



Orting School District

BOND 2024

**Focusing on Empowering
All Students for
Their Future!**



For more detailed information on the bond visit:
OrtingSchools.org/Bond-2024

LOOK INSIDE!
Information on the
February 13, 2024
Bond



Superintendent Message Ed Hatzenbeler

Dear OSD Community,

Orting School District began a community-led process in the summer of 2021 to identify the most urgent needs in the District. After 18 months of

review, the committee made a recommendation to the Board of Directors which became the 2023 bond. Although a majority of voters approved the measure, it did not reach the 60 percent supermajority required to pass.

After two community surveys, concerns continued to emerge around overcrowding, student health/safety and career/life skill development. The Board of Directors reduced the scope of the previous bond by \$33 million in an effort to increase affordability while still addressing the identified student learning needs.

The district does not make this ask lightly and recognizes the impact on your bottom line. Many families are struggling to balance their budget every month. This request represents dire needs in our system that will directly impact our students if not addressed.

The state does not provide money for districts to build new school buildings or maintain, repair, or upgrade existing facilities. Districts periodically ask their local community to approve bonds for school construction and capital facility improvements.

Our school district is asking for a capital bond to fund the construction of a new elementary school to replace the current 56 year old building, improve student safety/health at Orting Middle School and Ptarmigan Ridge Elementary, and build and update career and technical education (CTE) facilities at the high school to provide for career skills and opportunities for students across several career pathways. We hope this mailer answers key questions for you related to these projects and helps you find more information if requested.

In partnership with you,

Ed...

Why is OSD Asking for a Bond?



Aging Facilities

Orting Elementary was built in **1968** for 290 students. Currently, we have converted closets and other small spaces for students to learn in.



Overcrowding

Ptarmigan Ridge Elementary has to split their gym as a cafeteria, cutting into physical education and lunch time for students.



Career Preparation

Orting High School has had the same amount of lab space for **38 years**. This is grossly insufficient to prepare our students for the job market they will face after graduation.



Facility Safety

Right now, our staff manually locks doors throughout our schools during an emergency.

Three of our four schools are over designed capacity

Designed capacity is the total number of seats in a school main building. It does not include space available in portables.

Three-Year Enrollment Projection

Orting Elementary and Ptarmigan Ridge Elementary combined projection

2023-2024



67% (500 students)
over designed capacity

2026-2027



106% (792 students)
over designed capacity

Orting High School projection

2023-2024



46% (274 students)
over designed capacity

2026-2027



88% (527 students)
over designed capacity

What are the Bond Projects?

EXPAND ELEMENTARY CAPACITY

Rebuild **Orting Elementary** as a safe, modern facility that moves **310 students out of portables** and into lighter and brighter classrooms where we can ensure our learning spaces support the type of technology, flexible use, and collaboration that will set up our students for future success.



Expand learning space at **Ptarmigan Ridge Elementary** to allow for **consistent physical education, health, and cafeteria services**.

ORTING HIGH SCHOOL ADDITION AND REMODEL

Did you know that **80 percent** of graduates will live and work within 100 miles of where they grew up and compete for local jobs?

With this addition and remodel, we plan on adding **Career and Technical Education (CTE)** space representing the fastest growing trades and careers. The addition includes space for **manufacturing/aerospace labs**, and remodeling the **culinary kitchen** and **agricultural mechanics shop**.



SAFETY, HEALTH, AND SECURITY UPGRADES



We will improve **Orting Middle School** and **Ptarmigan Ridge Elementary** facility safety through **keyless controls, automatic lockdown systems**, and **enhanced heating and cooling systems**.

How Much Will the Bond Cost Me?

The Board of Directors reduced the scope of the bond request for 2024. This bond is for \$117 million and will cost an estimated **\$1.70/\$1,000** in assessed valuation. This reduces the ask by \$1.11 over the 2006 bond, paid off in 2022. If the 2024 bond passes, the tax rate does not increase until 2025.

Estimated Property Tax

Based on the average 520k home.

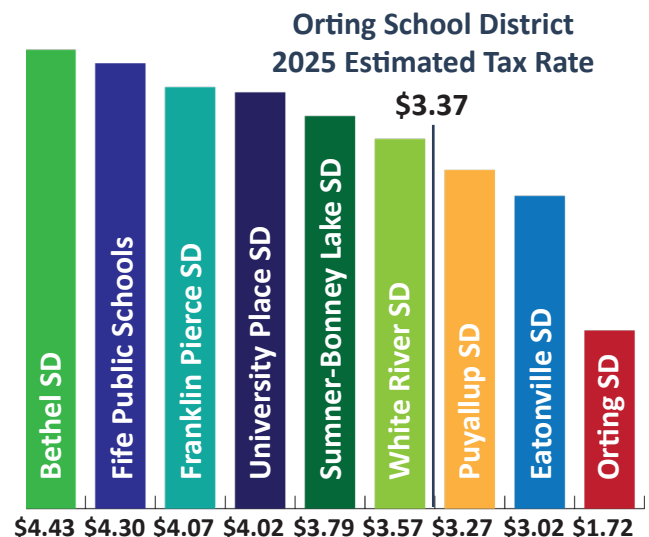


\$74

per month

Equation: The assessed valuation of your home divided by 1,000 x \$1.70 = yearly cost. Divide that answer by 12 months for the monthly cost.

Pierce County School District Tax Rate Comparison



For the 2023 year, OSD had the lowest tax rate in Pierce County.



Orting School District
121 Whitesell St. NE
Orting, WA 98360

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How Will Traffic Improve?



A new elementary site would mean much more space for pickup and drop-off. Currently, we have cars, buses, and students converging at the same crosswalk. After a few cars or a couple of buses, we back up traffic either on campus or the highway. Once Orting Elementary moves to the new location, all of the parking and buildings become the high school campus.

OSD 2024 Bond Traffic and Parking Data

Orting Elementary Pickup and Drop-Off Space

The new site adds **555 yards**, or **over a quarter mile**, for pickup and drop-off!

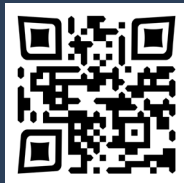
Once Orting Elementary moves to the **new site**, the **Orting Elementary School** will have **65 percent** more parking. **Orting High School** will have **35 percent** more parking.

How Can I Vote?

Voters within the Orting School District boundaries area will receive a ballot in the mail in January 2024 to vote on this school bond. Ballots must be mailed and postmarked or returned to the drop-box at a Pierce County Ballot Drop Box. Scan the QR code below to register to vote. Make sure to vote by **February 13, 2024!**



Ballot Drop Box
Locations



Register to
Vote

You're Invited!

Join us **Thursday, January 25 at 6 p.m.** for a Virtual Town Hall. Hear from our superintendent, school board, and architects about the bond projects and the needs our schools are facing.

Learn more
about the bond
on our website at
OrtingSchools.org/Bond-2024

Join Us!



The Orting School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Debi Christensen, Title IX Coordinator & Civil Rights Coordinator, 360-893-6500, ext. 4028 christensend@orting.wednet.edu; Jennifer Westover, Section 504 Coordinator, 360-893-6500, ext. 4027 westoverj@orting.wednet.edu, 121 Whitesell Street NE, Orting, WA 98360.