

## Measure 24-18: Silver Falls School District 4J

*Referred to the People by the District Board*

### **Silver Falls School District No. 4J, General Obligation Bond Authorization**

**Question:** Shall the District be authorized to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not exceeding \$19,290,000? If the bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limits of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

**Summary:** If approved, this measure provides funds to the District to finance the costs of capital construction and capital improvements, including, but not limited to, providing funds to:

Make site improvements;

Complete construction and furnishing of high school within the District;

Remodel and upgrade elementary and secondary schools within the District; and

Pay bond issuance costs related thereto.

The Bonds will mature in 30 years or less.

### **Explanatory Statement:**

#### **SILVER FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT 4J**

This bond measure provides the funds necessary to complete Phase II of the new Silverton High School. Phase II includes additional classrooms, a technology education center (agri-science, auto and wood shops, drafting), a 600 seat auditorium, office spaces for teachers, and expansion of the library and cafeteria. In addition, grass fields to accommodate soccer, softball and baseball will be added. Phase II does not include replacement of the existing football and track facilities at the current high school. The new school, when completed, will have a capacity of 1,500 students.

In addition to the completion of Phase II, this bond measure will provide funds to remodel and upgrade other schools in the Silver Falls School District. These projects include, by way of example, the replacing of water pipes, installation of smoke alarms, handicapped access, and the provision for school lunch programs at Bethany, Central Howell, Evergreen and Monitor Schools. In addition to these projects, safety and building improvements would continue at the current Silverton High School in order to prepare it to serve Robert Frost and Mark Twain students in grades 6, 7 and 8.

The above projects, as well as the bond levy amount, are the recommendations of a local citizens committee appointed by the Silver Falls School District Board. The committee, which met regularly over a six month period made the following findings:

The District has substantial facilities needs; the result of enrollment growth and the aging of existing schools.

Enrollment will continue to increase within the District.

The current divided high school campus is inefficient.

At this time, only high priority needs should be addressed.

The existing elementary schools require facility improvements to improve safety, security and operational efficiencies.

Phase II of the new high school should be completed.

Submitted by:

Craig Roessler, Superintendent

Silver Falls School District 4J

**No arguments in favor of or opposed to this measure were filed.**