

School Board Work Session Minutes

April 9, 2026, 5PM
55 Academy St. Lebanon, OR 97355

Present:

Nichole Piland

Melissa Baurer, Board Vice Chair

Lorlee Engler, Member

Mike Martin, Member

Clyde Rood, Member

Jennifer Meckley, Superintendent

William Lewis, Chief Operations Officer

Steven Prososki, Finance Director

1. WELCOME

Livestream: <https://www.youtube.com/@lcsdboardmeetingstream6568/streams>

1.1. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Board Chair, Nichole Piland.

Kyle Lair, Leader of Assist Education Services, and his Communications Lead, Carol Fenstermacher, present to the Board.

2. PRESENTATION REVIEW

Kyle references prior polling results to frame the district's facility needs and outlines a roadmap for next steps, including establishing a phased facilities approach, setting a long-range bond goal, defining readiness benchmarks, convening a quarterly Superintendent's Facilities Committee, implementing "Walk the Halls" tours, and conducting additional polling in July 2027.

He reviewed building ages, noting most will exceed 70 years by 2030—beyond the typical 50–70-year lifespan without major renovation—and describes two approaches to addressing facilities: short-term capital fixes that may lead to greater long-term issues, and a more strategic phased replacement model based on building age and need. Kyle also highlighted that the district has already completed phase one with the replacement of Pioneer and Riverview in 2001. He discusses financing strategies, including the benefits of maintaining a consistent tax rate through bond structuring. The group discussed pairing refinancing strategies with future measures, and Kyle emphasized a goal of placing a bond measure on the ballot by May 2030. When discussing establishing benchmarks, Kyle explains that if the 38% of supporters gets to 50% it is worth the conversation to consider placing a measure on the ballot sooner than 2030.

He explains that the Superintendent's Facilities Committee should meet quarterly (September, December, March, and June) and will include a diverse group of stakeholders, such as community members, staff, school board members, architects, engineers, financial experts, and other relevant partners. The purpose of the committee is to review facility conditions, assess needs, and develop informed recommendations to support effective long-term facilities planning for the district.

Kyle presents the "Walk the Halls" campaign, a year-long initiative designed to educate the community on district facilities by highlighting one building each month. The campaign will include regular board updates, clear and accessible fact sheets, facility assessment videos, social media highlights, and opportunities for the public to tour each site. Superintendent Meckley also plans to schedule listening sessions with staff at each building.

Kyle then explains that the next step would be to conduct polling again in July of 2027 following the work during the 2026-27 school year.

3. GROUP DISCUSSION - Q & A

The board engages in discussion following the presentation, asking questions about the proposed phased facilities approach and how priorities will be determined given that many buildings fall within a similar age range, noting that further analysis and conversation will be needed to guide those decisions. Discussion also includes potential bond amounts and strategies to maintain stable tax rates over time. Board members emphasized the importance of a comprehensive communication strategy that reaches a broad audience, including aging populations, through a variety of methods such as print media, newsletters, and community partnerships—not solely social media. The value of student voice was acknowledged, with recognition of the importance of student-led involvement. Broader concerns are raised about declining enrollment trends and contributing factors, reinforcing the need to incorporate enrollment considerations into long-term planning. The group also discusses methods for gauging community engagement, including surveys, and explored opportunities for community events to increase involvement, noting that shared responsibility among the district, board, and community groups would be key to successful outreach efforts.

4. ADJOURNMENT at 5:50 PM.

Signed: Nicholas M. Puland
(Board Chair)

Date: 5/14/26

Signed: Jennifer Meckley
(Superintendent)

Date: 5/14/26



Bond Approach Recommendation

Action #1: Establish a Phased Approach to Facility Improvement

Action #2: Establish Long-Range Bond Goal

Action #3: Establish Benchmarks for Bond Readiness

Action #4: Convene Superintendent's Facilities Committee Quarterly

Board Action #5: Implement "Walk the Halls"

