

# **Tillamook School District**

## **Press Release**

### **Tillamook Schools Win State Match Lottery of at Least \$1.93 Million If They Pass a Bond**

Tillamook School District has been awarded between \$1.93 million and \$4 million in state matched money for facility improvements and deferred maintenance needs. In order to access the state matching funds, the District must pass a local bond that equals or exceeds the state match.

### **State Funding**

During the current biennium, the legislature allocated funds that through a lottery process, would be awarded to districts if they could pass a bond to improve facilities. Tillamook was the last of only three districts funded through this final phase of the program. Although Tillamook qualified for \$4 million in matching grants, there was only \$1.93 million left to allocate in the program funds. If Tillamook passes a local bond, they are assured to receive at least \$1.93 million. If either of the two districts awarded ahead of Tillamook (Vernonia/Portland Public) are unable to pass their local bond levies, Tillamook would receive the full \$4 million in matching funds.

### **Bond Projects**

The District has created a growing list of about \$10 million in facility needs since passing the last bond 15 years ago. This list is being prioritized and will be used to determine the order in which projects would be completed with a new bond. Projects the District expects to get accomplished with the bond include:

- Safety projects
  - Doors/locks
  - Exterior lighting
  - Fire alarm upgrades
  - Remove hazardous material
  - Building and student security
- Parking/traffic-flow projects
- Replacing and repairing deteriorating roofs; other maintenance projects
- Replacing heating/ventilation units
- Adding classroom space (East)
- Building a cafeteria (South Prairie)
- Building covered play areas (East, South Prairie, Liberty)
- Site improvements and furnishings

## **Previous Bond**

In 2002, local voters approved a \$12 million bond which replaced most school roofs, including building a gabled roof on the high school, upgraded heating units, upgraded the high school auditorium and much more. At the time of passage, voters approved a rate of \$0.97/\$1,000, but through refinancing that rate was later lowered to about \$0.70/\$1,000 on the current bond, which is set to expire in five years.

## **New Bond Cost**

The District will go to voters in May, asking them to approve a \$4 million dollar bond, which would also allow the District to access the state matched money. The bond would increase current tax rates by an estimated \$0.08/\$1,000 (about \$8 a year for every \$100,000 in property value) and increase the length of the current bond by an additional three years.

## **Bond Committee**

The District invites community members who are willing and interested in serving on a bond committee to come to one of two, short informational meetings on Thursday, March 2, 2017, at either 12:00 p.m. or 5:30 p.m. at the Tillamook School District Administration Office, 2510 First Street, Tillamook.

Please contact the Tillamook School District office @ 503-842-4414 (ext. 2) or e-mail Superintendent Randy Schild @ [schildr@tillamook.k12.or.us](mailto:schildr@tillamook.k12.or.us) if you have questions.