1570 Kingwood • PO Box 2313, Florence
541-997-5673
laneseniormeals.org
Operating Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Senior Services Advisory Council Needs New Members

Are you a senior? Have a passion for working with seniors? If yes, please consider applying for the Senior & Disability Services (S&DS) Senior Services Advisory Council. S&DS serves all of Lane County with a wide range of publicly funded services for older adults and persons with disabilities. The council advises S&DS on services and advocates on senior topics. Contact us at: sdsadvisorycouncil@lccog.org or download an application from: <http://www.lccog.org/827/SSAC-Council-Membership> Application deadline: April 26, 2019.



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Saving men one PSA test at a time.
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Someone to talk to... who understands!

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August 16, 17, 18 • 9am to 3pm
1335 Mulberry Lane off of West 15th Street

The Estate of Albert Schurr over 20 years of accumulation, many dressers & desks, couches, chairs, double bed, dining room table with chairs, cabinets, book shelves, carved liquor cabinet, nesting table, coffee table, 50+ cameras, over 1,000 vinyl records, adios, speakers, record players, reel to reel, DVD & VHS player, slide projector, Avon collection, exercise equipment, vintage cookware set, dish sets, lots of kitchen items, linen, picture frames, luggage, oriental décor, unique Knick knacks, 20 sets of golf clubs & balls, golfing memorabilia, vintage insulators, loads of hand & power tools, camping gear & much, much more.

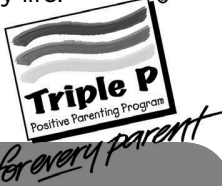
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- Triple P doesn't tell you how to parent, but gives you tools you can use to meet your family's needs.
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