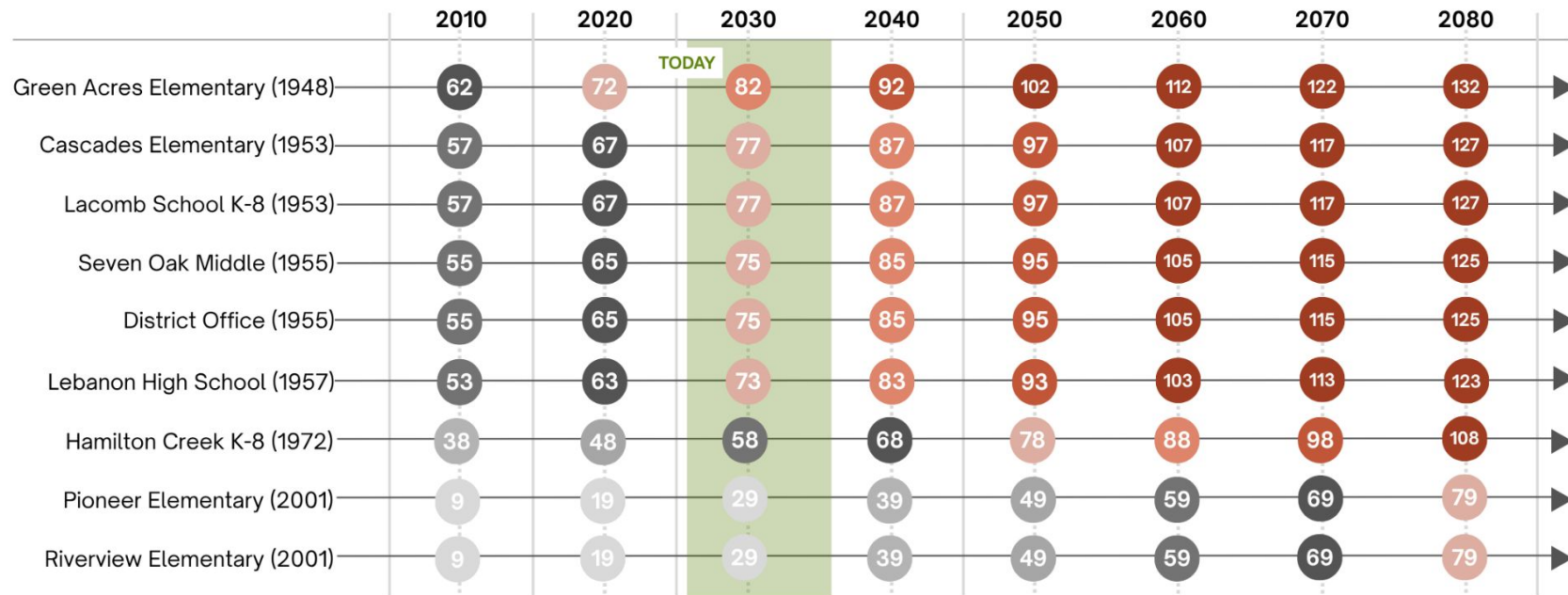
Action #6: Conduct Polling July 2027



Lebanon Community School District

Pursuing Excellence for Every Student, Every Day

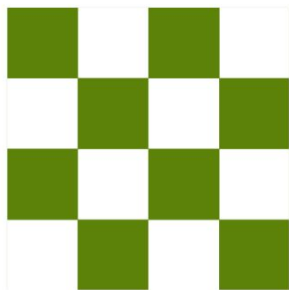
Facility Age Over Time





Lebanon Community School District
Pursuing Excellence for Every Student, Every Day

