

47J Board picks their contractor

The Vernonia School Board of Directors, at their September 9 meeting, were given the school year's initial student enrollment numbers. There are currently 46 freshmen, 45 sophomores, 57 juniors and 54 seniors, for a total of 202 high school students. Included in this year's numbers are 10 foreign exchange students from seven different countries. The grade schools (Washington and Mist) have a combined enrollment of 255 students and there are 146 middle school students.

Board member Ernie Smith told the board that the selection committee for the Construction Manager/General Contractor (CM/GC) Contract had four really good companies to choose from and that P&C Construction did a "fantastic job, not only on pricing,"

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Is there room in your home and life for Jason?



A Family for Every Child is happy to introduce a wonderful little boy named Jason. Jason is looking for a permanent family.

Jason, aged 6, is a delight to be around. He is respectful, happy, and pleasant most of the time. He tends to get nervous around people he doesn't know, but can easily warm up to new faces. Jason loves video games, trucks, hot wheels, camping, fishing, hunting, mud bogging, and just being outdoors in general. Jason is eager to share his toys and

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Chalk Talk

Chalk Talk is a column of information about Vernonia schools. This column was provided by Superintendent Ken Cox.

Another step in the right direction!

Last Thursday evening the Vernonia School Board acted on the recommendation of the Facilities/Evaluation Committee to authorize the district to negotiate a Construction Manager/ General Contractor (CM/GC) Contract with P&C Construction. My first topic of conversation with Steve Anderson, President of P&C, right after the board meeting was local contractor involvement in the construction.

We had a couple of town hall meetings last fall in which we collected the names and addresses of local workers and contractors, regardless of size. (If you aren't sure if your name or your company's name made it on the list stop by the office and we will give you another chance to sign up.) We tried to model some of what we did after the general contractor that was building the new school in Scappoose, because we heard they had done a great job in reaching out to the local community. That contractor was P&C Construction.

When Steve Anderson and I meet this week, I will share with him the list of contractors that we have already developed. Last Friday, Steve indicated in an email that he already has a number of ideas on how to involve local contractors and the community in the construction.

When we selected P&C, we did not follow the typical CM/GC selection process. Rather than just ask contractors for their qualifications and fee structure, we asked that they take the project that we have designed so far and price it out with actual sub-contractor quotes. In order to use their expertise in cost-cutting we asked them to present us with Alternative Technical Concepts (ATCs)

that would potentially reduce the price. (One ATC example was to replace radiant floor heating with more typical roof mounted HVAC system and another was to use concrete tilt-up construction.)



Of the four companies that submitted proposals, P&C was the company that presented the most ATCs that were considered acceptable to the evaluation committee, with potential savings to the district of over two million dollars. But we didn't stop there. We asked P&C to go back to their subcontractors and sharpen their pencils once again, after we told them which ATCs we would accept, and present us with a 'best and final offer' for the entire project, up front. They did and came back with an even lower price.

We do not have a signed contract yet, but we are working diligently with P&C to get one soon. In the meantime you can rest assured that we will be reaching out to the local community in many ways. We are waiting on the completion of the FEMA paperwork before we establish another public comment meeting on the Environmental Assessment portion of the project.

I have been and will continue to do my best to look out for Vernonia, to provide the best new school possible, at the best price, and involve as much of the community and local labor force as is legally possible. You have my word on it!

The next Town Hall meeting on the new schools project will be September 28, at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria (green building). Please join us.

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Stub Stewart State Park	6:35 AM	12:50 PM	4:50 PM
Staley's Junction	6:42 AM	12:57 PM	4:57 PM
Tri-Met's Willow Creek Station	7:15 AM	1:30 PM	5:30 PM
Staley's Junction	7:48 AM	2:00 PM	6:00 PM
Stub Stewart State Park	7:55 AM	2:10 PM	6:10 PM
Vernonia City Hall (Arrival)	8:10 AM	2:25 PM	6:25 PM

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