

HARNEY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #3 BOND SCOPE NARRATIVE

March 3, 2020

I BUDGET - \$12M

A) \$8M (Bond Levy) + \$4M (OSCIM GRANT)

The Burns & Hines School Districts (Joined into the Harney County School District in the mid 1990's) have passed only a few school bonds over the past 90 years.

Lincoln	1929	(91 years old)
Slater	1948	(72 years old)
Hines	1930	(90 years old)
High School	1959	(61 years old)

II TALKING POINTS Q&A

Q1. **How does the \$4M OSCIM grant work?**

A1. The School District has been awarded matching funds of \$4M from the State. If the Bond passes in May the money is awarded, if not the money goes to another district. The grant is for this bond cycle only, if the bond does not pass the school district may not have another opportunity for the grant.

Q2. **What is the bond amount being voted on and how much will it raise my property tax?**

A2. The vote will be on an \$8M bond over 30 years. The cost will be an additional 45 Cents per \$1,000 of assessed value of your property.

The assessed value is the value you pay taxes on NOT how much your home would sell for. The assessed value is almost always lower.

Link for tax assessed values:

<https://records.co.harney.or.us/propertywebquery>

Example: If your home was assessed for \$85,000 (median home value) and the bond passed, **your property tax would increase about \$3.20 per month (about \$38 per year).** This increase well below other communities who are currently in pursuit of bond passage.

Q3. **How did this process start?**

A3. The School District was awarded a grant to have reports done to analyze the condition of the schools and research the long range student needs of the district. The reports indicated that the schools need a lot of repair and upgrades.

Q4. **How were the needed school improvements determined?**

A4. A 'Facilities Committee' was formed in 2019 to prioritize what needed to be done to improve our schools. The report findings combined with input from the public and school district staff were prioritized to determine the most prudent use of the bond money.

Q5. **How did the facilities committee determine what needed to be done to our schools?**

A5. The committee focused on prioritizing student needs first. Such things as safety, learning environment, accessibility, and opportunity were all at the top of the list. The committee also considered maintenance items and improvements that will contribute to the community in a positive way.

Q6. **If the bond passes, when would the work start and how long would it last?**

A6. Design would begin immediately. Miscellaneous repair work could begin as early as this summer. The major work will start in the spring of 2021.

Q7. **What specifically will be done with the bond monies?**

A7. See the following Maintenance, Remodel and new facility narrative outline herein.

SCHOOL REPAIRS & DEFERRED MAINTENANCE

1. Interior Lighting and Ceiling replacement

The majority of classroom lighting at the facilities are original to the building. Replacement of the existing lighting will improve light quality and energy usage. During this replacement necessary ceiling repairs and replacement will also take place

2. Roof repairs

Existing Roofing conditions vary some of which are in need of repair and or replacement. Maintaining roof weather tightness prevents mold, structural damage, and costly damage to computers and books.

3. HVAC system Expansion & Retrocommission.

Old heating and cooling systems need replaced and expanded and the newer systems need some fine tuning. Improving systems provide a better learning environment, and saves energy.

4. Exterior Building Lighting

Some of the existing exterior lighting is not up to current standards. Providing adequate lighting at building points of entry improve safety during after school events and prevents vandalism and break-ins.

5. Window Replacement

Many of the windows throughout the school district leak and are not efficient. Window replacement will allow an increase in energy efficiency and will provide natural ventilation to classroom spaces.

6. New Flooring

The existing flooring throughout all facilities are in various states of condition. Some of the flooring is original and is in need of replacement. Upkeep of maintenance prolongs the functional use of buildings.

10. Interior Painting

Although the school district has done a great job maintaining the interior paint, manpower and facilities budgets have been limited. Repainting of interior spaces will improve the overall appearance of the existing school.

SCHOOL PROJECTS

Projects below are above and beyond maintenance items. Some projects are contingent and require completion as a whole.

AT ALL FACILITIES

1. Secure Entries

At the schools visitors can freely enter the school and gain access to the gymnasiums and classrooms. The current bond will provide a double front entry arrangement which will provide a secure entry where visitors must check in before gaining access to student occupied spaces.

2. Exterior Access Controls

An access control system controls door locking electronically. The advantages to such a system include automatic locking and unlocking at certain times, such as before and after school, can keep track of who is in the building, and can provide automatic lockdown in the event of an emergency. Such access controls are the new standard on all school facilities.

