Public Input Survey Comments by Distribution Channel

Infinite Campus + District Email

1 PLEASE

2 Don't half ass this. Do it right and build a new school.

3 I think building another high-school is inevitable, may as well be now.

4 We need bigger but with the cost of everything else we cannot afford a new plot of land and TWO new schools. Thank you

5 Take advantage of this awful situation and be forward thinking. A new school makes sense.

6 The kids need to have IN PERSON learning every day. We found out how detrimental online learning was during Covid. Please utilize any empty building space so kids are in school full time. Thank you.

7 Invest in kids.

8 The facilities need a major update. Rebuilding what was there isn’t an option.

9 Do it right the first time! Our community needs a good large high school to support the growth of our area. Especially north of town. Chubbuck needs a high school. So let’s support our kids and build for the future and get a great high school. My kids go to century but we support a good high school for our community!!

10 Rebuild highland with insurance money and build a new high-school in chubbuck

11 I love the idea of a new high school

12 I believe Highland should be built again but just as a high school no extras why use money the school district and citizens of the county do not have!

13 Highland needs to improve our school. Compared to any other school in 5a our school looks like a joke! It either needs to be seriously upgraded or be rebuilt somewhere else. Both my husband and I went to highland and I have two kids there right now with two more coming through.

14 We need another elementary in the chubbuck area, but not another highschool. I feel highland is a sufficient high school and the bond money should go to a new elementary in the chubbuck area.

15 I want to know WHERE you would build a new highschool. The location decision for Century was a disaster. It better be in Northgate or Chubbuck area or I won’t support a bond.

16 We appreciate your hard work

17 Let Highland boosters pay for their own facilities.

18 I know our area is going to need new schools in the near future. I appreciate the District trying to think creatively with the unfortunate situation that it was handed
I usually support bonds that have clear purpose and allocation over general bonds for just additional funds without direction.

My main concern is ensuring in person schooling next year for students.

Make Highland a true 5 A-6A School with adequate parking. Buy the property across from highland and make it an awesome school.

Buy the property across the street and add onto Highland. Fiscally that makes the most sense.

I think it’s important that Century students get back to their regular schedule next year, no virtual days. They miss out on important learning when they are not in school. I hope other plans can be made for HHS students next year so that 2 schools aren’t disrupted.

Just use the insurance.

Our property taxes are so high there is no way people can have additional bonds be added. Inflation is ridiculous and you even suggesting a bond makes me irate. Use the insurance money and be happy the fire wasn’t worse!

If current high school footprint is maintained, traffic flow issues need to be addressed and parking needs to be drastically improved.

Do not put highland students at CHS for the fall and find an alternative learning environment for HHS students.

I feel the city should do whatever it takes to rebuild Highland. I am a 92’ graduate and my son will attend there. I think change is good! If it means paying more in taxes then it does!

It is extremely important to me, my family, and the community that you not forget to prioritize the needs of all learners during the rebuilding of the high school. Not just the sports teams, but the fine arts, music programs, dance teams, cheerleading, etc. All of these programs enrich our student body and provide opportunities for them in college and beyond.

Pocatello needs to 5a school the likes of thunder ridge or Madison. Something that can house enough students for many years to come. This would be a source of pride for the community.

Highland is established and located in a good spot. It would be good to make it nicer, but keep the highland traditions alive.

Why not instead build Highland High School and build another high school to help the high schools?

Education should be a priority from the level of the state and the fact that we should have to support bonds in addition to taxes on the state level and our excessive property taxes this is puzzling to me. This is the future of our state. Also, aren’t there grants out there for us to apply to? What are the taxes going to? If we’re not planning to expand or replace schools that aren’t up to par? It seems like our city needs to take a step back and figure out what the heck they’re doing because the plans And the missions of our city don’t seem to make a difference. We have so much potential here in our cities that a little planning with some knowledgeable people who look for the big picture would be very nice. We are already paying so much property tax here in Pocatello that people are leaving. Don’t raise it more, find out other ways to fund the schools. Perhaps we need some new leadership.
Highland is given priority over all other schools because of current school board politics.

I would support any proposal that would benefit Pocatello area students regardless of cost.

Highland’s reputation on the hill is just as important as Poky’s. Fix it up and don’t turn it into an elementary school. I wish the district would have kept their contract with ISU to use the Holt and stop spending so much money on different athletic fields.

Rebuilding the exact same footprint is not a realistic option in this day and age. We must think of the future. Highland is too landlocked to expand the way it is needed.

Mainly we would support what gets these students into their High School the quickest with 5-days a week learning face-to-face. If a bond isn’t required for that, I don’t feel it’s necessary.

I would consider option 3 to turn into a middle school and rebuild if there was evidence to prove that is a need in our community.

My opinion: I think with how fast the community is growing surrounding Highland, it would cost less in the long run to go ahead and build new with a new location and everything new. We are going to need another High school and other elementary in the future this could save us.

This event is being used to force a new bond upon the taxpayers of the county. Our property taxes are high enough. If the issue would have been fixed appropriately a fire would never have occurred.

I think that there needs to be a high school in Chubbuck, Chubbuck is growing tremendously and we have no middle school or high school. There’s plenty of property that would house a school so I think we either need to use the current funds and enhance Highlands facilities or move that school out to Chubbuck and I would only support, the option three bond if it was moved out here to Chubbuck.

Any upgrade to Pocatello’s educational system is worth it. Also please upgrade Century high soon.

We need a new middle school and elementary school in the Highland area because of growth. We need a 3 year 5 year and 10 year plan for facilities and to handle growth. Turn HHS into a middle school, build a new high school and build an elementary school off Jerome and Olympus since the SD owns the land. Poky HHS and Century are at capacity almost. Build a high school that holds 2000 – 2500 in preparation for growth.

The fact that this is even a question is ridiculous. Just use the funds you have and rebuild it just as it was. There are plenty other schools that that type of money could and should go to.

Rebuild the high school with insurance funding, then propose a bond that would allow the district to fix and update the older schools, for example the gas lines.

My support of largest bond would greatly depend on location of the new high school. I would be much more likely to support it if it were built in Chubbuck where most of our area’s growth seems to have been occurring for past several years.

I think insurance should be used and school opened for net tri...
"How can you build a new school at the same location? It will take years to build and hard to celebrate school spirit at another rival school. Bring in FEMA trailers and get these kids back at their school.

Special Ed is segregated to ISU away from typical peers and away from Gen ed classes. This was ok for a month but it is NOT ok for a year or years."

None

I would vote for any bond cost AS LONG AS the school remained where it is now. I just purchased a house five months ago so that my kids could walk to Highland. I have 2 students there now and will have 4 more in the future. I will have students attending Highland for the next 8 years. I will seriously vote for you whatever you want provided the school stays at its current location.

As the Pocatello area expands I believe it is important for our schools and infrastructures to do the same. The students and staff deserve a new(er) place to learn, work and thrive. Three generations of my family have attended school at HHS and have benefited greatly from our experiences there.

Need to know where the students would attend school next year. I’m all for a new school but that would be a ways out and my student does not like the idea of having to go to century. I bet the century kids would like to have their school back to normal. Get highland ready to go for next year, figure out the sports and other activities, and let’s talk about a new school. We need one eventually but let’s help these highland kids out with normalcy for next year. That should be the focus. Thank you.

Rebuild to status quo. Property taxes are already unaffordable.

It makes more fiscal sense to make improvements on the existing building using what insurance provides as a base, rather than spend more money on a brand new building.

Pocatello is growing and will only continue to do so, I think Highland needs to be bigger to accommodate the growing community. Having a new school, and utilizing the old one to accommodate another middle or gradeschool seems only beneficial.

We need to live within our means. Allow the insurance to cover what damage had been done and not increase taxes and put excessive costs and undue burdens on the Pocatello residents.

The high schools are full or close to capacity. We need more schools and this would be a perfect situation to make that happen.

I would like to see Highland restored so it is functional, I have no problem with it getting some upgrades as well. But I am thoroughly against an entire new high school being built when there have been multiple schools in school district 25 that have either had a gas line issue, electrical issue or a water line issue. I would support a bond that would make all of the schools safer over time, I would support taking care of ALL of the learners in this district and not funding an entire new high school before those things are taken care of. I find it extremely disheartening that its even being entertained while these other schools flounder and may even be unsafe for the learners to be in. This shouldn’t even be a discussion.

I hope the employees (teachers, administration, support staff) of Highland Highschool are a huge part of the moving forward process. They love their school, their students, and the community.
Need more information on the projected student population over the next 5-10-20 years, at all levels, and the projected need for more school facilities. Would rather spend money wisely with a forward view but don’t want to be wasteful if not really needed.

I think that highland should be rebuilt using insurance money only. I think a bond should be held to address parking and student capacity issues at pocatello high. Such as new school built and convert the existing historic building to a middle/elementary school.

Any option should include a new auditorium which could be used for community events as well as school events

I think waiting until the need for a 4th high school would be wiser versus building a new HHS on new land.

Do something about personal property loss due to the fire

Highland was falling apart before the fire and I was appalled on the condition at the beginning of the year. This school needs massive updates and I will be extremely upset that if all you do to your 5A High and school is build the D wing. The plumbing is a mess the school is falling apart. I came from another state and they updated their schools on a regular basis. My high school turned 100 this year and it is in much better shape than Highland because it was updated and cared for. This school needs massive updates, be proud of Highland.

None

Either just the insurance money or new high school nothing else

If Highland High School is overcrowded then redraw the boundaries distributing more HHS students to Poky and Century but the entire community should not need to financially bear the burden of their fire, especially considering their insurance policy will restore what was lost. Our property taxes are already through the roof!

If the decision goes to converting HHS to an elementary school and building a new high school, what’s the plan for the current/ interim high school students while that happens?

We are in difficult times with increased prices across the board just to live and make ends meet. You want to raise our taxes to build a new school or make Highland better. Three months ago nothing was wrong with Highland. You have a beautiful track and football facility and are currently working on a new baseball facility. Please just use the insurance money to rebuild the damaged area and stop asking for more money. School is expensive enough without the increased tax burden. Thank you!

I’m willing to invest my tax dollars to provide excellent amenities for our children.

Students have to return to school in the fall! I have a senior and sophomore next year and they were both really effected with the schedule disruption. I support whatever measure gets them back to the classroom!!

Pocatello is already far overtaxed. The whole thing is ridiculous. During an economic downturn and periods of high inflation is NOT the time to demand more in taxes. Rebuild with existing funds or I will remove my children from the schools.
Compared to other facilities in our region, it is a little embarrassing how outdated highland’s facilities were (pre-fire). It is time to correct that problem.

Thank you!

I support doing what is best for our community, based on the prediction of future needs. An educated community is a healthy employable community!

The focus should be on learning not better sports training etc. Too much goes into high schools while safety issues at elementaries get ignored.

"Option to consider that takes more sense and I would be will to vote for bond to build new high school in Chubbuck area and use insurance money to rebuild Highland high school as it was.

Chubbuck is growing fast and needs it’s own high school, and maybe should consider being it’s own school district."

