

FRSD Bond Update *New School Designs Taking Shape*

The Fern Ridge School District continues its work to ensure that all elements of the \$26.7 million dollar bond approved by voters last May are delivered in a manner that will not only meet, but exceed the expectations of our community, students and staff.

Our school site design teams are progressing nicely through the planning process. These teams are made up of parents, staff and community members, and their insight and perspective is vital to ensure that the spaces being created will be warm, welcoming, and serve the community for decades to come.

At the recent meeting of the Elmira Elementary School site design committee, the architects shared their design for the outside of the building, and for each “pod” of the school. Members of the site design team examined these and provided feedback, including classroom and equipment needs. The current site designs of the building include space where collaborative teaching can be maximized, where teachers have a tremendous amount of storage, and where students and families will have access to a full size gymnasium and kitchen that can sponsor community events.

At the recent site design committee meeting at Veneta Elementary, the site design team zeroed in on the details of the new reception area and library. This included discussions around changes to the orientation of the entryway and main office, the principal’s office, and the staff lounge. Safety is one of the primary drivers of the front office design.

Schematic design activities for both elementary schools are nearing completion and will be presented to the School Board in February. The most recent design drawings for both elementary schools are available on the District’s website at www.fernridge.k12.or.us/site-design.

Design work for the renovations at Fern Ridge Middle School started in December with a review of the scope of the project and a walk-through of the school. At the most recent site design meeting, the architects shared their ideas regarding how the reconfigured office spaces would be laid out and received feedback from the team. Discussions also occurred around different possibilities and uses for the renovated library area.

In addition to the building design work, the district is in the process of hearing presentations from technology companies that provide single platform tools that can tie together security cameras, access controls, intrusion detection, phones and intercoms. The district is reviewing all of the available options in this area.

The Fern Ridge School District provides a monthly update on the progress of the work funded by the \$26.7 million bond approved by voters last May, published on the fourth Wednesday of each month. For more information about bond activities, visit the District’s website at www.fernridge.k12.or.us/bond, or call the District Office at 541-935-2253.