3. Kitchen upgrades, remodel & equipment

The kitchens at both the grade school and high School have aged equipment and do not function efficiently. Remodeling the Kitchens and replacement of equipment are necessary to continue providing healthy food for the students and will help reduce School District food costs.

STRATEGIC PLANNING APPROACH

The School Districts student capacity has been in gradual decline and has only recently leveled out. Slater is at 85% capacity, Hines is 83%, and the High School is 62%. Future growth is projected to be minimal over the next 20 years.

The School Districts facilities range in age between 61 and 91 years old and require repair, expansion, and consolidation in order to maintain current educational standards. The Facilities Committee's goals for improvement to our Schools and overall student success are as follows;

1. Provide safe and secure facilities for all students & staff.
2. Provide ADA accessible facilities.
3. Provide improved student and educational opportunities, increased teacher efficiency, and positive community impact.
4. Consider positive social impacts of student age grouping.
5. Perform deferred maintenance and repairs to existing facilities strategically and as cost effective as possible.
6. Incorporate lifecycle facilities costs, energy usage, and required maintenance in order to be prudent with new Bond monies.
7. Consider transportation costs, busing requirements and time, and after school activities coordination.

The Facility Committee's mindful approach to such goals are realized by incorporating the following;

1. Consolidate educational spaces focusing on making existing facilities more efficient by utilizing unused spaces.
2. Proactively mitigate underused and costly facilities.
3. Provide new spaces cost effectively.

OLD LINCOLN DISTRICT OFFICES

Lincoln is in the worse condition, and would be the most expensive to fix out of all the districts buildings. Currently it is underutilized, costly to operate and maintain, is not energy efficient, does not meet current ADA standards, has a large backlog of deferred maintenance (including a failing boiler), and does not meet current school safety protocols.

- Sell the building and relocate District offices to the Hines facility.

HINES MIDDLE SCHOOL

Hines has underutilized space. There are numerous empty classrooms and secondary spaces. The sloped site complicates student access and limits parent and bus drop off routes. The building does not meet nor lend itself to be updated to current school safety protocols. Numerous Classrooms and secondary areas are not ADA accessible and there is a large backlog of deferred maintenance at classroom spaces.

- Utilize unused classroom spaces at the high school and provide more student electives by consolidating 7th & 8th grades to the High School campus
- By moving the 6th graders to the elementary school environment at Slater, students will have opportunities to be role models and provide leadership to younger students. It will also allow them to engage in age-appropriate activities without being exposed to the social and academic pressures of older students. As a result it allows them to stay 'younger' a bit longer.
- To provide added practice space the existing Gym will remain functional.
- Old classroom spaces will be used for district offices and district storage
- The kitchen and cafeteria spaces will remain functional for extracurricular uses and community events.

SLATER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (K-6)

Slater has benefited the most past school improvements. Current ADA standards can be accomplished with minimal modification. There is room for improved site access and separated parent and bus drop off routes. The upgraded and efficient HVAC system can be easily expanded. The front entry can easily be modified to meet current school safety protocols and access.

- To keep classroom size down and provide new 6th grade students, construct (3) new classrooms and storage space.
- To provide safety to students and staff, remodel the front entry into a secure entry vestibule to monitor school entry.
- To provide healthy meals and longer eating time, remodel, update and expand undersized kitchen and cafeteria space.
- To improve before and after school safety concerns the front school drop off area and parking lot will be reconfigured for separated bus and parent drop off locations.
- To reduce energy costs and improve comfort the recently upgraded mechanical system will be expanded to remainder of facility.
- To improve the music program, the music room will be remodeled to provide storage and improved instructional space.
- To allow for ADA accessibility and to conserve resources, the student toilet rooms will be modernized.

BURNS HIGH SCHOOL (7-12)

The High school needs the lowest amount of repair relative to its size. Due to its prime location it is considered to be the center of town activity and contributes to the community in a positive way.

The current capacity of the High School is at 62%. Student enrollment has been gradually declining. There are currently (6) classrooms not being use for instructional space and other school spaces are oversized relative current standards.

The High School has great site access, adequate parking, and has the room to grow. The main entrance can be easily modified to meet current school safety protocols. Current ADA accessibility standards can be accomplished with minimal modifications.

- To provide 7th & 8th graders with a separate classroom wing, (6) existing empty classrooms will be re-populated and (8) new classrooms will be constructed.
- To control access to the building and provide a safe environment for students and staff, the front entry will be remodeled to have a secure entry vestibule.
- To improve line of site and efficiency the front office will be reconfigured to provide a secure visitor check at the secure entry vestibule
- To improve lunch time efficiency and reduce food waste the kitchen will be updated and expanded into adjacent underutilized space.