HHS is due for improvements anyway. Use this as an opportunity to improve the facility.

I would love to see the facilities for the arts programs (band, choir, orchestra, drama) to play in deciding factors in rebuilding plans. Too often these programs take a back seat to sports. From a SD25 music mom

If you end up trying for a new high school, make sure it is not on the fringe of a city but rather, near city residential and commercial areas. Even 1-2 miles outside of a city is too far.

Build back better than it was before.

Find a way to build a new high school for less. That estimate is really high.

I’m glad the district is looking into various options!

Chubbuck needs a middle school not another elementary school. It would be smarter to make Highland a middle school with the growth we are seeing and turn an old middle school into a larger elementary school.

Prior to the fire at HHS that building was outdated and unsuited to its current needs. There is no way we could expect to have continued growth in SD25 residents and allow for additional students to attend HHS. Not having a high school that accommodates the residents in that boundary and any potential growth anticipated in the future will be detrimental to our future.

Build a New and improved High School! Pocatello has improved so much over the 27 years i have lived here. Let’s keep improving our City!

Better education for parents and residents within sd25 of sd 25's needs

Please do not have kids going to multiple different schools next year, this is to hard on the students and the families of not having good or set schedule.

Uggg

The new High school should be in north Chubbuck.
I'm intrigued by the idea of a new high school, but it needs to be in Chubbuck or very close to Chubbuck (northgate area). If it's Pocatello I would vote no. Chubbuck needs a closer high school.

The community continues to grow, as a result, the school age population will grow. We need to accommodate the future.

Would like a clean and safe place for the kids to learn and grow.

I need a timeline along with the financial estimates provided.

None

Does the third option include the cost to fix Highland as an elementary or middle school?

I already pay enough in taxes. A bond would be a significant increase in my taxes and I would not receive any benefit from this action.

I feel that we need an actual 5A school with the building and staff to supports the amount of learners and their needs.

Timeline of plans would be helpful to consider, how many years to complete the build of a new high school and where the land would be located.

I believe that Highland should be made usable for the coming school year at the very least. The school district should begin the planning for the rebuilding (both options of with the same footprint and with some enhancements). In any case, many of the current Highland students likely will have to move to the two other high schools (in the short term Highland will have to be smaller to accommodate gym/band/choir/food service). I look forward to participating in the planning process for the rebuild of Highland. It was my school many years ago.

The elementary schools are so full. If there is anything that could be done to alleviate the numbers there, provide more facilities throughout the district, I am all for it. My other children attend gate city elementary. They have 30+kids in their classes. It is so difficult to have one on one attention with teachers and students with that big of classes. Our city is only growing and we. Red to build schools to accommodate all of the new families. Schools especially in the areas where the most growth is happening, highland area, chubbuck, tyhee. Thank you for your consideration!

I have concerns about my child attending public high school and feel that a new facility could be a catalyst for a better learning environment in his future. Century high school is a great school and has a good academic and social reputation where highland’s reputation is not as good. My child is in the highland zone and I feel like I would be more likely to put him in public high school if a new facility could create a culture shift that is more similar to that at century.

I’m tired of Highland getting everything new and better than the other high schools, especially Poky. There is definitely an attitude within the district that Highland deserves the best and that’s crap!

Please make the Highland building and rebuild into a middle school. Highland neighborhood kids shouldn’t have to go all the way to Franklin for middle school. It’s my understanding that the school already owns land across from the Wellness Complex on Olympus and that should be made into the new
high school. I will almost always vote yes to give the school district more money. It's always an investment in our future. Thank you for gathering feedback.

We need another high school in Chubbuck area the busing the kids in Chubbuck all the way across town just to go to Poky is ridiculous.

We are already taxed enough. Two of your buttons doesn't work 1st one is in option 2 the (do not support) and the 2nd one is in 125 million bond (against) that button doesn't work either. Not an accurate vote. Reminds me of the 2020 election.

I think our community would be better served putting an additional high school and middle school in the chubbuck/tyhee area to allow for population growth and keep our area schools all in the 4a size range.

Highland doesn't need new facilities

Schools are so overcrowded I think turning it into another elementary or middle is brilliant! We need more schools. If this gives us an excuse to build one YES YES YES!

i understand there needs to be more schools, but I don't know if there needs to be 2 that close, I'd rather fix that one and build another high school somewhere needed

Why would the bond amount be so large for a new high school with the insurance payments? Is it possible to build a new high school in the current location? Changing the parking lot and some things to improve. Ideal for using iron horse stadium and baseball field.

"I would strongly support option 3. Given the growth near the Northgate development, it seems very reasonable to build a new higher capacity high school and repurpose the existing school as an elementary or middle school. This option seems the most likely to defer the expense of a potential fourth high school on the north side of the district.

"i support option 3 but it would not let me select it.

There are other schools in more need of facilities. Like stop sharing lunch rooms with gyms. Bigger libraries. Younger students use them more then older kids.

Would it really require a 115-125 million dollars for option 3. Sounds like a very inflated price for that?

Allow Highland high school to accept donation funding from local churches and private donations to help ease the costs of rebuilding so we have a improved school. Look into utilizing rockwool for insulation to prevent future fire spreads.

This is Jesse Ward. I would be a vocal supporter of passing a bond and encourage all to vote for it.

Location of a proposed new high school will be a huge factor in whether I would support a bond for a new High School. The location of Century High School in relation to the majority of students/zones is and was one of the worst decisions made. I don't know if I have faith that my tax dollars will be spent wisely and with my family in mind.
The school district needs to look at the future of its students and help accommodate the needs of the growing community. A new school will bring in more educators and allow the current schools to be able to provide a better education for learners. This district has a reputation of not looking at the future and this could help change that and give students the kind of facility they deserve to be successful. Even if Highland was rebuilt to its current footprint we still need more schools for the learners so there is not overcrowding like there is now and utilize the land the district already owns.

Make Highland the gem of Pocatello!

"PLEASE lets not use bandaid solutions. Let's take this opportunity to do it right! You know a new Elementary, Middle School and High School will all be needed in the short term (elementary now!) in the Highland area. Just bite the bullet and do it now. The community will be 10x's more likely to support this bond now in the wake of the fire, than in 5 years when we have just finished putting a bandaid on HHS and we need another facility desperately. PLEASE Pocatello area needs good sports and arts/theater facilities like other High Schools in our state. We (all 3 High Schools) have ALWAYS operated with old, cheap, borrowed, bottom of the barrel solutions. (Century was outdated the second it was completed). Let's build something great!

One more thought- I dont think it needs to be named Highland High School if we build a new one. Let's start new!"

Sincere transparency. Often choices either don't reflect what the public wants or the decisions are made without public knowledge.

It's important that we make the most of a bad situation and plan ahead. Our schools are growing, we need more space.

I don't think Highland should benefit from the fire while the rest of the high schools still need repairs and help.

Having the Highland kids at Century was a good bandage for the problem but it shouldn't continue into the next school year if possible. That wasn't great for Century's ERR students and would only hinder the incoming ERR freshman's ability to adapt to the new environment.

I feel as though our school district and city need additional schools for our children to be able to attend. I believe that Pocatello area is going to continue to grow and we would be wise to turn Highland HS into a middle school or elementary and build a new larger high school. I was born and raised here in Pocatello and we need to ensure that Pocatello is well suited for growth into our future.

Be bold. Think big. Build a pool, too

Tax payers already paid money for a new football field. That school would not work for an elementary school football field to dangerous for little kids.

Highlands design is not the most functional, would be better to redesign or build new.

A large part of my decision would be based on knowing where the new high school would be located.

I would like to know where the SD wants to build the new school before making a decision whether I would support a bond. Century never should have been built south of town.
It's time to give Pocatello/Chubbuck a 4th high school. Please consider what ever you do and so it right without the mind set of what is “fair” our community has missed out on so many amazing opportunities because it wasn’t going to be fair for everyone! Let’s make something great that we can be proud of!

I really want the kids physically attending school full time in the fall. Online days seem to end up with little work assigned and less learning.

I would only support this if the school was built in Chubbuck. We already have two high schools in pocatello it’s time to put one in Chubbuck. SD25 already has land in Chubbuck and has land that it could sell across from the wellness complex to help cover costs.

You have an opportunity to plan for the future with the insurance money and bond money. We are a town that will continue to grow and we will have to have another high school in the next 15 years. You have the chance to build highland to occupy 2500+ students. If highland is going to have to compete in 6A athletics they need better facilities. What they have had to deal with has been bad.

Highland has been in a severe state of disrepair for quite some time. As a current HHS educator, there have been many times I have felt unsafe in the building and this was before the fire. Pipes bursting, electrical outlets sparking, mold growth, unsanitary restroom conditions...all of these things come with an old building. We've been relying on patchwork band-aid fixes for far too long, and it seems like a massive waste of funds to continue with this type of "solution." Aside from safety concerns, our student population is growing and I believe the best plan of action would be build something that will accomodate our current and future needs. We're a 5A school and it's time we had a facility that reflected this status with pride.

If property taxes were not so expensive right now, I would be all for a new school. Until this tax increase ends, I am putting the brakes on for this one.

I feel that the amount of money being considered could help in so many other areas of the school district. Other schools are far below par, kids are freezing in the winter, hot in the summer, conditions are embarrassing. Fix the overall problems, do not dump money into what you are considering. It makes no sense if you care about your current and future learners across your school district.

It is time for a new high school that can support growth geographically. My students should attend HHS as it is less than 2 miles away but attend 10 miles away because of the boundaries.

I’m open to new facilities, expansion. It’s just not clear if Highland needs to be updated/expanded. Also, is SD25 in need of a new elementary or middle school? This information would influence my decision and potentially in favor of a bond.

You are doing a good job

Build better multipurpose auditorium/gym. Don't just replace current gym.

It still seems like there are more options. We would also be wise to have plans for another high school soon, and make sure it is in a reasonable location. I'm still irritated that Century was built so far away.
My property taxes just went up substantially, along with everyone else that owns a home in Pocatello. I know my home value went up, but I can’t just go sell my home and buy a cheaper one, therefore I am stuck paying more and more taxes as well as the higher costs for everything else in our current economy. I will not support additional taxes beyond the regular ongoing levies in place.

Please do not ask citizens of Bannock county to support more taxes on properties. We are already one of the highest taxed counties in Idaho.

If a bond passed I would like to see some upgrades in the existing schools as well.

Thank you for asking for input.

If the proposed property placed my children within a different boundary line for a different high school I would not agree to the bond for a new structure. However, I would vote for upgrading the current building if that were the case. I bought my house with the intention of my children being within Highland boundaries. If this impacts the boundary lines I strongly feel that needs to be included for the voters to know, as many people select their home purchases based off of boundary lines. I would support a 6th grade only, or combined 5th/6th grade building with middle school being 7th and 8th similar to some other surrounding communities.

Only one chance to get a future gym, choir, and performance up to the next level. Would love to see the new gym have an upper walk around path like Poky and extensive bathroom facilities on the east side that would serve both basketball and football crowds.

