



MEDIA RELEASE

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Groundbreaking Set for New North Central Bend Elementary School

Public welcome at event to celebrate new school June 11

The community is invited to celebrate the groundbreaking for Bend-La Pine Schools newest elementary school in north central Bend on **Monday, June 11 at 1 p.m.** The new 600-seat school, which is slated to open to students in the fall of 2019, is one of two new schools that will be built as part of the 2017 construction bond passed overwhelmingly by voters one year ago.

The groundbreaking, which is open to the public, will include musical entertainment by students, light refreshment and a ceremonial groundbreaking.

“We are thrilled to be able to begin construction on our newest elementary school, which will serve students in both northwest and northeast Bend and will help relieve overcrowding at elementary schools throughout Bend said Superintendent Shay Mikalson. “These bond projects help to support economic growth, sustain jobs in our community and go far to protect our quality of life now and for future generations.”

The groundbreaking ceremony will begin at 1 p.m. at the corner of Cooley and OB Riley roads. Students from High Lakes Elementary School will offer a musical performance for visitors.

The more than 70,000 square foot energy efficient school is modeled on the architectural designs for Silver Rail Elementary School, which opened in 2015. It is a two-story design with 24 classrooms, an open commons/cafeteria area, a dedicated gym and collaborative spaces for instruction.

About the 2017 Construction Bond

In May 2017, voters in Bend, La Pine and Sunriver approved a construction bond that authorized Bend-La Pine Schools to sell \$268.3 million in bonds to fund the construction of two new schools and 150 safety, maintenance and classroom addition projects. These projects will address continued enrollment growth, protect our community’s investment in its schools, support economic growth and go far to protect our quality of life now and for future generations.

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