

Facilities update

A \$7.5 million bond measure to ease overcrowding and address safety concerns was recommended to the Baker School Board October 21 by an 11-member citizen advisory committee.

The recommended bond measure would be repaid over a 10-year time period, costing taxpayers approximately 66 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value. That would amount to \$71.49 per year (less than \$6 per month) for the owner of a home assessed at \$108,320, which is the median price of a home in Baker County.

Here are the key components of the recommendation:

Baker High School: Grades 7-12

- Safety and security upgrades, including secure entry addition
- Dedicated commons area for Grades 7-8
- Modernize existing locker rooms
- Grades 7-8 locker room addition
- Remodel science classrooms for Grades 7-8 use

Helen M. Stack: Grades 5-6

- Safety and security upgrades,

including secure entry and reconfigured parent/student drop-off area

- Refresh historic character of building with new windows, historic entry and exterior upgrades
- 7,000 SF addition for multi-purpose room (serving as cafeteria/kitchen) and locker rooms

South Baker: Grades 3-4

- Safety and security upgrades, including secure entry
- New staff parking lot to increase parking and accessibility for parents

Brooklyn Primary: Grades K-2

- Safety and security upgrades, including secure entry
- Restroom addition

North Baker

- Safety and security upgrades

Haines Elementary

- Safety and security upgrades

Keating Elementary

- Safety and security upgrades

To learn more about the bond measure, or if you have questions, contact Superintendent Mark Witty at 541-524-2260 or email him at mark.witty@bakersd.org.

OTEC scholarships

Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative (OTEC) is seeking applications for academic, trade school, lineman college, the Washington, D.C. Youth Tour and Idaho Youth Rally scholarships.

OTEC is offering a total of 32 scholarships to high school students, returning students and adults entering educational and technical programs.

College, Trade School & Lineman School Scholarships

Twenty-six scholarships are for academics; four of those scholarships will go to a brand new program, OTEC-EOU Rural Scholarship Program. This is a new partnership between OTEC and Eastern Oregon University in La Grande. Four local EOU freshman will have the opportunity to have their entire tuition and fees paid if they commit to attend and graduate from Eastern Oregon University.

The other 22 academic scholarships are for \$5,000 for graduating high school students and returning college students.

Applications close on Friday, January 31.

Lineman College

OTEC is also awarding two \$5,000 Lineman College scholarships and four \$2,500 Trade School scholarships. Applications are accepted year-round.

Washington D.C. Youth Tour

Current high school juniors can

apply for a chance to win a one-week trip to the nation's capital to celebrate the 2020 NRECA Washington, D.C. Youth Tour. The trip will be held from June 18-25.

Over the course of the tour, four local students will get to tour historic sites and civic monuments, learn about electric cooperatives and current issues in energy and climate change legislation and also have a chance to meet Oregon's congressional leaders.

Applications for the Washington, D.C. Youth Tour close on January 24.

Idaho Youth Rally

Current high school sophomores who are enrolled as of November 1 have the chance to apply to attend the annual Idaho Youth Rally, a week-long leadership camp in Caldwell. The rally will be held from July 6th-11th.

Local students will join high school students from around the western states to participate in a variety of activities and classes that promote positive relationships and build skills in leadership, teamwork and perseverance.

Students are given the opportunity to learn about government, drug and alcohol awareness, and the electrical/energy industry.

Applications close on March 1.

To apply

Applications and specific criteria for all the OTEC scholarships, the D.C. Youth Tour and the Idaho Youth Rally are available at scholarships.otec.coop, youthtour.otec.coop and youthrally.otec.coop.

Live homework help offered through library

Stuck on that math problem? Have a question about your English homework? Tutors are available live every day from noon to midnight through a service provided by the Baker County Public Library.

It's all free. All you need is a library card.

Go to bakerlib.org and click on "Kids." The program is called Tutor.com. Professionally trained tutors help students in kindergarten through

introductory level college with math, science, English and social studies. Tutors will also help adult learners of all ages with their GED, adult education courses, and grammar help with their resume or a work-related project.