It’s unfortunate that the school burnt down its not the tax payers responsibility to shoulder that burden. We ask tax payers are barely hanging on as prices on everything are going up we can not afford another increase to taxes. Pay off 1 school before you want the community to pay for another.

Fully support education and opportunities to improve facilities

I feel that we should rebuild Highland and then build another Camus. Most importantly we should have no hybrid students at all! It would not be a good idea to relocate the high school considering the extensive funds used to build indoor and outdoor facilities.

Build a beautiful new school for Highland in Chubbuck area where there is the most growth/population

If you can continue to get the public as much information as possible, then we can make informed decisions to feel better about and support a bond.

I would like to see Highland add a great weightroom that will help athletes and those students who just want to take weight training. Nice and big

Highland area is over due for a nice high school for the attraction of other activities

I would support rebuilding Highland to its current footprint AS WELL AS passing a bond to build a FOURTH high school. It would be nice to have two 5A schools and two 4A schools. There has been so much growth and it appears that there will continue to be more growth and this is a good opportunity to look ahead.

This is unrelated to the highland situation. However- I would love to see a 4 day school week be SERIOUSLY considered.
Would like to have clarification on the timeframes for each option

I think before asking the public to fund a measure, to add to our existing footprint or to even repair what we have if it hasn't already begun, I would like to see that for each given bond, there is a plan, a rough budget, architecture and statement of understanding of our current situation. I do not know what the needs are around additional elementary schools, but I do know we need a high school.

Build a new school!

Thankyou for doing this for the learners! They need a nice and safe place to learn- they are our future.

I would like more information on where an additional property would be or how an improvement would accommodate the entire community before supporting a bond.

I can see the value of designing a new HS and using the existing Highland HS building as a junior high or elementary school. Our area is seeing population growth. We should put money towards benefiting the learning environment for our next generations.

"If Highland HS was repurposed for an elementary school, my concern is it would be too big for an elementary school. Most elementary schools in Poky are not this big."

As a voter, I would like to see the number of students in elementary, middle school, and high school and expected projected increases in students in each of those areas. Do we need a high school more than a middle school & elementary school? Do we need a middle school or elementary school more than a high school? Where is the projected growth?

No matter what the plan, the district will need to be extremely transparent! I cannot stress this enough! Numbers, data, reasons, explanations, etc to have the trust and support of the public. And this information must be easily accessible. Not on the district website under minutes from a meeting. That does not feel transparent. I see this as an opportunity to plan for the future, but I need all the information to feel like I can be all in! Good luck! I feel like this survey is a great start!

Due to property taxes, I’m paying more on my mortgage here in Pocatello than I paid for a more expensive house at a higher interest rate in Seattle. In the meantime, my pay is 2/3 what I made in Seattle. For me to be able to afford additional bonds, the city of Pocatello needs to reduce their taxation by the amount of the bonds. Alternatively, let me buy municipal bonds at a reasonable rate of return that allows me to get ahead of inflation.

I think we need to at least improve upon Highland’s facilities as we rebuild.

It would be helpful to know where a new high school would be located. I am also wondering the need for an elementary and/or middle school. If there is a need and option 3 isn’t picked, then is that need just ignored for now– all things I think a voter would like to know.

There’s more important things the school could spend that money on at this point.

What ever solution is chosen there needs to be immediate and urgent need placed on returning all learners to a full schedule of classes every day. hybrid learning is not an effective learning experience for all learners. If a hybrid schedule is proposed we will be looking to move our student to a school that can accommodate a full day every day schedule.
Let’s rebuild Highland in the right way! Our learners deserve BETTER schools!!!

"I think Highland is being outgrown by Century and Pocatello H.S. and a new school to house more students is greatly needed especially with the rate that Pocatello City is growing.

Also I would imagine most students would agree especially after spending time in Century and seeing how nice it is and bright compared to the dark hallways and class rooms of Highland."

I believe we need to come up with a plan that suits the present as well as the future. We have the means and ability to make Highland a wonderful place to go to high school. This is one of the most important pieces of our community. I believe that we need to treat our children and consequently our future as though they are invaluable. The better we facilitate their upbringing and education, the better life is for everyone in our community. Let’s band together and do the very best we possibly can. On this project and district wide. Thank you!

The only reason I would vote to just rebuild in original footprint would be so my Son won’t be on hybrid. I realize that the smartest thing would be to rebuild from another set of plans enhancing the building.

Would love to know how long it would take to build a new high school and what the plan is for the current Highland students while that occurs.

Highland HS should be completely rebuilt for the future, and to accommodate the tremendous growth that will continue in the Highland and new LDS Temple area.

We have tons of growth and will need a new school anyway

I suggest looking at how tornado ravaged communities have handled rebuilding their schools, specifically Joplin High in Joplin, Missouri after the 2011 F5 tornado, and nearby communities, such as the Webb City R7 district, which received federal funding after the Joplin tornado. Both school districts took a future/focused approach to their facilities. Thats what’s needed. I hope the district is not short-sighted in its approach to this tragedy.

Would like more info on the specifics of how money would be spent and potential sites for new school before voting in a bond.

As a teacher who works for Highland, I believe in the long run, knocking down the old infrastructure and building new infrastructure update to date with current codes and needs of the teachers, student body, and growth of Pocatello, would better serve the community. Patching things up here and there will eventually cost more than a rebuild and will not keep up with the demands of the teachers, students, and technology.

Do what is needed

My oldest is a learner at Century

We likely won’t get an opportunity to significantly improve HHS to this extent in the near future. Please capitalize on this opportunity.

I have seen far too much money WASTED at the SD25 level and will not vote for or support any bond or levy in the future.
Brand new school is the only answer here. Pocatello needs new schools to attract new residents and grow businesses.

We Desperately need another elementary school in this highland area. Both of the elementary schools close are bursting at the seams with new houses going in all the time. Students are having to be bust out of the area. Regardless of how this photo goes, you need to consider another elementary school in this area or vast enlargements to the ones here.

We should have smoke detectors, sprinkler systems, and fire hydrants wherever the fire department says we should. Don’t skirt the city codes!

"Highland High School has the lowest quality performing arts facilities in the district and in the whole Southeast Idaho region. We do not have an auditorium that can be performed in by the band, choir, or orchestra and it barely works for the drama department. There are many smaller schools in the area that have much better facilities than Highland does. The performing arts at Highland are doing so well and deserve a beautiful acoustical space to perform in, the gym just doesn't cut it. This is the perfect time to build back in a way that meets the needs of all learners of Highland, including the students in the performing arts.

There were so many issues at Highland even before the fire. There were so many band-aids fixing electrical, plumbing, and other problems. I feel if we just add on to the existing footprint that it will just compound those issues.

We really need a new school with updated performing arts facilities to have an equitable experience for our students as compared to students at other schools in the area, and not just 5A schools, but 4A and 3A as well."

I feel elementary facilities need to be addressed as well as the obvious repairs for the High School.

If a new high school were to be built, I think highland high school should stay a high school as well. Our high schools are reaching their max capacity, and I feel we need another high school to help with our growing numbers.

My father and his siblings all graduated from Highland and my grandmother taught English there for years. I live in the same house they did and would like my children to attend Highland but we are not in the boundaries as they are. I support the options of expanding Highland or building a new school while repurposing the current building as a middle or elementary school, especially if my children can attend and carry on the Highland tradition.

"Although I believe there is need for a new middle and elementary school (maybe even more) I do not agree with using the Highland site as such. I would like to see Highland built taller with a second level, rather than make a larger footprint. If we go up rather than out, it will provide the space needed for the learners of the future to be successful, while using the space we have and being smart with funds. There wouldn't be a need for a larger lot, and you would still be able to support the influx in students as the community continues to grow. In addition, the facilities at Highland are more high school appropriate. In my opinion it doesn't make sense to have all that space, that huge parking lot, the massive field with ample seating being used for a middle or elementary school."
I am an alum of Highland and was pretty ignorant to outside of my little highschool bubble until I had my own children and they started attending SD25 schools. Then, after working in the district and having my kids attend Pocatello high school, I saw some huge differences in support from community members from Highland to Poky to Century. It is quite apparent, and there is still a level of problems with the equity of the High schools. Poky lacks all of the things that Highland and Century has including a parking lot for their students, a baseball field, football field, and track field on the school premises. Luckily with the community support they were able to complete some very needed upgrades to Poky, however they were necessary upgrades to keep the students safe and provide more space for their classes, not to make it the biggest, fanciest, shiniest school. I think a good compromise would be a small levy to build a second level at the existing Highland, and then look at getting a middle school in the Chubbuck area. Maybe even a Middle School/Elementary combo space like Alameda and Lewis and Clark are.

I would support the larger levy of 125 million if a Middle School of roughly 118,000 sq feet (roughly 59 million) and an Elementary School of 85,000 sq feet (roughly 42.5 million) at $500 per sq ft. plus the $25 million in upgrades to the existing Highland school. It’s a thought and a consideration I think should be looked at.”

I would support additional funding being spread throughout school district 25, not just highland high school:

NA

Only use the insurance money - we can’t afford to do anything else in this economy!!!!

District 25 has a rotten track record for placing schools. With Century’s terrible placement, why should we trust our money to go towards a school that is close to students and that is walkable for our kids? You’ll pick a spot where the land is cheap instead of picking a spot that works better for the community. Hard vote no on any bonds for a new school or significant expansion of the current footprint of what already is a 5A school.

Our property taxes are already ridiculously high. Maybe the city officials should try saving a little money to fund this project!

An improvement in our community is an improvement for families both now and in the future. I am willing to give up eating out once a month so I can help build a better future for our community.

I do not have a child that will attend Highland in the future as my kids will go to a different school however, to put a bandaid over a building that is already 60+ years old shouldn’t be an option and to build a school that will only house 1800 students is not a good idea. If we’re going to start anew, do it right and have it be able to house at minimum 2000 students with all the growth potential that appears to be coming. Otherwise we’ll be building two schools in the next 15-20 years instead of one.

Did not like the in person and distant learning split between highland and century. It greatly affected my learner in a negative way, even for a short period. Just get highland rebuilt and back to normal business please! As it is the high school boundaries are unequal in the first place. I live 2 miles from highland and 6 miles from century but forced to go to century and wasn’t expecting negative changes for my learner. Didn’t like the forced sharing of highland and century learners that pushed my learner from better potential due to emergency forced distant learning which by the way is the worst for any kid, especially
without a student, parent, or faculty vote as other options were available that may have been better. Thank you.

Please build a new school for the future growth in the Pocatello area and not just put a bandaid on the problem!

Consider using all the Covid funding to help supplement funds needed for a new school.

There is no need to spend taxpayer dollars to expand Highland where insurance is covering the cost to rebuild. The end of this school year was a shit show by disrupting Century as well. Teachers were checked out and didn’t provide what they should have to our kids. I am against partial remote learning coupled with partial days at Century, Poky or any other school. Remote through Covid was better than this year’s hybrid model. I would rather have them home schooled over that mess.