- To provide a modernized learning environment, the library will be reconfigured to include a student digital resource suite.
- In order to improve efficiency and increase student funds, the current concessions stand will be updated to provide increased functionality and access.
- To provide new convenient common toilets for use during after school events, the existing locker rooms will be reconfigured and remodeled.
- To improve energy efficiency, district utility costs and provide improved thermal comfort, the boiler and HVAC systems will be upgraded.
- To improve the learning and performance characteristics of the Music room and Cafetorium, sound panels will be installed to improve the acoustics of each space.
- To expand the course in construction technology and provide practical construction space. A new outbuilding will be constructed to align with the improved curriculum.
- To accommodate students and the community during softball, baseball and track events, a new exterior restroom, concession, and track storage outbuilding will be constructed.
- To provide required space for the new middle school students and to help get kids home earlier from sports practice a new Auxiliary Gym will be constructed.

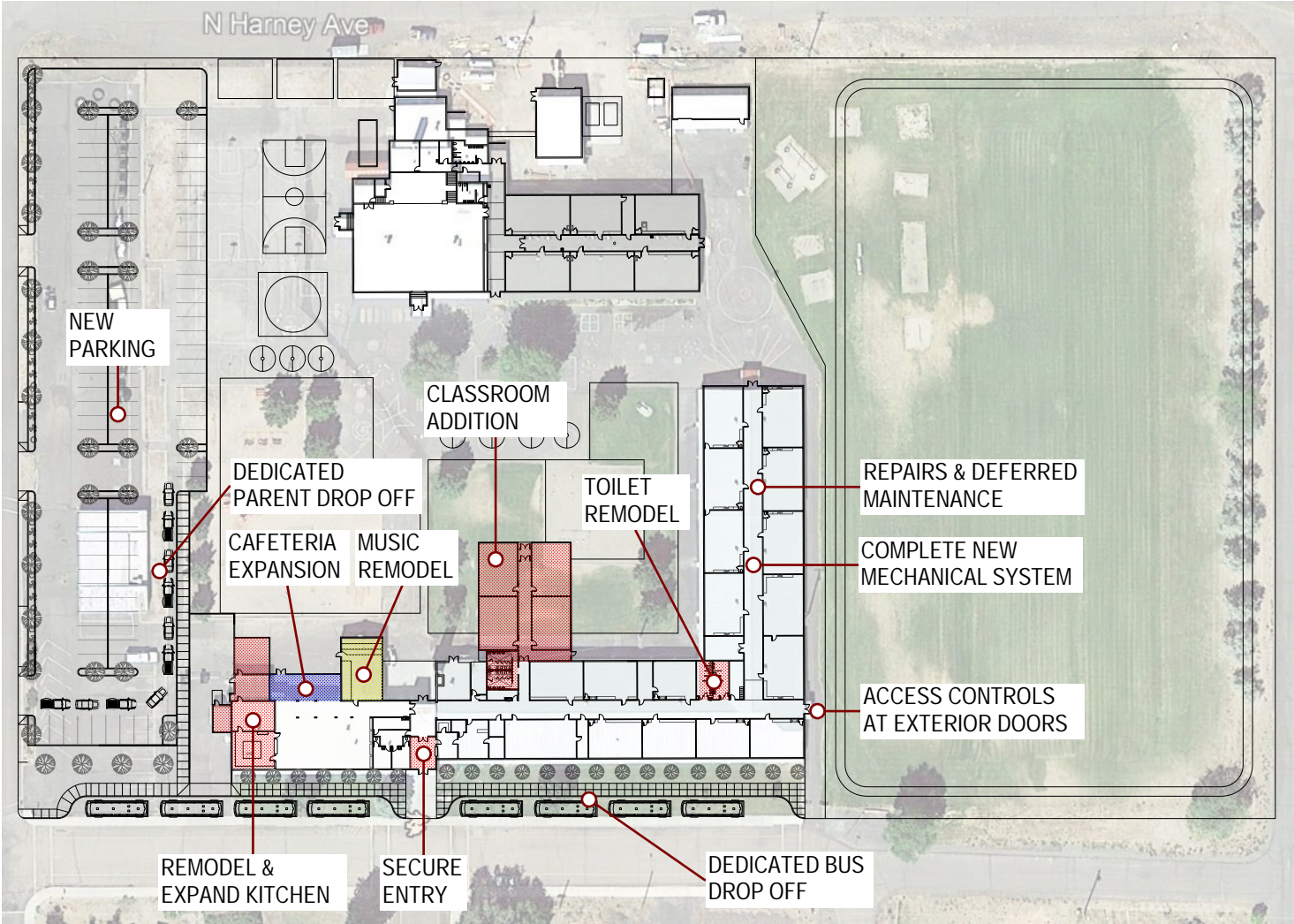
BOND GRAPHICS

The drawings on the next pages graphically show areas of improvement.





