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Meetings Outline Business Opportunities
If Proposed School Bond Is Approved

Baker School District 5J invites the Baker County business community to learn about local work and business opportunities if a proposed $48 million capital construction bond is approved in the November 6 election.

The District will be holding two business outreach information sessions: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 4 p.m. and Saturday, October 27, 2018 at 9 a.m. in the Baker High School commons, 2500 E St. The information sessions will be led by Wenaha Group, the District’s project manager for the proposed bond project. Light refreshments will be provided.

The District is committed to engaging with local contractors and trades people, retailers, those in the service industry and others if the bond measure is approved. These information sessions will focus on how local businesses could provide services, materials and support to the bond improvements and to identify local capabilities that could be incorporated into the design. The District’s goal is to help local businesses plan ahead so that bond dollars could be spent locally whenever possible.

In addition to traditional construction trades, the bond improvements could offer an opportunity for many business sectors in Baker County to provide support such as:

- Hospitality and short-term rentals for visiting consultants and construction workers
- Restaurants, catering and groceries
- Building material and parts suppliers
- Automotive and equipment service and rental, including fuel and parts
- All types of retailers
- Signage and copies
The proposed bond projects would provide a significant financial investment in the Baker community. In all, the bond improvements would total $52 million, incorporating $48 million in bond proceeds and a $4 million grant from the Oregon Department of Education.

The District’s business outreach is intended to be non-political and will not include discussion about the merits of the bond measure.

**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.

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