One of the reasons I said I am not for the bond for building a new school is because making it a school for only 1800 students isn’t very forward thinking. I think it needs to be made to fit the growth for at least 20 years. I think Century was built in 1999. That is over 20 years ago. And we still had to do all the building and construction on Pocatello HS, and then Highland has been jam packed. It takes a long time to build a school and many resources. Let’s think 20-30 years into the future and plan for that many kids so we don’t have to do this again soon. Even if that is just adding that many more classrooms and nice facilities onto the part of Highland that didn’t burn down. And if we build onto Highland, let’s update it to feel a little nicer.

It’s a difficult situation right now. Taxpayers are already struggling with exorbitant inflation and wages are not keeping up with inflation. Property assessments are extremely high already and adding to that is a huge burden. Do what you can to minimize the effects to the taxpayer and utilize the insurance.

I like the plans for improvement, but based on current financial situation believe that the additional taxes would create a financial strain on my household that I cannot support.

While the numbers may seem reasonable people simply cannot afford an increase in their taxes. Especially as it increases other bills as well. Inflation is a severe problem right now.

"I’ve heard that Taysom Hill has offered to donate to the school / football programs why can’t his money be excepted? and that Tommy Togiai has offered to donate money for a new weight room but both where told no why it’s no different then other schools getting money from other businesses''

With the improvements to Highland High School’s fields, it would be a shame if we abandoned them. Have you considered phasing construction to keep the high school at its current location but do an entire school replacement? It would require a longer construction time but I believe it could be done.

I believe that Highland has been neglected for quite some time and is the main factor in the fire and our current situation. Perhaps some of the excessive amount of money spent on Pocatello HS should have been redirected to Highland to help avoid the fire and many other issues they have experienced recently (sewer water in the weight room for example). I have had kids at Century and Highland and the difference in upkeep is drastic. (Please make sure you don’t let Century fall by the wayside either.)

Investing in education is important.
Above all, do what is best for the students, with an eye to the future as well as the present. For every challenge, an opportunity.

I read Superintendent Howell's article, but I feel like several things were not explained. Mostly I am wondering if there is a need for a new high school? And is there a need for a new middle school? And is there a need for a new elementary school? If there is a need, why? Is this need based on population growth or something else? Something else like condition of buildings? I would support and vote for a bond if I believed there was a need for new facilities. Honestly right now I don’t think I have enough information to answer the above questions feeling fully informed.

It’s time to upgrade to a facility that is competitive with what we see for other 5A class schools throughout the state. Let’s do for and set ourselves up with a high class facility for decades to come.

Do not make students go online.

Thank you for your thoughtful and thorough approach to solving the problems caused by this crisis.

While a new school would be fantastic, to lose the history and legacy of Highland High School in a new location is hard to adjust to. I would love to see the current location enhanced to be a top-notch learning facility.

The current school situation screwed so many kids out of quality education. I was lied to when I brought it up. They told me century students would have active learning on their off days.

Timing of the alternatives: to me it is imperative that in-person, full-time occurs 23-24!

Fix Highland with insurance and use the extra money to have two teachers of every grade in all of the elementary’s without worrying about attendance or enrollment. Just let the elementary’s have the staff they need without begging for it. No more doubling up grade levels or flipping a teacher back and forth each year in the elementary’s. Let teachers only worry about one grade level in elementary. You have the fund to do this. It’s called COVID funds that you are hoarding.

Let’s build a beautiful 5A school we can be proud of that meets the needs of the children, staff and community as a whole!

We are taxed enough!

The important thing is to get the learners back in their home school as soon as possible.

I feel people would be more likely to vote for a higher bond if they knew what the money was going to. For example, if rebuilding in the same place but enhancing Highland, what does that entail? A new auditorium? Etc. Give the public more details about what each option includes over the others. Kind of like when you compare phones or computers and there’s a list of things they all include and things specific to each one. I hope that makes sense.

The current building has had flooding, a bathroom out of use due to needing repairs, a giant fan running non-stop in the hall, was in the process of repairing the roofing all before the fire.

Making the gym more like Thunder Ridge with weights being moved to a much larger space would be amazing, but replacing the entire school is not necessary.
This is a difficult decision with so many facets. I support whichever decision the board puts forward.

My biggest concern is the time that a bond will require, especially if it doesn’t pass. The few years that it will take to build will be difficult ones for everyone at Highland with so many "temporary/permanent" accommodations. It’s terrifying to think of going forward with a bond vote and building plan, only to have it fail at election and be back to the drawing board with a year wasted.

Taxes on education are already high. We need to just fix the school and move forward.

If you build a new school please do it right. Spend the $$$ the first time.

Replacing the facility as it exists today would be a waste of past and future tax dollars.

Focus on education. Less sports. Less fancy buildings. Pay the teachers more. You spend the money in the wrong places.

I could be willing to support the 3rd option if I knew the location of the new school, could see the plans and had an understanding of the technology that would be used in the school and athletic facilities.

Based on some of the past decisions made by the school district regarding the location and uses of funds for the schools and athletic facilities, I’m hesitant to give them a blank check for 125 M.

I have a child at Century high school and the gym facilities are dismal. If a new school or seriously upgraded school are on the table, century needs some consideration. Especially a new gym and bathroom facilities by the football stands.

What is the time limit on the bond? How long do we expect to pay the extra tax?

I’m against it because the bond goes off the value of my home. Why should I pay more on a bond then everyone else that’s home value is lower than mine.

Our taxes have already gone up substantially, I do not support the proposal for essentially our taxes increases even more than they already have.

Property taxes are already very high, and the school district just bought the Allstate building.

Why wouldn’t option 2 or another option include a new middle school if option 3 also includes transforming Highland to a new middle school? I believe another middle school is necessary in the near future. Is there an alternative plan down the road for a MS if option 3 is off the table?

I’m absolutely not ok with additional bonds for repairing the school that already had insurance to cover the cost of repairs. We have too many current bonds.

Please do everything you can to maintain full time, in person learning for all SD25 students throughout the rebuilding process.

Rebuild Highland, but rebuild it the right way. There’s no reason the second largest city in Idaho/us does not have comparable facilities to every other city in the state we should be able to host state events for all three high schools this district often does things multiple times, or Pieces things together to get by.

It’s time we had a proper high school facility. I would also support a bond that would include renovating and enhancing the gym at century and renovating and enhancing a weight room/wrestling facility for Pocatello High School. Pocatello High School was given additional classrooms, but their athletic facilities
are still significantly lagging behind where they should be. There’s no reason for this. Purchased some of
the slum housing around that school and invest in proper facilities for our second largest high school.

Please don’t combine high schools any more. My child was heading towards straight A’s until the online
was started this last month.

It would have been easier to get a bond to pass before property taxes increased so dramatically over the
last several years

If we could figure something out between the first & second choice, I believe a lot more of our
community would be on board. We definitely need to rebuild Highland High School, but we do not need
to go overboard just because it is in the Satterfield area.

I feel that something needs to be done to fix Highland’s current situation for sure!! I would be willing to
pay to make it better than it was even. However, I have three high schools in the district. I have
children that attend Century High School and its athletic facilities have ALWAYS been more like a middle
school. It would be nice to fix Highland and then do something so Century’s gymnasium was as good as
Pocatello and Highlands always have been. Thanks for being willing to take input.

New school needs a new name
Build it back with insurance money only

Highland Highschool does not need any special treatment. The parents and students that attend are
entitled and act as though they are elite compared to other Highschools and students.

Pocatello has some of the highest taxes in the state. It’s very easy for spending to get out of control and
plenty of good sounding excuses why to spend. Just because a school was damaged by fire is no reason
to justify new large expenditures.

Thank you for your leadership!

I support the upgrades and hope the drama department has some additional consideration given the
dilapidated condition of the auditorium.

We are selling our kids short if we do not provide them comparable facilities that we are seeing across
the state. I know our demographic is pretty tough, but the schools around the state even in smaller
towns are more updated and advanced, especially when it comes to sports facilities.

I would be interested in Option 3 ONLY if the location of a new High School were closer to Chubbuck and
easily accessible with minimal interruption to traffic patterns.

The area needs a new elementary and a better larger high school. This is the best chance to get that
done for the community.

Where is the bond to update older elementary schools?
Build a brand new school and pass a bond while we still have support.

I do feel the insurance claim, bond money from previous bonds that have been passed and not very
descriptive in where monies will be allocated, and the funds that have been accumulated as a build up in
the School Districts Accounts. The amount of our property taxes levied to School District 25 is already extremely high. If used appropriately, there is plenty there. Knowing the amount of money sitting in School Districts Warehouse in the form of 1 year old, completely functional desk tops, laptops, iPads, and a multitude of other pieces of equipment and learning tools that were traded out for a newer model, makes me pause when voting to give you more. Also the States contributions are plenty including, but not limited to, lottery, liquor tax, tobacco tax, and LGIP monies distributed by the County. There is a crazy amount of grants that can also be applied for. I don't mind paying my dues to help my child and all the other children in our community receive a quality education. The fact that School District 25 has some of the lowest testing scores in the state, is disappointing considering their funding is among the highest. I believe a re-assessment needs to be done over inventory and budget before asking the tax payers for 125M more in bond funding.

Let's build for the future!

The taxes on our home has almost doubled in the last 10-years living in Pocatello. I do not support a huge bond and the associated increased taxes of more than a $500-a year-increase. Traditionally large bonds do not pass for Pocatello elections. I fully support a small bond to rebuild and improve the structures from before the fire. Furthermore, I would like accountability for the nearly 100% increase in our current taxes on our home. The city and therefore Pocatello School District 25 should already have excess funds on-hand currently to rebuild Highland due to doubling property taxes over the last 10-years (which far exceeds inflation).

Any significant new facilities should be built in Chubbuck area as that's where growth will continue to occur; doesn't make sense to have the number of students in the Chubbuck area commuting through town just to attend a historically emotional location. Traffic impacting all could be better accommodated through Chubbuck.

I am a huge fan of taking lemons and making lemonade. The opportunity to upgrade secondary school facilities will never be more cost effective than they are now.

Thank you for taking future learning seriously. I would be willing to fully support and help gain support for a bond to ensure the students in our community have a safe space to learn (with room to grow) for years to come.

I think we ought to use this chance to build something similar to Madison high and that be an asset to our community for years to come.

"1) The options on this survey need work - I like options 1 and 2 but am willing to consider option 3
2) You're gonna need to sell me and the public on option 3 given the costs"

This is the opportunity to do something forward thinking - don't rush this decision. Thank you for involving the public - can't make this without public support. Will you hold town hall meetings for further input?

I definitely think going forward for school this fall HH and CHS should not be combined in any way. Students are not at all happy with the blend and this takes away from their education. HH students need to be housed elsewhere.
If possible, look at building near the new day / I-15 interchange. There is enough land and it has easy accessibility for vehicles.

The use of the word "learner" has got to stop! It makes our school district sound illiterate. It's just a ploy to make us think our children are "learning" instead of being students of greatness.

With the growth in the city and the numbers the way they are, something needs to be done about the schools at all levels. The two elementary schools in our neighborhood are always at capacity, the middle schools are full, and there is going to need to be more room at the high school level.

