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24-102: SILVER FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT 4J GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND AUTHORIZATION

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 \$31,250,000? 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:

- Construct, furnish and make site improvements to Silverton High School-Pine Street Campus;
- Upgrade, remodel, furnish and make site improvements to Silverton High School-Schlador Street Campus and Mark Twain Middle School; and
- Pay bond issuance costs.

The Bonds will mature in 21 years or less.

Explanatory Statement:

Silver Falls School District faces a number of difficulties stemming from:

% Safety concerns given the location of Eugene Field Elementary School and the lack of safe drop-off and pick-up parking for parents with young children.

% The age and physical condition of Eugene Field School. The crowded conditions at the school.

% The split high school campus – Pine Street and Schlador Street Campuses.

% Safety concerns at the Schlador Street Campus (old high school).

If approved, this measure would permit Silver Falls School District to:

u Move 500 kindergarten through grade 3 students out of Eugene Field Elementary School to Robert Frost and/or Mark Twain Schools. Both of these schools have safe, off-street drop-off and pick-up areas for parents with young children. They also have more up-to-date electrical, plumbing and heating systems.

u Sell Eugene Field School and use the proceeds from the sale to offset some of the construction, remodeling and furnishing costs.

u Complete the new high school and consolidate the staff and 1,200 students in grades 9-12 on one campus. The estimated savings is \$250,000 per year.

u Complete safety improvements and upgrades at the old high school campus in order to provide a safe and secure school for students in grades 7 and 8 from Mark Twain and grades 5 and 6 from Robert Frost. The estimated total enrollment is 600 students.

u Remodel the old high school to permit students in grades 5 and 6 to be separated for much of the day from those students in grades 7 and 8. In addition, the remodel will permit improved oversight and security at the main entrance.

In addition to the use of the proceeds from the sale of Eugene Field Elementary School, the Silver Falls School District plans to offset some construction, remodeling and furnish costs with the proceeds from the sale of a 13-acre site located adjacent to Robert Frost Elementary School.

The proposed bond measure will not exceed \$31,250,000. The estimated average annual levy rate is \$2.47 per thousand of assessed value. The term of the bonds will not exceed 21 years.

Submitted by:

Craig Roessler, Superintendent

Wally Lierman, Board Chair

Doug Morgan, Vice Chair

David Beeson, Board Member

Joanne Carr, Board Member

Bob Knorr, Board Member

Bob Schaefer, Board Member

Bill Steers, Board Member

No Arguments in Favor of or Opposed to this measure were filed.

