FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 7, 2018

Media Contact:
Mark Witty, Baker School District 5J, 541-620-2109, mark.witty@bakersd.org

Public Invited to Tour Schools and Learn More About Proposed Bond

Community members are invited to see first-hand some of the concerns that would be addressed if voters approve a proposed school bond in the Nov. 6 election.

A series of public tours are planned in September and October, so patrons can learn more about the proposed bond and what it would do. Most of the tours will be offered on multiple dates. The first tour will be on Tuesday, Sept. 11 at 9 a.m. at Brooklyn Primary School.

Each tour and presentation will last about 45 minutes. Advance registration would be helpful but is not required. To sign up, email Sandy Mitchell at Sandy.Mitchell@bakersd.org. Those attending should check in at the school office.

Here is the schedule of tours:

- **Brooklyn Primary**:  
  Sept. 11 at 9 a.m., Sept. 25 at 2 p.m. & Oct. 16 at 11 a.m.
- **Baker Middle School**:  
  Sept. 13 at 9 a.m., Sept. 24 at 2 p.m. & Oct. 23 at 11 a.m.
- **Baker High School**:  
  Sept. 17 at 2 p.m., Oct. 8 at 2 p.m. & Oct. 22 at 2 p.m.
- **South Baker Intermediate**:  
  Sept. 19 at 9 a.m., Oct. 3 at 2 p.m. & Oct. 17 at 11 a.m.
- **Haines Elementary**:  
  Oct. 10 at 10 a.m.

The School Board voted in July to seek a $48 million bond to address aging facilities and a list of concerns identified by the district’s Long Range Facilities Planning Committee. The proposed bond would:

- Address safety and security issues at all schools
- Address energy efficiency and high maintenance costs at all schools
- Build a new elementary school
• Move 7th and 8th graders to Baker High School where they could access vocational and advanced classes

If approved, the bond would cost homeowners an estimated $1.97 per $1,000 of the assessed value of their home. That’s about $197 per year, or $16.42 per month, for a home assessed at $100,000.

About Baker School District 5J
Nationally recognized Baker School District 5J (BSD) in Baker City, OR, is the largest of three rural school districts in Baker County, serving 1,700 students and employing over 235 educators and staff. District elementary schools include Brooklyn Primary School, Haines Elementary, Keating Elementary School, and South Baker Intermediate. Baker Middle School and two high schools, Baker High School and Eagle Cap Innovative High School, are also part of BSD. Additionally, BSD sponsors two charter schools, Baker Web Academy and Baker Early College, each offering teacher-supported online education. BSD provides next generation education for the future of Eastern Oregonians and launched Baker Technical Institute (BTI), a career and technical program that partners with regional employers and industry experts to provide an innovative education in hands-on fields. BSD believes strong schools are the foundation of strong and vibrant communities and is committed to prepare students to become successful life-long learner.

###