I'm unsure if the bonds affect tax payers outside of highland high school boundaries.

Where would this new high school be located, we need one in Chubbuck.

I know we need more schools including another high school or a bigger high school. However, I also know we have population growth which means more money in property taxes. You elected officials need to learn to save some of that extra money from population growth and put it towards more schools. Instead of spending it all.

I am in favor of rebuilding, but I just want to know what will happen with the students next year, if they decide to rebuild. Where they will go?

N/A

Other options? what about selling highland and building a new, larger school elsewhere.

They need to do whatever is quickest and can get the highland students back at their school. It's not fair to them or the students at century to have to be forced to only go every other day and then do virtual.

The school district has millions of dollars saved up. I would hope they would use some of that money instead of making the tax payers supply it all through another bond. Our property taxes are already one of the highest if not the highest in the state yet we seem to have some of the worst facilities. It doesn't add up to me. However I do support better schools for our kids. I would like an option where we do the insurance, a smaller bond and use some donations and saved up school district money.

I support a bond for building a new school if it includes plans for industrial technology shops.

Thank you for sending this survey. It is appreciated.

I would register to vote just to vote for these!

I think we're in need of more school buildings but why does a new build high school need to accommodate twice as many students (1800) as we currently have in our other high schools?

"Highland has always had an issue with parking, the space is not big enough to fit our growing population, and a change needs to be made while we have the opportunity.

I propose buying new land in North Chubbuck, building a new high school, and creating a high school called Gateway High school."

Does it really cost $100,000,000 to build a new high school?
I am not in Highland boundaries but I support improving the aging Highland infrastructure. though I do fear asking too much financial input from the local taxpayers will result in a bond failure.

The chance to improve student learning should be explored. Modernization of facilities is lagging. We already have too many bonds. The SD needs to learn to work within its current means.

What kind of bond is it? Performance bond? Payment bond?

The third option is the most forward thinking and best plan for the long term; with the current and projected growth, this option is the most appropriate.

Please stop taxing us and live within your budget like we all have to do!!

You have teach the future generation to live within a budget. Inflation has increased all costs and raising our taxes due to bonds is not the right solution.

We have a chance to create a school for the growth that we are expected to see in the next few years. Highland is at or over capacity and those students deserve a space that meets all their needs. While I see the appeal of running an option where no bond is necessary, we run the risk of only seeing our crowding issue increasing and expenses rising as well.

I think that we need more information about how this will impact the current students at Highland. My daughter is currently a Freshman, and I would prefer her not to do online or hybrid her entire high school career. I think these students are all ready behind from COVID and now they will not be in person learning again. As a parent I want to know how you plan to deal with this during this rebuilding time.

Quit wasting money & rebuild what was already there. Our inflation rate is too high as it is. We are about to go into a recession & you want to spent up to $125 million on a new school? It’s stupid!

There are a few things that concern me when it comes to the $125 million dollar Bond option. First, will the school district pay a fair price for land? There were rumors that an unfair price was paid for the property Century is on. Second, an 1800 student building isn’t that big: It would seem at Highland’s current growth rate, they would be bursting at the seams again within a few years; for option 2, the enhancements outlined were unclear as to whether or not additional classrooms would be part of a plan to increase capacity. Finally, how long would a bond be in place to fund the build? Highland families are some the most dynamic advocates who have historically paid higher taxes. I believe they need and deserve the best option for their children.

Some of us cannot afford our homes if taxes go up.

I would like to see local vendors and service / product providers given a 10% advantage over any out of pocatello contractors for this bid!!! Keep our money in the community!!!

Why is out district targeting a large classification school at 1800 students while all other districts are building to 2400?

Need to remove he administration, they really don’t have the best interest of the students in SD25.

Find grants etc. Use the government for funding. We the people don't need to fund the Rockefeller education system!!
Tell the truth about what started the fire!! You know what caused it. People know it wasn’t what you are saying it was!! The truth will come out so you should just own it and tell the truth.

We need more room in our schools. A new high school needs capacity for more than 1800 students. Pocatello needs another grade school and middle school. I think of all the housing we have added to Pocatello in the last 20 years. Not a single new school has been built. Our property taxes have gone up significantly over the past 5 years. Where is that going? At least this way, I see it going somewhere.

"Edahow Elementary is going to need more space, the high school would be a great space. The ERR students might need a bigger classroom than the one they have now. Also a few of the upper grade classrooms are a tight fit as well. Thanks for asking this question. My children will attend high school in 2028 or 2029. I want them to have the best facility possible at that time and I think the current building is too old. In addition I know an architect that built two high schools in Pearland TX. I might be able to get him to submit plans for the high school here. To view the finished schools you can go to the Pearland ISD website and look at Shadow Creek High school and Robert Turner High School. I know just having the plans drawn up costs a fortune. I’m not sure if the plans would be available but I could check on it or my friend might be willing to consult on the project.

You can call me at 832-643-5110.

Thank You,

Sherilyn Edwards"

I think turning Highland into a middle school and building another high school is prudent based on the growth we’ve experienced in our area.

It would be better to rebuild and improve Highland high-school at it’s current location, so that current learners have a chance to actually attend a “Highland” high school while improving academics and sports/other activities for current and future students.

We need a middle school and a high school! But the “new” highland needs to be close to the students who are currently in Highland boundaries.

We need to rebuild

I am not in support of CHS to continue with virtual learning for an extended period of time.

It’s time to step up our game and be on a level playing field (no pun intended) as other competing high schools. They put us to shame when it comes to facilities that these young athletes have access to.

Get the school fixed as quickly as possible. I will not support online learning or my son going to another high school, especially Poky High.

No more hybrid learning

Great job navigating this unfortunate situation.

I’m not sure an 1800 student high school will be enough. If you are going to build a new school build it bigger than you need. At the same time since our property value has gone through the roof I don’t think I can vote for more to be paid in taxes at this time.
In this time when inflation is high and finances are tight for everyone, I don’t think it’s wise to add more financial burden. It is more prudent to replace what we already have and continue to use it effectively.

If the school is good enough to repair and be a elementary or middle school, then I feel it’s good enough to be repaired to serve as a high school. This also won’t be a tax burden on our community.

"I am in favor of a bond IF the Board of Trustees FIRST completes an assessment of ALL the buildings in the district, and critically examines enrollment numbers to justify making HHS into a middle or elementary school. It is quite appalling that we have students at Washington Elementary along with other horribly outdated buildings. Please do not state that the community does not support improving facilities. Building upgrades, new schools and higher taxes will be supported if there is thoughtful long range planning, the improvements are equitable and not just at the secondary level, and there is clear budget transparency. Millions upon millions have gone to the secondary facilities and athletic fields and the public has been supportive! â€”

It is also time to address fiscal irresponsibility of buildings with enrollments less than 225; a ton of overhead for very few students.

Please work to build a strong plan for K-12 building improvements that go beyond cheap carpet and a can of paint - our kids and community are worthy of updated learning environments!

If you try and raise my f***ing property taxes again I will fight it with every ounce of my soul. Im sick and tired of SD25 pissing our hard earned tax dollars down the drain on all your stupid BS. Fix highland, do everything you can to not have Century with remote learning days, my students grades tanked this semester because of that. If you don’t start having consideration for the hard work people do to EARN their money, I’m sure hell will have a spot reserved for y’all.

Take some of the funding away from football an other sports to help rebuild/update the building.

More information is needed-where would the â€œproposedâ€ new high school be located. Are Pocatello HS & Century HS at full capacity? Will the new STEM high school in the former All State building impact those enrollment numbers? What are enrollment numbers? Same with repurposing HHS into an elementary school. What are the numbers at Gate City, Edahow, Tendoy ES? I’d support a true need but property taxes are a touchy subject and they are considered high already. I would also support the recommendations of a task force (comprised of SD25 & community members) that researched this issue and presented its findings.

"There is already a divide between Highland and the other two High Schools in town. Over the years, Highland has seemed to receive preferential treatment. It’s pretty obvious based on how the Highland parents and Highland students act towards the other two high schools in town. If a new Highland high school is built I’m sure it will be a fantastic facility in every way possible, leaving Poky and Century with, as usual, mediocre everything. Building a brand new high school on a new property for Highland will create even more of a divide in the community then there already is.

From a financial standpoint and investment into an asset, it would make sense to take insurance money and invest it into a brand new facility for the future.

However, this would turn the current Highland high school into an elementary school or middle school. The question I would ask, do we actually need another elementary or middle school in Pocatello?"
Many of our buildings are outdated! Let's not just focus on HHS and stop there. Please work to help HHS and old, outdated facilities across the district. I highly suggest the Superintendent and Board of Trustees travel and tour all the buildings in Madison and Twin Falls. Incredible!!

Please consider the financial impact for homeowners. Add to Highland accordingly to meet the growing needs of your learners and community while saving taxpayers the high cost of replacement.

How many families of students do not own a home? percentage? Is that the only way to repay the bond is via tax levy on property owned?

Build a school like what is being built in the Treasure Valley and make our school(s) better. Stop being cautious with this and build something great. Quit settling for average!

It's there such thing as sour cream and onion Doritos? 😊

Any improvement or replacement of the facilities must include a proper fine arts facility, including a concert hall (not cafeteria) for music performances and a separate school entrance for arts events.

It would be nice if you factored in some of your surplus funds to help alleviate some of the costs to taxpayers in these times of high inflation. We are all having to cut back and sacrifice. Might be a nice gesture to taxpayers if you did.

Pocatello has some of the highest property taxes I've ever seen. Although the school is needed, most people cannot afford the increase.

We deeply appreciate the PCSD staff and boards consideration in these options and the best solutions for our communities and learners! Thank you!

Tough choices. Listen to the community. Keep the name.

Quit using the term “learner” instead of students. The relabeling of our children needs to stop.

Focus on certifying your teachers on important things like CPR and making our schools safer. A small team is not enough. Every teacher needs this simple lifesaving training.

Don't believe the school district uses the funds they have now appropriately.

Want what is best for everyone.

Use the money to upgrade Century gym facilities before give more to Highland.

Desire what is best for everyone. Our learners are our future leaders. Grateful for all that everyone does.

Highland is due for an upgrade.

I know this isn't top priority right now but our HS swim team have no were to practice in this community. If the decision is made to move the location of Highland and build new would you please look in to the possibility of buying a big enough lot to also have a community indoor pool built and more community indoor gym space. I would be willing to pay more in taxes knowing that this would benefit the community more than just a new school. Thanks.

Rebuilding and possibly going a little bigger better is great but not an entire new school.
Build a current 5A school like Thunder Ridge out in the Chubbuck area, tear down Highland and make it another elementary school or combine elementary schools to the new place.

Decrease the administrative cost at the district and you will have more money to spend on the kids. Start by getting rid of Sue Petit. She is a waste.

Our youth population is only growing. We should build a new facility to keep up.

I am a Highland alumni. They were making upgrades my senior year, 1999, I always thought it was very beneficial even though it was a great school already! This could be a great needed update and or remodel for the school.

