

FRSD Bond Update *District Initiates Bond Work*

The Fern Ridge School District has worked all summer to set the foundation for the upcoming bond work.

During the summer, the District hired Lane County business to conduct geotechnical investigations, land and utility surveying, and hazardous materials testing. These studies are critical to have accomplished prior to construction activity to make sure the number of unknown conditions are minimized. The reports from all three studies have been completed.

As promised during the bond campaign, the District's Board of Directors has also appointed a Citizen's Oversight Committee (COC) to review activity under the current bond measure and to verify that the bond promises are realized through the course of the work. They will be receiving schedules and expenditure statements and will participate in site design activities. Appointed this summer, members are: Linda Boothe, Jim Dietrich, Jim Eagle Eye, Nan Muir, Jeff Sweet, and Ric Ingham. The committee has met on three occasions and will continue to meet monthly.

Also meeting with the Citizens' Oversight Committee is the high school principal Gary Carpenter, board member Sterling Pew, a second rotating board member, and the district's project manager, DLR Group. As the work progresses, the contractor and design team will also meet with the COC Committee.

Concurrent with this activity are site design committee meetings. The early phases of design have started for both elementary school sites. Each site has a 7 to 8-member site committee made up of the principal, teachers, parents, and a COC member. Students will also be engaged this fall to share their ideas and hopes for their schools.

There will also be opportunities during the design and construction process to engage a wider community base to gather input and share information. The District plans to share the status of the designs for both elementary schools in late October and early November as well as conduct a workshop on sustainability to understand what the community's passions and priorities are for responsible school buildings. During constructions, the District will conduct progress tours with the community and staff. These and other opportunities will be placed on the District's events calendar on their website and, in most cases, advertised in this paper. If you have any questions about the bond activity, please inquire with a member of the Citizens' Oversight Committee or the District Administration office.

The District recognizes and appreciates the participation of so many volunteers.

The Fern Ridge School District will provide a monthly update on the progress of the work funded by the \$26.7 million bond approved by voters last May, to be published on the fourth Wednesday. You will find additional information on the District's website www.fernridge.k12.or.us. You may also post questions on the website or call the District Office at 541-935-2253.