Options for Plan Development



**SHORT-CYCLE
CAPITAL RESPONSES**



STRATEGIC PHASED



FIX IT ALL

Action #1: Establish Phased Approach to Facility Improvement

Develop Phases for Replacement
and Renovation

Establish Expected Tax Rate

Leverage Refinancing

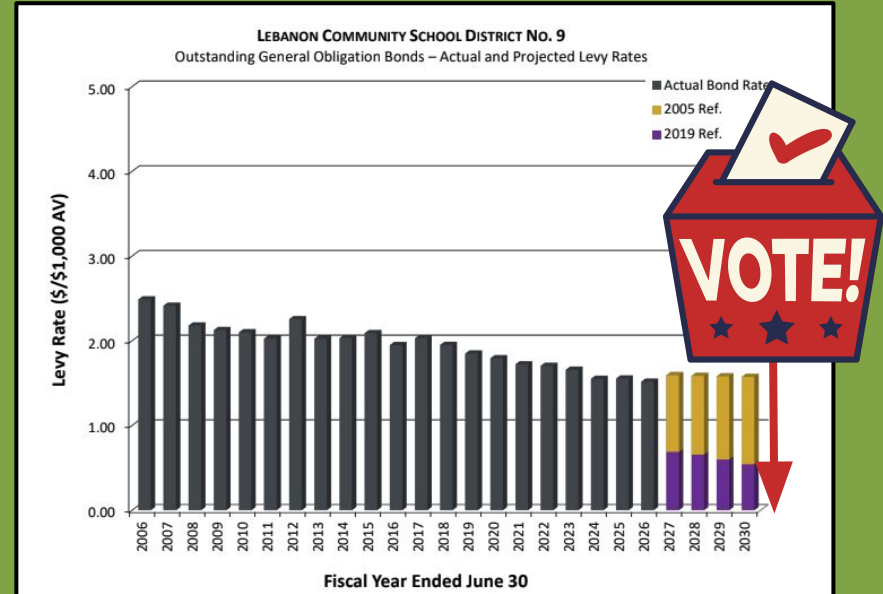
< Twenty Years Between Bonds



Phase One: Pioneer & Riverview 2001

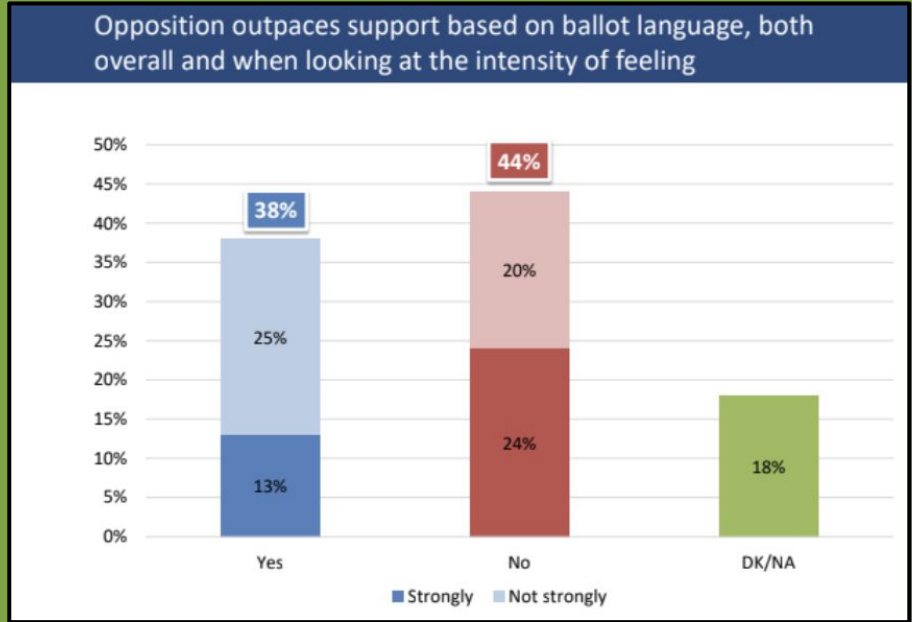
Action #2: Establish Long-Range Bond Goal

Establish goal of placing a measure
on the ballot no later than
May 2030



Action #3: Establish Benchmarks for Bond Readiness

- $\geq 50\%$ first-ask support: Board considers bond proposal
- $\geq 56\%$ first-ask support: Board advances bond to ballot
- $\geq 40\%$ desired intensity of support



Action #4: Superintendent's Facilities Committee Quarterly

Superintendent's Facilities Committee Meeting Schedule

- September
- December
- March
- June

Committee Charge: Bring together a committee of community, staff, School Board members, architects, engineers, financial experts, and any other resources needed to assess, plan, and develop recommendations for effective facilities.

Review changing circumstances, facility improvements and engagement data

Board Action #5: Implement “Walk the Halls”

Communication & Engagement Campaign

Monthly School Highlights: Board Presentation, Fact Sheet, Facility Assessment Videos, Social Media Highlights and a Public Tour Opportunity

Expanded Transparency on Facilities

Enhanced Website Information: Expanded Facilities webpage to provide clear, detailed information on building conditions, facility needs, and how school facilities and maintenance are funded.

Board Action #5: Implement “Walk the Halls”

Monthly Spotlight

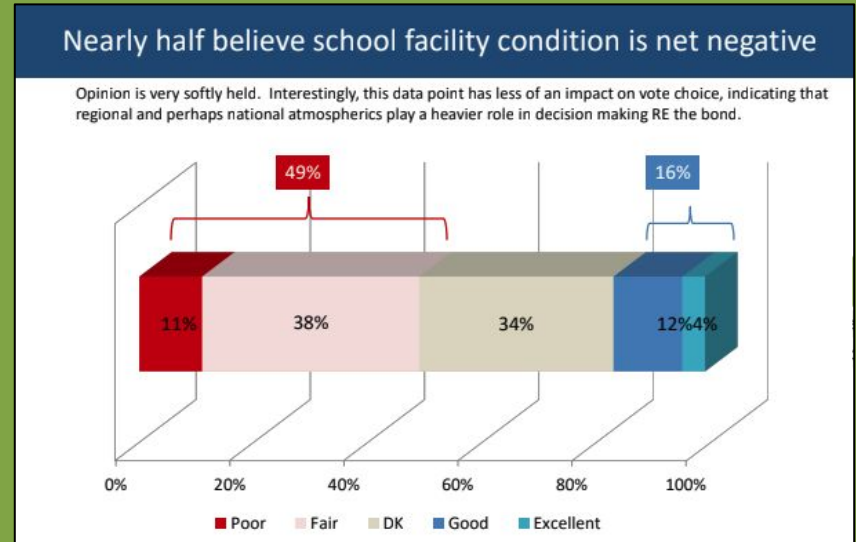
- September 16th - Green Acres
- October 6th - Seven Oak
- November 4th - Hamilton Creek
- December 2nd - Riverview
- January 6th - Pioneer
- February 3rd - High School
- March 3rd - Ralston/DO/CLIMB
- March 31st - Cascades
- May 5th - Lcomb

Listening to Staff

- Superintendent will be scheduling listening sessions with school staff prior to the school being highlighted

Action #5: Conduct Polling July 2027

Develop and conduct survey to be reviewed by the Facilities Committee, District Leadership and School Board





Questions