I have always voted in favor of school levies. But beyond having a need for a high school there, I see so many greater needs that this levy wouldn't fulfill. And once this levy is in place, voters would be less likely to add any more levies for other important needs. It seems short-sighted.

The district spent money visually enhancing PHS (entrance) without asking for approval - purchased land for a parking lot for PHS. purchased the all state building without asking... HHS NEEDS to be brought to a competitive 5A building and facilities status - It is LONG overdue for that school to receive some financial attention from this district.

I am happy to invest more into my taxes if I can see a direct routing of those funds to the schools and especially to their infrastructure

You would have my support for a new highschool and repurposes Highland to a Middle school, depending on where the new Highland would be located and only if it had onsite sports facilities as it does now.

I believe Highland should be rebuild in place. Option 1, does not place a heavier tax burden on pocatello citizens. With our economy having the highest cost ever for everything, the tax burden will be to much.

I feel that if we are to make improvements now is the time due to the fire.

location, location, location. A new school to accommodate growth on the north side of the city would be great and then fix the wacky boundaries.

Using Highland as a future middle or elementary school and building a new, larger high school, would facilitate the growing population among the Chubbuck and North Pocatello areas. If the property was purchased in the Northgate area, that would prompt future businesses to build near it and homes as well. It would also create the need for more teachers and could create a potential stronger relationship with ISU in helping to promote the need for more teachers during the construction of the new high school.

I feel that building a new, improved and larger high school is very needed for the Chubbuck area. It is already severely over crowded and some classrooms don't even have enough desks for their students to sit in. The Chubbuck area is growing at rapid rate and keeping Highland for an additional option for high school or middle school would be a valuable option.

It would be helpful for voters to have data on the projected changes to the number of learners who will attend high school in the district over the next 10-20 years. Is there anticipated need for more high
school space currently or in the future? This data would help with choosing between option 2 or option 3.

I love pros and cons lists. Cost is not the only concern, so what are the pros and cons of each scenario described above?

I feel we do need to consider the future need of our high schools during this transition. With estimated growth we need additional space.

"Cities across Idaho have built new high schools in the last few decades. Our district has put millions into Pocatello High School during that same approximate time period. We have Century High School that definitely needs some upgrades, i.e. a gym that's worthy of an A4 high school. Currently it is more compatible with a middle school gym.

In the last few years, the city and school district have thrown out the idea of a new high school being needed in the future. Without a doubt, the future is now! If Highland is repaired and continued to be used as a high school I do not see this community, five years from now voting for an additional high school."

"It seems like a good idea to put a high school a little north of Pocatello. I wonder if that would better accommodate the students on the north side of town and Chubbuck, and could be situated to also allow for improved traffic flow in the neighborhood surrounding the school.

I happened to be in Highland High School the week before it burned down, and I was slightly shocked by the run down condition of the school in general. Although I was treated with respect and kindness, I was taken back by the fact that only half of the bathroom stalls were functioning in my building, the paint job was sloppy, and the overall maintenance and cleanliness were sorely lacking.

I have been in Century High School many times, and was expecting that the students and teachers at Highland would have the same learning environment, but that simply was not true. I have not been inside of Pocatello High School, but have admired the beauty of their new addition. Clearly, there was tremendous thought and consideration in its creation.

I believe that the students at Highland also deserve a beautiful, properly maintained building.

As a board you have a tremendous task ahead of you! Thank you for all of your work on behalf of our children, and the employees of this district."

Highland, given its size of student body and the continuation of the growth in the population, we need an honest 5A school that can support the growth. This tragic circumstance also provides a window into creating something even better from the ashes. Let us take the opportunity to make things better for our students, staff, and community. I support whatever the board decides.

I like where Highland is located but it definitely needs to be upgraded and larger. Everyone around us has much nicer facilities. I also think there needs to be another elementary school nearby since gate city is always full. I would like to see what your plans are before I vote for the larger bonds. Thank you

If I knew the proposed location of building a new high school and repurposing HHS, I could be even more supportive of option 3.
With all of the land being sold and the growth of the Pocatello/Chubbuck area and the middle schools are starting to get crowded so it would be better to build a whole new bigger Highschool while there is still a bunch of land being sold.

Highland high was good enough before it burnt the cafeteria, choir & band room down. Rebuild with the insurance as any other business or any other home owner wood have to. If there is a need for more schools then plan and budget for the expansion in the future as normal business procedures demand.

It seems that once a bond is passed, we never stop paying on it. If there was a set amount of years we pay and then it stops, I would be more apt to vote for it.

If we choose to build a new school it needs to be built in Chubbuck. Pocatello has enough high schools and chubbuck needs one in its community. Also look at any land that sd25 is not using and has no plans to use that can be sold to help cover costs, especially bare land.

The tax estimations ranges are far too wide of margins after the fact for me to fully support a bond. The estimations need to be more precise.

Sd25 already owns land in Chubbuck where Century should have been built. But instead they put a board member onto make a decision that was only thinking of themselves and convinced the board to buy his land that nobody wanted. Which he should never has been part of that conversation. Now we have a high school in Timbuktu that no students want to go to. We can see this with current enrollment. Let’s not make the same mistake and learn from our mistakes. You already have land use it or sell it.

Before buying more. Also this school needs to be built in Chubbuck. It’s the second largest city in bannock county and the fastest growing city in bannock county and needs a high school within its city limits. If you chose to build another school in pocatello or Timbuktu the community will vote this down. And don’t put any land owners that you are considering their land on the decision board. They are only there to make a buck and not thinking about what’s best for the community.

I want to see renderings and know the exact location it will be built before I vote and once I vote it better not change location!

Rebuild with improvement of capacity to 2000 students is ideal!

Questions that were not answered by the super intendant, how fast is the area growing? Is the current facility at or over max? What is the projected growth for the area that may or may not need more space or a new location?

1800 students is too small unless you plan on building two high schools in the near future. Pocatello will continue to grow and costs to build arm to go up by 10 million each year. Best think 20 years into the future so you aren’t caught of guard by growth and overcrowding again

We have been sucked dry from property tax already in the past few years. The school is insured, use the insurance money to replace what was there and stop pulling on people’s heartstrings and pocket books to get more. Do better with the money already being provided through our ridiculous property tax, stop being fiscally irresponsible. Why don’t we take some lessons from Idaho Falls, their property taxes AND utility costs are lower, with more jobs, shopping and services provided. We have a closed down silicon plant and a dilapidated old facility (titan complex) in the middle of town.
When all the new Northgate and six new subdivisions land development was approved, Bannock County, both cities, and SD25 should have required that the companies provide land to school districts for new schools/public spaces and the land provided should have been fully served by streets and utilities. They should also pay a certain percentage of their profits into a fund for schools. Why was this not done? Those companies have and are making huge profits at the expense of those of us who have to pay property taxes to maintain the roads/sewer/water that service all the sprawl that they have created. My taxes have gone from 900 to 2100 in the last 16 years but I rarely see much improvement to the roads, parks, schools in my neighborhood. I do not want to have to continue to pay for expansion and sprawl of these new builds with my taxes. Rebuild the high school where it is and properly maintain it.

What is the plan? To let the old neighborhoods die and become ghettos, increase traffic and commute time as the sprawl moves further out, make our air and water quality even poorer? Have any of you studied the sociology of urban environments, can you not learn from the mistakes of other regions such as Boise, SLC, and all of California. We can build it but it has to be MAINTAINED and you need to have more public employees and materials to help maintain whatever you build. Who's paying for that? The taxes of those of us in the old neighborhoods that have to pay to keep the new neighborhoods aesthetically pleasing and sell-able? Will you close Tendoy, Greenacres and have dilapidated/condemned buildings in those neighborhoods for years to come (ex. Bonneville, Emerson) and make the children get on a bus at 7 am to get to school on time? Who will bus those children since we can barely get bus drivers. Or will you get rid of the bus system as well? All that matters is the new, wealthy neighborhoods, who cares in children of working class parents can get to school.

The leadership in this region is complacent and sociologically incompetent. They could easily remedy this by educating themselves on the sociology of urban environments (using material that isn't produced by land-development companies). Make decisions that are beneficial to all residents of the regions not just the wealthy ones. This is blatant povertyism (https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2022/10/ban-povertyism-same-way-racism-and-sexism-un-expert)."

I wish I knew more information about how much space is already needed. Are the schools already at capacity? How long with this additional tax be required? Etc.

It needs to be built in Chubbuck. Maybe sd25 and the city of chubbuck could work together and build a high school and a fire department next to each other.

I would support option 3 ($125M) if the current Highland facility was used for increasing the districts ability to enlarge their alternate school program. Too many students who could benefit from that program are not allowed due to capacity.

I am very concerned about the parking situation at Highland currently. Having only one exit and route out the school parking is unsafe. If an emergency had happened with students at the school there would have been serious problems with evacuation. There is also not enough space for the number of students parking at school.

Let's plan for the future! I love Highland, and I will support all the options. I think we should plan ahead and build a new high school, especially a tech high school.
We need another additional high school, middle school and several elementary schools as well as Highland being operational.

With the low number of students at century and depending on location for a new highland high which should be built in Chubbuck. I am going to assume that the school district is already working on boundary changes. I hope you have learned your lesson and will involve and listen to the community more than last time. Also do not put a school board member on the the boundary board so that members especially employees can express their thoughts and disagreement without having to be concerned for their employment like last time. You will get a better suggestion and direction for the community and. It just what the school board or superintendent wants to hear.

Why do we keep spending money on highschools and neglect elementary schools? Isn't Highland the school that keeps getting trashed by its own students? Why would they get a new school when there are older schools in the district that need to be replaced? Seriously, this is another stupid decision to spend money the wrong way. No, I don't support this decision. I don't care if you know who I am. Spend money smarter.

Want to know what the updated school boundaries will be during construction and after construction and the new school opens.

Building something more modern is the right step. The current building and facilities is far outdated.

The time to rebuild better and stronger than before is now! Use this fire as a catalyst to make vast improvements! PLEASE DO NOT just re-build to how it was before. This is the PERFECT time for a new school and new elementary which is so needed in our area!! We love this area and want to see it being loved and improved!

Not to happy with the district right now!!

I was unable to mark I support the estimated cost of option 2 .

If it makes sense to combine insurance money and the need to rebuild highland with an expansion in the capacity of the school district...then I would support either bond. I just haven't seen a need, or heard of a need to build a new school...especially with the new tech center and what not which is proposed to help ease crowding. The editorial addresses the possibilities, but not really any needs that it would address.

Pods on the football field until the school is ready? These kids need to be in the classroom ASAP.

As I will be retiring in the near future, I am concerned about adding costs to my budget. I do have grandchildren that attend schools in SD#25 and want them to have access to excellent educational facilities, whether they attend HHS or not. If a new high school is built, I think the New Day/Chubbuck area is the best option due to new growth.

Highland has been an issue for years. Address the problem. Don't waste the money now only to change your direction in 2-3 years.

I am a military spouse; while my children have and will attend Highland, I do not feel that this is a vote I will participate in as I have no long term stake in the results.
I definitely think we will need a new high school within the next 5-10 years, but I am still undecided if this is the correct time and decision for that. I'd love to hear more about how long the bonds will be in effect, if bonds are always needed to fund new buildings, etc.

