

School board hears details of options available on bond measure

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with total estimated costs of \$32.1 million and \$31,500 million, respectively, but have significant differences on the ground.

Option C1 includes A & B as above, with \$650,000 included for seismic upgrades to the district office. By demolishing the building known as the barn, the addition of an outdoor commons adjoining a new parking and drop-off area between the high school and junior high becomes possible. Also included are new grandstands and lights at Kelley Field, an additional regulation gym at the high school.

Option C2 demolishes both the district office and the barn.

This would make it possible to extend the classroom wing of the high school towards the street, putting five classrooms, two science labs and a computer lab along a single hallway. An adjoining new Vo/Ag, metal and wood shop would be added. District offices would be next to high school administration. Another difference is that the district would gain over 1000 square feet of instructional space at the junior high and almost 9000 square feet of additional commons and instructional space. Several members of FPC3 said that C2 made the best use of the entire school campus and delivers the best options for future expansion needs. C2 also includes new

grandstands and lighting at Kelly Field, athletic field restrooms, parking lots and site lighting.

The final report from FPC3 contains a complete roster of the participants and consultants, and lists the committee's objectives. Moore said that FPC3 established evaluation priorities and guiding principles similar to those so successfully used by the budget committee. These principles, based on information gathered over the last three years are:

- Fix the Jr. High before anything else.
- Remedy inadequate current and future space requirements.

- Save and make use of existing buildings to the extent it is cost and use effective.

- Any new construction should address the core of the building first.

- Seek to create a physical environment that will optimize daily learning potential and learning opportunities.

- Plan and execute upgrades/construction for minimal impacts on students.

Moore asked the panel to evaluate the designs in terms of how well they utilize dollars to meet the district's needs. He gave the example that if you invest \$10 million to renovate an old building to make it usable, you still end up with the same

old building. He continued his example by saying that you could spend \$12 million and have a building designed to meet instructional needs, be more energy efficient and much safer for students and staff.

Copies of the report are available at the district office on request.

The board will meet April 12 to report to the public the results of superintendent evaluations. Jim Foster has been approved as interim superintendent through 2010-2011, high school principal Jim Smith, and junior high principal Mark Everett have been offered three-year contracts.

Coloring contest announced

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finish by October 31.

- Psalm 1 Landscapers have been contracted to pump the "ponding" of water at the Greenville City Park Playground until it can be fixed. Steve Jackson Construction will be doing the job.

- Banks water utility is sponsoring a children's coloring contest as part of an educational outreach for National Drinking Water Week in May.

- Economically stressed families in Banks and throughout Washington County, can call 211 for advice and information in English or Spanish. There are cards available at city hall.

The current franchise with PGE, which would have expired last December 31, has been extended to March 31.

Council adopted a resolution to extend the franchise, then held the first and second reading of an ordinance granting a franchise to Portland General Electric (PGE), and adopted it by declaring an emergency. They also conducted a first reading of an ordinance amending the Banks Municipal Code and adding the Portland General Electric Franchise. All actions were unanimous.

The city entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Washington County to realign Sellers Road and the underlying water main. A motion to approve the IGA carried unanimously. Council President Pete Edison said that he is "glad to see it come to an end."

The next city council meeting is April 14 at 7:30 p.m. in City Hall.

Letters

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build a church. We meet at 740 Madison Avenue.

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. and worship is at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Prayer is at 7:00 p.m. and nursery care is provided for all services.

John Cahill
Pioneer Baptist Fellowship
Vernonia

Thanks for support

Salem Scene

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- HB 3674 – Clean Energy from Forests: Supports biomass as an alternative energy technology, helping to create new jobs for Oregonians while obtaining energy from our forests.

- HB 3680 – Business Energy Tax Credit: Reforms the BETC, protecting the jobs the program has created while adding stringent new controls to rein in costs and prevent abuses.

Other items of interest...

SJR 41 – Creates annual sessions of the legislature, subject to a vote of the people at the next general election. In the odd-numbered years it would be 160 days long and in even-numbered years it will be 35 days long. Although this adds up to roughly the same number of in-session days that we are accustomed to, meeting yearly will allow us to address important issues in a timelier manner.

Last Session, we passed a bill that allows for the collection of unused drugs for the benefit of those who need them but cannot afford to purchase them. These medicines can be expired,

of VHS Alumni game

To the Editor:

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the OSEA sponsored VHS Alumni game a success.

A big Thank you to Coaches Ted Aubin, Steve Whiteman, and Theresa Williams, to the Varsity teams, to all of the Vernonia High School Alumni who came to play, to James Brookins and Matt Blair for offi-

ciating, to Gordon Crowston for announcing, to Cathy Ward for running the clock, to Sentry, to Mini Mart, to the Pampered Chef, and to everyone who donated Food and Raffle items, to the OSEA members who worked at the game, and a special thank you to all of the people who came to watch the game and support their team.

Oregon School
Employees Association
Vernonia Chapter 67

medicine from a deceased family member, unknown tablets and capsules, drugs that are no longer needed or did not work for you, a family member or pet. I hope you will look through that medicine cabinet and contribute any unused prescriptions that you may no longer need. Several collection events have already been held in Clatsop and Columbia counties, and more will be scheduled in the future.

Finally, I want to invite you to attend upcoming town halls to be held throughout the district. Senator Betsy Johnson will join me, as will a number of other panelists that I have invited to provide in-depth information on these topics.

April 10th – Education

Port of Astoria, 11 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Rainier Senior Center, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Oregon has a \$6 billion K-12 public education budget. Come hear local and state educators as they address concerns about education in your area and the state.

May 1st - Jobs & Economic Development

Port of Astoria, 11 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

St. Helens Library – Columbia Learning Center, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Oregon has been hit hard by the global economic crisis. Come hear what we are doing to try and reinvigorate Oregon's economy. Participate in a far ranging discussion of what we can do right here to get our neighbors back to work.



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