

**Condon School District 25J
Special Board Meeting
Condon High School
Monday, February 23, 2015, 6:00pm**

PRESENT:

Board of Directors

**Tim Campbell, Chair
Larry Hardie
Brian Johnson
Nichole Schott
Andrew Jamieson**

District Employees

**Jay Kosik, Superintendent
Michelle Geer, Administrator
Lori Myers, Deputy Clerk
Dallas Harsin, Maintenance
Herschel Lantis, Custodial**

Others

**Mac Stinchfield, Press
Steve Olson, Dull Olson & Weekes
Orville Alleman
Hollie Winslow
Scott Maley
Maria Logan
Peter Mitchell
Wayne Bates
Dale Scobert
Deanna Campbell**

**Mark Winslow
Jim Greiner
Lisa Helms
Michelle Colby
Sandy McKay
Amanda Nelson
Marilyn Chase
Alan Anderson
Jason Campbell
Mike Takagi**

**OPEN PUBLIC
MEETING:**

Superintendent Kosik opened the meeting by welcoming all in attendance. He also introduced the school board and the members of the consolidation committee. He stated that the purpose of the meeting was to update everyone on the steps taken by the school board and consolidation committee to get to the point they are now.

Michelle Geer presented a power point which summarized her visits with local K-12 schools from our area, Mitchell and Dufur; as well as conversations with Sherman. She reported that some of the education benefits shared by these districts include; sharing staff, having a visible administrator, K-12 staff meetings and school culture. She noted some of the educational benefits specific to Condon include sharing of educational staff, having an administrator in one building, having a SPED/Counselor in one building, flexibility with instructional aides, saved travel time between buildings for staff, combined staff meetings, staff supporting each other with student needs, expanded library, the building of a positive culture and having a cafeteria for high school students. Mrs. Geer also reviewed the logistics of having one gym handle all PE/Recess times.

Nichole Schott reported that the Port of Arlington has stated that at this time they cannot take over the grade school building but they are continuing to work on economic development so that may change at some point. The school district and port will continue to have conversations regarding the matter.

Nichole Schott presented a power point which reviewed the overall estimated construction costs of \$4.6 million and how those funds would be split by project. She reviewed the funding approach to the project stating that the district does not plan to go to the voters for the entire \$4.6 million. She discussed Senate Bill 447 which

establishes a grant program to provide matching fund grants to school districts for capital costs of school districts. There was discussion regarding the senate bill and how much of the total \$4.6 million it would cover. Mrs. Schott stated that it was her understanding that the grant program would have a minimum request of \$4.0 million and it is not a required 50/50 match. The exact details of the grant will be worked out as it moves through the legislative process. Mrs. Schott went on to review two different scenarios and how they would affect tax payers. Both scenarios assumed a \$2.0 million grant from SB 447. The first scenario was a deferred interest plan that only slightly increased the rate to the taxpayer over the 20 years of the bond. It did however, have an interest cost of \$1,911,569. The second scenario was a layered bond plan that significantly increased the rate to the taxpayer from 2017-2023, the time during which we are paying on both the old and new bond. The rate would drop significantly in 2024 after the old bond is paid off. The interest cost of this plan is \$1,372,987.

Sandy McKay and Alan Anderson expressed concern regarding the cost of this new bond to the landowners in the area. Marilyn Chase also expressed concern regarding the possibility of her property taxes increasing.

Steve Olson of Dull, Olson and Weekes presented to the group two different plans for a grade school addition to the high school. The first plan showed the addition on the west end of the high school, the second on the east. He also stated that with this proposal there would need to be some upgrades to the high school building, noting the science lab, MPR/cafeteria, library to ag classroom, locker room upgrades and possible ADA upgrades.

The meeting was opened for questions for Mr. Olson –

How large are the new classrooms? Approximately the same as the high school classrooms but could possibly be expanded by using some of the common space in the original drawing.

How many students does the current high school hold? Approximately 75 students.

What has to happen to the playshed to make it a stand-alone facility? Heating and electrical upgrades.

What would be the cost of adding a second gym at the high school? A basic 74x50 gym would be approximately \$1.0-\$1.5 million.

What would be the operational savings of district consolidation? Maintenance, energy and staff savings.

Could the addition be placed on the south side of the building? Possibly, but it could be more expensive to deal with oil tanks and utilities.

Would propane be more efficient than oil for heating? Not necessarily.

Are there any issues with tanks in the ground? Dallas Harsin stated that all the appropriate testing has been done and there are no issues.

How long will the new facilities last? They should last 100 years with regular maintenance such as roofing, heating, etc.

Andrew Jamieson asked how much of this project is nice versus necessary? Some of the projects could be put off and handled through maintenance over the next few years, such as the stucco. The showers in the locker room are terrible and the bleachers are out of compliance, there are also issues with ADA compliance in the restrooms.

Will there need to be a stair lift for the upper area of the gym? No, just in the main hallway going down to where the shop area is now.

Will money need to be put into the grade school building to mothball it? Orville Alleman stated that will need to be looked at but it is not figured into the current costs.

Andrew Jamieson asked if enough space has been included for a weight room, music, art, counselor, etc? Orville Alleman stated that is an administrative decision that will need to be looked into. The current proposal can be increased or revised at this point. He also stated that the next step in the process is to hire an architect so everyone will know the exact cost of the proposed project to take to the taxpayers. The cost of the architect will be approximately \$450,000. \$300,000 of the \$450,000 would need to be committed at this time to get where we need to be before taking the measure to the taxpayers.

Alan Anderson stated that he has looked into modulars and has found that they can last up to 20 years and be less expensive than stick built. Steve Olson said they are a possibility that could be considered but there probably wouldn't be a huge savings. Marilyn Chase stated that her granddaughter had been in modulars in her old school and they were nice but the students didn't feel like they were a part of the school.

Superintendent Kosik thanked everyone for attending the meeting and asked everyone to please participate in the exit slip activity which asked for comments about the meeting.

CLOSE MEETING: The public meeting was closed at 7:30pm.

Tim Campbell, Board Chair

Lori Myers, Deputy Clerk