Do we need a bigger or better elementary school? Don't fix it if it doesn't need it?

need to enhance HHS to hold more students and another elementary school

Please don't put chs online again next year lets share that burden with phs

As Pocatello grows to the north, what is the plan to provide additional schools?

I think Pocatello will continue to grow and renovations at Highland will not be enough to address the overcrowding that Highland High School struggles with. The best option is a larger newer high school for our community.

Length of bond? What would happen to current outdoor sports facilities? If repurposed for a middle or elementary, would classrooms undamaged by the fire be repaired so all spaces are well-maintained (ie no leaks, mold, etc.)?

Pocatello/Chubbuck is going to need a fourth (fifth if you count New Horizon) high school at some point in the next 10 to 15 years. I think it would be smart and proactive to build a fourth high school now, which will function as Highland High School while HHS is being torn down and rebuilt. Then, once HHS is completely rebuilt, Highland would be moved back to their original location, and the new, fourth high school would then open.

We really need another high school. Can we rebuild Highland with the grant money and build a new high school?

While I am not opposed to, and am likely supportive of, planning to build new facilities to support students in SD25. I am not really supportive of using this tragedy to rush an agenda. I think if the the district wants to plan for growth, those plans should be thought out and focused, not frenzied because we want to use insurance. I am also concerned about bond passage given what happened in Idaho Falls.

I would like some questions answered before I could agree 100% : how long does it take to build a new school? And what will the current learners do in the interim for school? Can you have an option 4 and use insurance funds to replace the current foot print of Highland and also pass a bond to build a new school so that current learners have a school to attend while building something new and helping with the overcrowding in the future? We can think outside the box here.

I feel like purchasing a new location and a new school would be unfair to Poky school. They are in need of so many updates and they always get put aside and make do. I think just replacing what they had would be sufficient to maintain a comparable school.

Highland does not need more money. Elementary schools and middle schools need updating more than Highland does.

We need more elementary schools so if a new High school was built we need 1-2 new elementary schools and another elementary school. The growth of the area is high and shuffling kids around town...
on buses vs them just attending the school they live next to would be better mentally for them so they could know their neighbors.

More information needs to be communicated to the stakeholders/community members.

Highland already has a brand new football field! I am against option 2 and 3! Highland gets everything they want! ABSOLUTELY NO!

Please rebuild highland as it was, then look for ways to build another high school if needed. Please get the kids back to their school, as elections, bidding, designing and then building will take an extra long time to complete. Let's please not complicate things.

I see the only valid reason for a new Highschool is if we are under the pressing need for another middle school. It does not make sense to build a new school, just because people want something "new". This seems to have happen before with Poky and it still seems like the wrong decision at this time. Although I will admit it bailed the district out with this catastrophe. Additionally, how much has already been invested in the stadium and grounds at Highland? And does an elementary or middle school really need those kind of facilities? Improving the school makes sense, but a new school does not.

I feel there is room and space at Century, and it is not being used to it's full capacity. Boundary changes should be exhausted and all high schools should be at capacity before a bond is proposed and brought to a vote for a new or improved high school.

Redo the boundaries before proposing a bond. Have strict boundaries with very few transfers.

An option of rebuilding Highland as a high school and getting a bond for a 4th high school could be considered.

My oldest will be a senior at CHS during 23-24, we've been glad to help out the HHS students but I really hope for both schools sake that they will have a feeling of stability and belonging wherever they end up.

The school district as a whole is a joke and embarrassment. Every single person on the school board, board of trustees and any other individuals who may have any form of decision making should be removed or resign.

Many are already frustrated with poor management of public funds in our community. Please don't use this unfortunate occurrence to ask for more funds to pay for facilities that should have already been covered by existing taxes and a rapidly growing Highland community. Property taxes going to education from the growing Highland community over the last two decades should have already more than covered necessary expenses for needed facilities and upgrades.

There are many middle schools that would benifit from a move to the current Highland High School.

I feel this school district has not shown it can be wise with money allotted already. And feel as if this is a grab for extra money using an accident to get more money from residents by playing on heart strings. The community, local business, ect. have stepped up and donated so much money and items already. Should be able to replace easily what was there already and what will be done with donated money outside of insurance? That has not been addressed, just asked for more money. What will be done with donated money, and extra money not replacing items ect., that have been donated already.
Please do the right thing for the future of the kids in this area, build them a school that will take them into the future.

More information is needed about number of students in all 3 high schools to understand the need to increase capacity at Highland to 1800 for option 3. More info is needed about what modifications would be made to Highland to consider option 2. Additionally, if option 3 was approved, how would that affect district staff and expenses if Highland was used as a middle school or elementary school? Could some other schools be sold to recoup some costs, could other schools be consolidated to save on personnel (administration, food services) costs, are there other ways the district can tighten the belt in spending especially at the district level? What does the districts long term planning look like? Is the number of kids increasing, staying stagnant, or decreasing? I want to support learners but need more info to understand how all of these plans affect the learners and what the district would do to be more frugal at the district level. I don’t want to cut programs or teachers, but I want the district to justify the number of administrative personnel. I think it is excessive. From a facility and administrative perspective there needs to be a little more business planning and looking for ways to cut the fat.

How many years are each bond? Did not see that with the information given so hard to make a final decision without knowing that!

Three thoughts to consider: (1) Continue to look to the future, (2) costs never be less than they are now, (3) the ability to educate our youth is our most powerful resource

I’m all for building a new high school if it will ease up some of the pressure that elementary schools have. 25 to 30 elementary kids in a classroom are too many! However, I do NOT agree that we need to go all out on the school. Just build what’s educationally necessary and forget all the extra frills. We don’t really allow the use of our gyms or other facilities for that many outside activities anyway.

If it is used as a elementary or middle school, what will be done with other properties that the district owns that currently serve as elementary/middle school?

If Highland isn’t good enough for high school students, it’s not good enough for elementary/middle school students. We seem to invest far more in high school infrastructure than elementary and middle school infrastructure. I would vote for a new high school. I would vote for a new middle or elementary school. I don’t think I would vote for a new high school if it meant younger kids had to attend school in the old Highland building. I would vote for more money to improve Highland if the money not only repaired the burned parts, but also renovated the entire school.

"I support at the very least expanding HHS and I’m not a opposed to building a new larger school. I can’t commit to the larger dollar amounts without more information. I would like to see general plans and amenities before I commit my vote.

It may be possible to build a new school without adding a football field/track and baseball field since we have newly built and renovated facilities. I would recommend that it be built somewhat close to HHS in the New Day Development so students can easily access the current facilities.

"At the very least, the damaged areas need to be replaced to meet current needs. This includes adding a real auditorium to Highland and finding a new use for that sorry excuse of an auditorium."
This should not be an issue, use the insurance funds to rebuild as it was designed for.

I am not opposed to updating Highland High School at its current location. They have the space up there and a updated football field. The Highland Kids need to get back into their school for learning as quickly as possible so that the other schools are not affected by this. A new middle school in the future can be built where it was initially planned and you have the land for!

Is there a possible alternate location available for a new Highland? What would the existing Highland be used for?

Please provide relevant information regarding current school capacity, current/anticipated student population, professional structural reviews for existing buildings, etc. Too little information was provided to evaluate the benefit of proposed options. With the information I have from my current learners, I cannot reasonably support anything other than a rebuild in the current footprint.

Please be transparent with all results of the survey.

Build another school in the parking lot, then tear down current school for a parking lot after. They can park at fair grounds in the mean time.

If you build a new building, please still call it Highland.

Lets be honest... the school district has the money needed to cover the difference of doing the needed upgrades after the insurance payout. This has been well documented and its why you have a rainy day fund. No more burden on the taxpayers. we've had enough and see very little improvement when there is additional bonds.

Currently under contract with sd25 to do masonry.

I would want assurances all money would be for HHS and not redirected to PHS because it seems all you care about is PHS. If a new school was built, I would want it to remain on the hill. Before a bond, I want transparency and not bait and switch.

It would be helpful to have more detail about "enhancements" that would be made to Highland for option 2. I can't support something that is not clearly described. Does highland have justifiable needs or is this just cosmetic enhancements that don't serve a purpose?

With the current rise in our states population, it would be beneficial to think into more plans of repurposing schools. All three high schools maintain a student base of over 1400 and the number rises every year. The board has tried to put different border rules in order to negate a portion of this issue. Although, they should look into changing some of the middle schools into slightly smaller high schools in order to decluster the students.

What are we currently getting for the taxes that are paid, proper spending versus soliciting the public's support for additional tax implications is not acceptable. Absolutely do not support this in any way?

"I would only be in favor of option 3 if:
- Do not rebuild the gym and common areas at highland.
- Sell some of the property at Highland High School to help fund the development of a new high school.
- The new high school should have less common area (no formal lunch room, smaller gym). We are a school district not a sport district."

"if these kids have outgrown the facility i would pay twice the taxes projected to furnish new. The music program for me meant so much more to me than most people understand, and i think it’s vital to our future that these kids have that same opportunity in an adequate facility, being mindful it doesn't have to be a crown landmark structure, or some extravagant swan song project by some soon to retire architect, the kids don’t really care what it looks like as long as its safe, and functional, and it remains the home of the Rams. I also advocate for Jay Ronk whom I feel has earned the stripes necessary to be appointed to lead the design for the new music dept. as that program suffered so much underfunding over the years in comparison to athletics, some of which often yielded lesser results in terms of overall wins, with relation to spending while the bands had to look to alternative funding to just have the chance to compete, which steadily produced wins again and again even in higher level competition with utah/oregon schools having twice the number of students and which were heavily funded, despite having less than full-potential allocations granted towards the program right here in our own district and hometown. lets give these kids the tools to reach that full potential and bring home more trophies for the display case, instead of making them have to sell candy bars just to be able to go to a national charter invitational, because that's inexcusably poor decision making when basketball and football teams are only expected to win 2 out of 10 and the entire budget goes to them anyways when the ram band could have went to the rose parade, that year and represented SD25 in front of all America, what a total waste !!!!!   they don't just hand out those invitations to anybody.............

and certainly not to any band with any less than razor sharp execution and high caliber audio and visual. Its a shame the football team gets new uniforms every year regardless but the band uses the same ones for about 10-15 years......run that by the football coach and see how the football team would like to wear the same uniform for the next ten years, or maybe just ponder that and let than sink in for a minute, and remember Mr. Ronk still produced trophies, i know we brought home more than my memory can can count from back in my day, and mostly with no funding or funds we raised ourselves, tell the quarterback he has got to sell 400 candy bars in order to play this year and see how that goes ................lets be smarter this time around is all im sayin, im more than willing to contribute for that program also"

My vote would be to keep Highland the size it is now and look at building a new high school in Chubbuck in the future.

The length of the obligation of the bond would have a huge deciding factor on my vote. Is this a two year bond? I’m all for it. If it’s more than 10 years, I’d have to reconsider the amount I would vote for.

Thank you for asking for input!

