

Safe & Sound Schools for Sheridan Students

Frequently Asked Questions

Sheridan School District Bond Election on November 5, 2013

What is a school bond?

A school bond is a method used by school districts to pay for capital improvements such as maintenance projects, new construction, technology and safety upgrades. Bonds are authorized by the voters following an election and allow the school district to spread the cost over an extended period of time.

Why is there a school bond on the November 5, 2013 ballot?

Last year the District refinanced the 2003 FCS Bond at a considerable savings. The saving amounted to \$1.02 per \$1,000.00 assessed value. The current FCS Bond will continue as originally scheduled to 2023 at the new rate of \$2.22 per \$1,000.00 assessed value. The District is asking the community of Sheridan to vote for a new Bond during the November Special Election to capture the savings which would amount to \$2,105,000 dollars at the rate of \$1.02 per \$1,000.00 assessed value.

If voters agree it would result in the purchase of new bonds to finance facility improvements. If approved, proceeds would be used to; update the heating at SHS and FCS Old Gym, Safety and Access issues in main buildings, SHS restroom remodel and plumbing upgrades, SHS window replacement, SHS Shop classroom improvements, Stadium Roof replacement, Stadium Field lighting, resurface the track and possible technology upgrades.

If the bond is approved, what will it cost the owner of a home with \$100,000 assessed value?

Due to the reduced interest rates the new bond would NOT add any additional cost to tax payers.

Old FCS Bond rate was	\$3.24 per	\$1,000 assessed value	Expires in 2023
New FCS Bond rate is	\$2.22 per	\$1,000 assessed value	Expires in 2023
Asking for a new bond for the difference of	\$1.02 per	\$1,000 assessed value	Expires in 2023
New Bonds total Rate of	\$3.24 per	\$1,000 assessed value	Expires in 2023

Will property taxes go up if the bond is approved?

No -The re-financing of the 2002 FCS bond created a saving of \$1.02 per \$1,000 assessed value. This enables the district to issue the new bond without increasing the total bond levy rate of \$3.24 for the same period of time.

What projects will occur at the district schools?

For continued use of each school, multiple projects have been identified based upon maintenance needs, age of the building and other facility factors. In addition to handicap access, safety and security upgrades will occur at SHS & FCS. These include; replacement of SHS classroom heating units, upgrade FCS Old Gym heating system

Safety and access (handicap) doors for SHS and FCS, remodel SHS main restrooms and upgrade the plumbing, replacement of windows at SHS, ventilation, dust control and storage in the SHS shop classroom, replacement of the stadium roof, field lighting, new athletic track, playground improvements and the addition of an asphalt garbage/recycling pad at FCS

School bond Election – Frequently Asked Questions (Continued)

Some of these projects are deferred maintenance. How will the school district remain current on its maintenance projects in the future?

Additional budget amounts are added each year for maintenance projects. The district has solicited for grants from various organizations and has been unsuccessful.

How old are SSD school buildings?

SHS – 1940's Old Gym & Shop section, 1957-58 rooms 1-3, and 1963 rest of the building was erected. Stadium 1974, with new roof, lighting and boiler upgrades in 2006 & 2010, New Gym 1997

FCS – New Building Bond in 2003

Construction in 2003-2004

Occupied in 2004

Lighting upgrades in old gym and new gym in 2009

Breezeway addition in 2011

How is SSD funded and how are resources spent?

More than 75 percent of the SSD general fund comes from the state education fund. Another 15 percent comes from local taxes. The remainder comes from other sources (grants, title programs, etc). Overall, more than 80 percent of the SSD General Fund budget pays for staff – more than 113 teachers, educational aides and other school district staff from custodians, food services workers to secretaries, principals and professional and technical employees.

According to the Chalkboard's Open Books Project, SSD spends a comparable portion of its budget on the classroom (73%) as compared to; Yamhill Carlton (63%), Willamina (63%), Dayton (65%) and Amity (68%) and more than the overall state average (70%).

- More than 70% of SSD funds are spent on teachers, curriculum and school support.
- Transportation, school maintenance and other costs account for 14% of the SSD budget.
- SSD spends 2.9% of its resources on central administration.

How were these school facility priorities chosen?

The SSD Board and Bond Re-funding Committee reviewed community survey results, WESD Project Manager Information and determined the priority of the projects from the survey results.

What has been Sheridan School District's Bond history?

New Gym Bond of 1997 – last payments was 2012

FCS Bond of 2003 – is the bond that is being re-funded

What is the size of Sheridan School District?

SSD has 1015 students in 3 schools and 2 programs. SSD is one of the largest employers with more than 113 teachers and school support staff.

Additional information about the bond and facility planning can be obtained by visiting the Sheridan School District website at www.sheridan.k12.or.us, or by calling Steve Sugg, Superintendent at the district office at 503-843-2433.