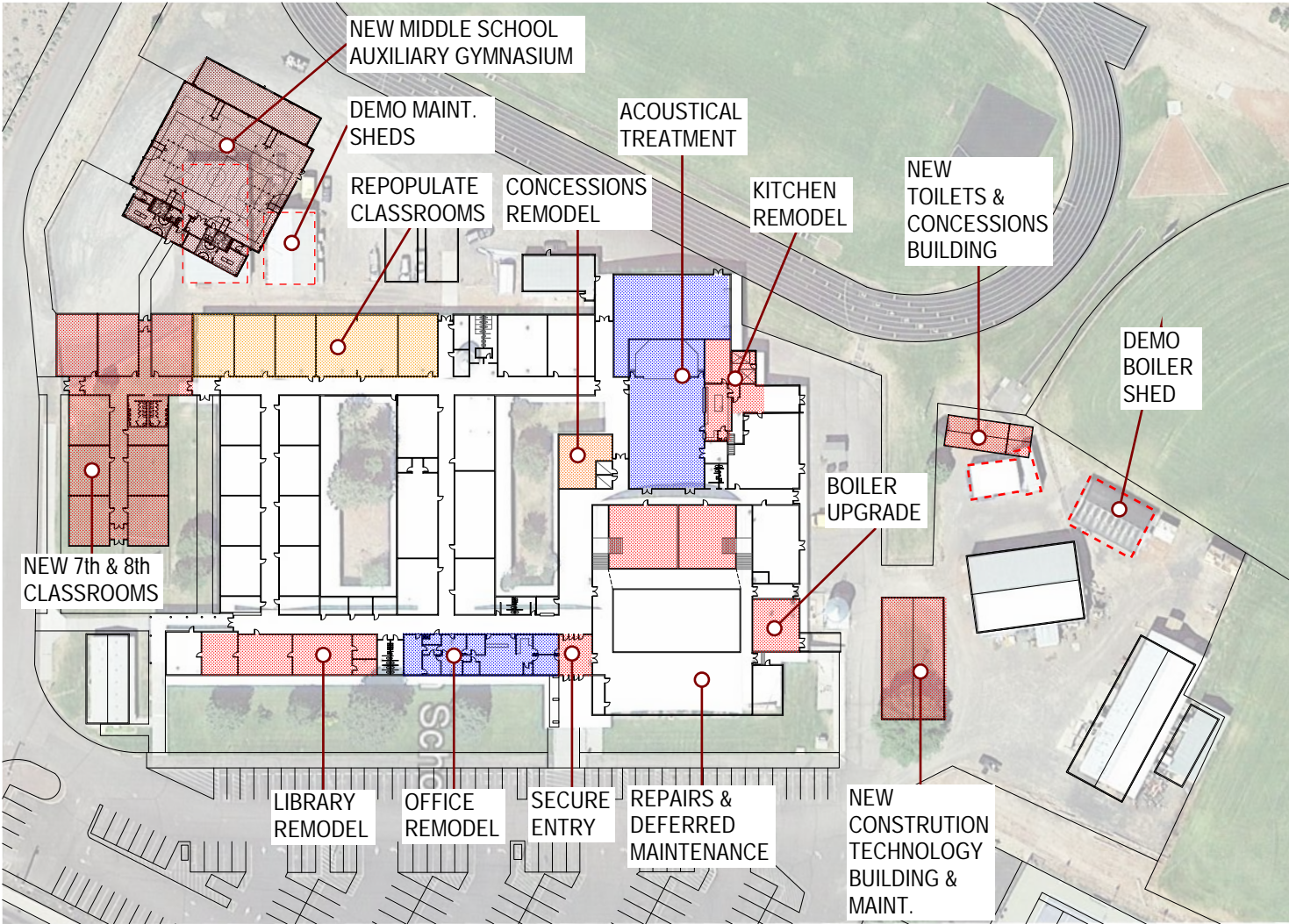
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SLATER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



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BURNS HIGH SCHOOL