



# **HERMISTON SCHOOL BOND FACT SHEET**

## **THE HERMISTON SCHOOL DISTRICT IS PROPOSING BOND MEASURE 30-130 ON THE NOVEMBER 2019 BALLOT**

### **Background**

Hermiston School District serves more than 5,000 students in five elementary schools, two middle schools, and one high school. It is the largest school district in Eastern Oregon and among the fastest growing. Due to the area's increasing population, the district is facing substantial student enrollment growth. The previous school bond to address capacity was approved over ten years ago. To temporarily address this growth, the school district has modular classrooms that during the 2018-19 school year held over 1,000 students. Measure 30-130 is designed to provide funds for additional building capacity for students and to reduce the number of leased modular classrooms.

### **What is included in Hermiston School Bond Measure 30-130?**

Measure 30-130 would raise \$82,735,000 through bonds. These funds would qualify for approximately \$6,500,000 in state matching grant dollars. The funds will address student capacity demand and needs faced at the elementary and high school levels created by increased student enrollment. Dollars will be used to fund the following projects:

- **Replace Rocky Heights Elementary School** with a larger 600-student capacity building on the current property;
- **Construct a new 600-student elementary school** on the district's Theater Lane property;
- **Construct a multi-classroom annex** to add capacity at Hermiston High School;
- Fund elementary school site improvements to address capacity and congestion issues;
- Purchase property for anticipated student capacity demands; and
- Fund site improvements, demolition, furnishing and equipment, capitalized interest, and bond issuance costs for the projects mentioned above.
- These projects will allow the district to adjust boundaries for Highland Hills Elementary School to reduce current student enrollment to an appropriate level.

Measure 30-130 also includes language that **establishes a citizen oversight committee** to ensure proceeds fund the proposed purposes.

### **What is the cost?**

The bond would be repaid by property owners over a period not to exceed 26 years. Because the district recently paid off all pre-2008 bond debt, this year residents' school bond tax rate has decreased from approximately \$4.09 per \$1,000 of assessed value to about \$3.65 per \$1,000. This rate is not expected to increase if voters approve measure 30-130.