

Scappoose School District
Community Bond Advisory Committee
Tuesday, September 30, 2025
District Office Boardroom

CBAC members present: David Wasylenko, Kendall Williams, Beth Rajski, Josh Komp, Vance Chauncey, Monica Ahlers, Lindsay Elder, Russ Pickett, Lucy McCoy, George Dunkel, Charlene Bassine, Jeff Howard, Vanessa Lao, Triison Meza, Joanna Wagner, Penelope Smith, Jennifer Herrick, Jarrett Trtek, Jennifer Jones, KaraLyn DeWalt, Robert Kessi, Megan Hallstone, and Darlene Marquardt.

CBAC members absent: Anton Oehlert

SSD Board of Directors present: Gwynn Klobes

SSD staff support present: Tim Porter, Superintendent; Jerimy Kelley, SHS Principal; Adam Strachan, SMS Principal; Jeff Andrehsen, Facilities Manager; Paje Stelling, Communications Manager; Tracy Pinder, Business Manager; Darla Meeuwsen, SIS Director; and Julie Hinkle, Executive Assistant.

Others present: Cassie Hibbert, Patrick Linhart, Wenaha Group; and Kyle Lair, Assist Education Services.

Superintendent Porter welcomed the group at 6:30 p.m.

The Superintendent welcomed committee members and emphasized the importance of community input in prioritizing facility needs. Wenaha Group and Assist Education Services were introduced to facilitate the process and support communications, while district staff and School Board member Gwynn Klobes were also present. Cassie Hibbert (Wenaha Group) reviewed the CBAC's role, committee composition, and nine-meeting schedule, including facility tours and a focus on building a shared knowledge base.

Committee ground rules were established to ensure open and respectful discussions, with an emphasis on student needs, community values, and financial capacity. The "Venn diagram" framework highlighted the intersection of these factors as key to a successful bond recommendation. Ground rules were adopted by the committee.

Hibbert reviewed the committee timeline. Next steps include facility tours in October, facility data review in November, and a financial session in December. In early 2026, the committee will develop priorities, concepts, and cost estimates, followed by community outreach from April to June. A final recommendation is planned for July, with potential Board action to place a bond on the November 2026 ballot.

The committee discussed anticipated community questions and feedback. Key themes included:

- Confusion over bond versus levy differences, misunderstanding of tax impacts
- Skepticism about athletic facility funding and traffic issues near schools
- Timely and transparent communication, especially on why costs were high and the detailed condition of facilities like the middle school

- The importance of educating the community early, providing visuals, and addressing misinformation to build support for future bonds.

The committee then discussed their impression of facility condition through the district's buildings. Key themes included:

- District's facilities are largely aging and in need of major upgrades, with the middle school identified as particularly outdated, unsafe, and costly to maintain
- HVAC failures, seismic risks, water leaks, and lack of fire suppression systems, especially at the middle school
- While some schools like the high school and newer elementary buildings have recent renovations or better conditions, many are described as "below average," "fading," and "insufficient" for current student needs
- Athletic facilities such as the turf field are seen as valuable community resources but scheduling and space are challenged by aging infrastructure

Historical background was provided. The district's last successful bond was passed in November 2008 with a \$33.3 million total at a rate of approximately \$1.71 per \$1,000 assessed value over a 21-year term, funding elementary construction, classroom additions, multi-purpose gym, and district-wide upgrades including roofing and safety. Klober provided context on the 2008 bond, which was passed during a favorable economic period. This resulted in a bond premium that added to available revenue for projects. In addition, the district returned unused funds to taxpayers, an unusual positive outcome that was not widely advertised. The 2008 bond sunsets in 2029.

Prior to 2008, the district had gone roughly since the early 1970s without a capital bond, relying on maintenance staff to address issues reactively, which led to growing deferred maintenance and aging facilities. The group agreed that further research was needed on the details of capital investment and bonds prior to the 2008 bond proposal.

The failed November 2023 bond was a much larger proposal at \$110 million. It was an increase of \$1.22 per \$1,000 assessed value over 31 years. A \$4 million OSCIM grant was available. This bond focused on replacing the middle school, remodeling the high school CTE classrooms, and district-wide safety upgrades. The CBAC commented that this failure highlighted community concerns over cost, tax increases, and a lack of clear communication on the scope and necessity of the projects.

Other funding sources, including seismic grants for the High School gym and Grant Watts Elementary, were reviewed.

Members were informed of upcoming site tours scheduled for October 21 and 28, as well as the Sauvie Island School site in November, to review facilities and support informed recommendations.

Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Announcements:

Future meeting schedule

- **CBAC #2 (Building Tours Part 1):** Tuesday, October 21, 2025
- **CBAC #3 (Building Tours Part 2):** Tuesday, October 28, 2025

- **CBAC #4:** Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at the Sauvie Island School
- **CBAC #5:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025
- **CBAC #6:** Tuesday, January 20, 2026
- **CBAC #7:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026
- **CBAC #8:** Tuesday, March 17, 2026
- **CBAC #9:** Tuesday, July 21, 2026