



**Morrow County School District
2025 Bond Projects
Request for Proposal (RFP) for Architectural and Engineering Services
Procurement Summary for the Board of Directors
10/13/2025**

The Morrow County School District issued the Request for Proposal (RFP) for Architectural and Engineering (A&E) Services on August 18th, 2025; the District conducted a mandatory pre-proposal meeting via Zoom on August 26th, with over 40 different firms in attendance. The District then held a non-mandatory series of site tours on Friday, August 29th, with over 20 different firms in attendance – starting at 9 AM at Irrigon Jr/Sr High School, traveling to Riverside Jr/Sr High School, and then traveling to Heppner Jr/Sr High School before concluding the tours in early afternoon.

Proposals were due to the District no later than September 18th, and the District received 11 total proposals from the following (*in alphabetical order*):

- *ALSC Architects*
- *Architects West Inc & Opsis Architecture (teaming)*
- *Bassetti Architects and MMEC Architecture (teaming)*
- *BBT Architects*
- *BRIC Architecture and Process Architecture (teaming)*
- *Design West Architects*
- *DLR Group and Cole Architects (teaming)*
- *Hacker Architects and Stantec (teaming)*
- *Integrus and ORW Architecture (teaming)*
- *Mahlum Architects*
- *SAJ Architecture*

The District's Evaluation Committee met on Tuesday, September 23rd, to review proposals; the Evaluation Committee, consisting of Superintendent Matt Combe, Business Manager Gabe Hansen, Facilities Coordinator Brandi Sweeney, CBAC member Madison Rosenbalm and MCSD Board Member Mary Killion, reviewed the proposals, and after much discussion short listed two firms for interviews: the team of Architects West Inc and Opsis Architecture, and SAJ Architecture.

On September 30th, the Evaluation Committee interviewed both top ranked firms; the interview consisted of a 50 minute Q&A session, followed by a 50 minute "mock design charrette", using the kick off meeting of Riverside Jr/Sr High School renovation as the basis of the exercise. While both architectural teams did an amazing job during the interview process, ultimately the Evaluation Committee unanimously selected SAJ Architecture as the top ranked firm, based on SAJ's strong communication skills, deep K-12 experience, and the team's ability to connect with staff, students, and community members during the design process.

The Evaluation Committee is making a Recommendation of Award to SAJ Architecture for the District's 2025 Bond Projects.



Pending the Board's acceptance of the Evaluation Committee's Recommendation of Award, Superintendent Combe and Wenaha Group will proceed with contract negotiations, including SAJ's proposed schedule of design activities and associated fee for services.

Possible motion:

I move to accept the Evaluation Committee's Recommendation of Award to SAJ Architecture and to authorize Superintendent Matt Combe to proceed with contract negotiations.

Respectfully Submitted

Scott Rogers, Project Executive
Wenaha Group