2002
Land purchased for new school
Community discussions begin

2006
Bond for new school failed
YES: 46.09%
NO: 53.91%

2008
Bond for school addition failed
YES: 45.04%
NO: 54.96%
November-March 2008-2009

- Community feedback
- Continued bond campaign work
- Plan in place for May 2009 election
- April Board meeting…
- April decision with September deadline - 14 classroom addition with multi-purpose space
- May contractor selected
- Summer demo & construction
- September start
Opportunity

- OSCIM Grant
- Facility Study
- High School Bond
Key Partners and Listening
Connections and Community

- Voter Lists
- Personal Contacts
- Alumni
Different Media Work
In House Video
Local Leadership
Personal Connection to Buildings
2016 Capital Improvement Bond

Video Overview

El video ya está disponible con subtítulos en español - Haga clic aquí para verlo

Basic information about the Umatilla School District bond is available in the bond summaries:
Selene’s Story: One Umatilla Graduate’s Road to Success

When Selene Torres-Medrano talks about her childhood, you can tell it’s not an easy subject for her to discuss. She grew up in an abusive home, a place with no father and a mother who was physically and emotionally absent. Selene and her sisters had to take care of their many siblings and in her words “learn to be tough growing up.”

Selene’s escape was school. She attended Umatilla public schools starting in kindergarten. School, she says, was her safe place, a place she felt at home, a stable island in an unstable life. Her teachers, who knew of her home life, described Selene as “resilient.” Her 3rd grade teacher, Mr. Emmons, noticed her interests and gave her back issues of National Geographic to read. Mrs. Wilson, her 4th grade teacher, read The Chronicles of Narnia every day to the class, and got Selene interested in the school’s Battle of the Books. “My teachers all went above and beyond to help me,” Selene said.

In 5th grade, Mr. Lorence instilled in her a love of science, which continued the next year when Mrs. McElroy helped her do a science project extracting DNA from onions. According to Selene, this project “stunk up the entire 6th grade hallway,” but what she remembers is the support of her teacher and how she believed in her student.

Although things were good at school, her home environment continued to deteriorate. Selene’s 14-year-old sister left home, followed later by her 13-year-old sister, devastating to Selene. She had become interested in sports and was pursuing volleyball, basketball and track. But she still had to care for her siblings and after
Umatilla School District Superintendent Heidi Sipe has a great deal of affection for Clara Brownell Middle School.

Not just for its students and staff, but the actual facility itself, having started her teaching career in the building.

Sipe has a fondness for the way the ceilings of the gym and cafeteria resemble the bottom of a Viking ship — she didn’t know whether the designers intended it to be a reference to the school’s mascot or if it was just a coincidence. The building’s sturdy structure, built in 1947 by the Army Corps of Engineers while they were constructing McNary Dam, includes a full-length mirror in one of the girls bathrooms that a custodian once wiped down with toilet water to prevent students from using it to test out their lipstick.

The $10.5 million bond the Umatilla School District is seeking in November is less about redefining the characters of Umatilla’s schools and more about modernizing their aging infrastructure, especially at the nearly 70-year-old Clara Brownnell.
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### K-5th Grade

- **K-5th High**: 679
- **K-5th Low**: 622
- **K-5th Average**: 648.6

### 6th-8th Grade

- **6th-8th High**: 333
- **6th-8th Low**: 265
- **6th-8th Average**: 306.1

### 9th-12th Grade

- **9th-12th High**: 416
- **9th-12th Low**: 318
- **9th-12th Average**: 379.9

### District

- **District High**: 1385
- **District Low**: 1251
- **District Average**: 1334.7
Frequently Asked Questions

How was this plan developed?

A full facility review was conducted by the Wenaha Group to assess facility needs and create a long-term facility plan for the District. The facility study is available at the District Office.

How will the public be informed of the progress?

Should the bond pass, the Umatilla School District would report progress on bond projects monthly to citizens as part of the regular school board meetings and would also provide periodic mailings with construction and renovation updates.

What are the detailed costs?

The Umatilla School District projects will total $14.5 million. If the $10.5 million bond measure is approved, the District would be awarded $4,000,000 from the state in Oregon School Facility Matching dollars to off-set costs.

If passed by voters, what will the bond cost?

The current bonds (used to construct Umatilla High School) are fully paid in 2023. The new bonds are estimated to continue the same tax rate of the current bonds (an estimated $3.133 per $1,000 of assessed value in 2023) until 2035. It is estimated that the average home-owner, who owns a house assessed at $150,000, would not see any increase of taxes for this measure in the coming year should the bond pass.
It worked!

YES: 56.53%

NO: 43.47%
Additional Supports/Help

- Energy Trust of Oregon
- Project Management
- Construction During School
- Bond Committee
  - Students
  - Community
- Student Involvement
  - Time Capsule
Community

- Numerous Updates to Community
- Community Celebration for Ribbon Cutting
  - Bus Tours
  - Food
  - Shirts