Please do not waste more money.

This is an opportunity to make the necessary improvements.

Why are we not looking to cut spending to fund this? I think this goes to show how irresponsible our "leaders" are for not trying to figure that out on their own. We already have one of, if not the highest property tax in the state of ID. We had a major upset in the community with re-evaluation of everyone's
assessed values so we can offset our % property taxes, and then the taxes are raised shortly after. If I were to pick to vote on anything tomorrow it would be a vote of no confidence. Very irresponsible. "Learners should be able to attend on location of Highland high school, in usable portions of the school. Learners should be able to attend simultaneously with any/all construction work.

I feel like with the growth we have had, we would need a bond soon for a new school soon anyway. The Elementary schools are already at capacity. It would be very short sighted to leave things as they are. We need a new high school. A new high school makes room for the elementary schools in the district, and would be a MUCH needed improvement to Pocatello. It’s time to shed the rebuild/repurpose mentality that plagues our city, and make necessary changes to invite the kind of growth Pocatello needs. A $100+ million bond is a stretch, considering our property taxes are already high with very little to show for it. The school board needs to accept donations and make an exception to the “share all donations equally nonsense,” and do what’s right for the town, and for our tax paying citizens. Pocatello is being left in the past more and more everyday. Our city is crumbling. Perhaps a new high school is the best first step in the right direction towards a better more inviting future for Pocatello.

As a parent of a current and future Highland highschool students I think it is important to build a new highschool that fits the needs of our students and staff and has room for growth. I will strongly support and advocate for a bond measure to see our students succeed.

I would love to see a new high school. However, we have our young adults who can’t afford a house. Inflation and taxes are already too high. We can’t keep raising taxes. Mid to low income households can’t afford being taxed anymore. Please consider fund raisers and donations of time and talents from the community. Once taxes are raised they never go down. Use it as a learning tool. Teach a landscaping class and let the students put in the sprinkler system and do the landscaping or use ISU students learning construction or building type skills or architecture. We need to use our resources better.

If you build a new high school then Iron Horse stadium will be at a middle or elementary school. So then high school students have to be bussed there to use it. I see that as the biggest drawback. Also, if we are building a new high school can we get an appropriate auditorium that can be used by the school and community with sufficient parking?

Due to many past decisions the schoolboard cannot be trusted.

I feel most of the money from a large bond needs to go to building a new elementary or middle school (ex. Lewis and Clark and Alameda on the same property) in the area most needing it. I support a small bond to update Highland at its current location.

I don’t feel that the current fund expenditures have been used/explained well enough. An itemized list, that would be EASILY accessible to the public, would help us to know where the funds are going. Without an explanation of how the current funds are being managed I don’t feel the need to increase my already incredibly high property tax another $400.

How much to build a new elementary or middle school if option 1 or 2 is selected?
We need to think about the future and not just about right now. So we need a new, bigger high school and a new middle/elementary school.

Provide public with the cost savings from rebuilding using insurance funds now vs rebuilding later without insurance funds and outline the need for a new school. If people don’t know there is a need, they aren’t going to vote in favor. Find a way to exclude taxing elderly people on fixed income. They are often against these bonds.

Thanks for all you do!

Either spend no money and rebuild what we have or go above and beyond to build a new next generation high school.

I like how you guys outlined what our current options are. I know everyone wants to give their two cents, but it would also be nice to know <in a survey form like this> what your current obstacles are with the school district. There are a lot of people/families that want to support but aren’t sure how because we don’t always know the whole picture. I understand some things are harder to share, but I liked this survey being an option. Keep up the great work, you sometimes might have what seems like an impossible job, but we support you! 🤩 A school district 25 mom, wife and small business owner.

Funds need to be allocated to HIGHLAND ONLY

Keep the transgender push out of our schools! Let kids be kids!

Clark

Tracy Anderson

Do not raise my taxes again! You are not ruining tradition and moving HHS STOMPING GROUNDS!!!

Keep it where its been since 1963!! Make HHS BIGGER and BETTER

It would be nice to have a new high-school in our district.

I think that Highland High School needs to be functional by the fall when classes start again. The hybrid schedule for Century and Highland was necessary to finish out the school year, but every effort should be made to see that it does not need to continue for the start of the 2023-2024 school year. Hybrid learning is very difficult physically and emotionally for staff, students, and parents. Not to mention scheduling practice and events such as athletics, band, and drama to name a few. The option that gets kids back in their own classes the quickest is the option that I would vote for.

Build a new school, we will need one sooner than later.

Pocatello/Chubbuck is experiencing big growth in the area of Highland's boundaries, I think one larger high school (or two smaller ones?) should be considered to factor in this area’s future growth. The majority of future growth will occur in that area and should be taken into consideration.

I’m happy to see this is being considered as an opportunity for future growth. I would really need more information before considering voting for a bond but if the information presents a compelling case I would vote for such projects.
"I would love to see Highland High school facilities being brought up to date with its competing 5A schools. If my circumstances were different I would fully support a brand new high school, however I live in an area that we have had to fund our own fire district and paying close to $2000 annually for that for the next 2 years. To add another $1000 would be very hard at this time. My kids all attended Highland but my boundaries are now Pocatello high school.

Would a new auditorium be considered for improvement at the original site with the lower 2 bonds?"

Why would the school levy have to be so much money? How much money are you getting from insurance for the Highland high school? And can you supplement it that way. Also, what about all of this Covid relief fund money you’re talking about that has to be used up. Instead of focusing so much on football stuff. Maybe you should focus a little bit more on High school for them to go to first. All students should matter. Not just football. If you want to be a 5A school, build a 5A school like Maddison.

"How about the superintendent take a lower paycheck!!

We need more secondary schools -middle and high in west Pocatello area!!"

We need a new school!!!

I think Highland should purchase the adjacent lot and expand!

My only additional input would be that if the school is relocated I would want it relocated in a neighborhood and not in an industrial/vacant park, please. That kind of location would affect my vote.

If the school is relocated, the location of the proposed construction would need to be in a neighborhood and not an industrial or vacant park to earn my voting support.

We really need another middle school so it would be advantageous to build a new high school, possibly in the Northgate area, and remodel the existing school as a middle school.

If funds were used respectfully and correctly over the next few years, I may consider voting yes for a bond. Currently, I think funds are spent in the wrong areas without taxpayer say.

build a better newer high school

The hardest thing I think you have to deal with is providing the Class of 2024 a memorable senior year, and I would say that senior year is ruined by any significant building changes. Which will impact them and potentially 2025 as well.

Idaho State Journal E-Blast

Button on 75M question broken. Voting against

Highland needs to stay where it is. All the new facilities were just put in for the sports. It adds value to the area with all the new building going on by the wellness center.

As a Pocatello resident, I feel like our property taxes have jumped considerably over the past few years, and an extra amount would be a financial hardship for many

So we need another middle school? Community would need numbers to support this. Please provide the numbers.
A bond will increase Rent cost and pocatello property tax has doubled in the last 10 years. You are collecting higher tax revenues than you did 5 years ago...might want to rethink your numbers and question if there is a better direction to go. (I own 5 properties within SD 25 taxing district. This will raise rent on all of them $25-$50 a month)

Another high school is needed

Keep Highland High School and rebuild the areas that were burned and build a 4th High school in the Chubbuck area

Stop trying to raise our taxes!

Well if history repeats itself then the most costly, unthought out option will be the one we’re forced to deal with.

I’m willing to pay more taxes as long as it actually gets used for what you say it will.

I’ll support building a new highschool as long as it’s built in Pocatello, not Chubbuck

When you rebuild the gym make sure it is big enough for fans to walk behind the teams benches and the bleachers are large enough so that a lot of people can attend. Please do not cut corners like with PHS and CHS. I’m not sure who designed those but please choose another designer/contractor. Go visit the schools in the Boise area or Thunderidge and see what a real facilities look like.

Please share info on school capacity in all 3 high schools. If current HHS is too small or if we need to build new one in 5 years....then let’s address that now

They are students!!! What is a learner? So dumb

We’re very frustrated that the district approved, at Iron Stadium, the removal of grass for turf!!

Pocatello residents are already feeling the pinch in their budgets as property taxes went way up this year (ours $100 a month). I feel it’s important to take that into consideration and replace what was there.

We do not need a new high school. Rebuild what was destroyed and leave it at that.

Something has to be done about the over crowding at highland. All the future growth is in the highland and chubbuck area. The boundary changes did not help Highlands overcrowding. It just made them unable to compete with the very large 5A schools athletically.

I flatiron and property taxes are already making g it hard to get by. Just use the insurance money

My granddaughter is going to be a junior at Highland High School in September.

You have enough money! Don’t ask for another bond!!!

We homeschool my grandson I will vote against any bond that comes up for school district 25 this school district is a joke.
Highland’s auditorium has been a miserable place to stage plays for decades. Please take this opportunity to fix this mistake in design so Highland can have a great drama program like the other high schools.

Taxing the public is not necessary when there is insurance money to rebuild the school. If another middle school is needed, then pass a bond for a new middle school only.

Why would you put millions of dollars into the baseball field and football field to walk away and give it to a middle school or elementary school? Where is your vision? Also, what are the students at Highland going to do when they aren’t going back into a building in the fall. You need to let the public know they answers before you go off on an undeveloped plan.

I support any school proposal; but I want the facts about the needs of the district and the need for more elementary, middle school and increased high school capacity.

I’m on a fixed income it would be different, if property taxes were different. I vote no

"In the long run Highland needs lots of repairs and would still not be a flagship school so a new school makes sense. Use the present Highland for other purposes such as middle school. New Horizons and more. Allow boys and girls club use. Lots of creative things could be there. Be cautious about the trap of public opinion causing the board to shoot to low. Instead lead strongly, educate the public.

One info piece missing is that folks need to know the cost of replacing highland 20 yrs from now regardless. Sell the best goal rather than settling for the least common denominator. Use Rotary and other service groups to carry your cause. While school staff must be careful not to promote a position you can certainly recruit others to cheer for the best solution. Bonds don’t fail because people dislike education. They fail because a can do spirit is not instilled within the community.

Just a crazy idea. .. make a part of Highland a senior citizens activity center. Their present building is terrible. That is an idea folks who vote no might really support. Be creative and bold. Get the owners of property in the Gateway area to donate land for a new school as an investment adding value to remaining lots."

Let’s plan and build for the future.

I think which ever way we decide to go, a better effort to spend our tax dollars putting local people to work, should be made !! we need those tax dollars spent here as much as possible. would not support anything not spent in idaho!!

develop a humane policy for transexual students

We need to take this opportunity to plan for the future for our children. The cost of a bond is what people spend on coffee a month!

Would voters have input on the use of funds for Highland? Will this school allocate money to all venues such as meeting high need students in the area or only cater to high income and upscaled sports activities? How would this affect the support for other school students, facilities and teachers? How would this affect the number of students to teacher ratios in high need areas? Would other schools suffer and Highland is the top income school again? How will the other older schools still be supported? I would like to see a new high school built with adding another elementary/middle school but am
concerned Highland would be a taj mahal compared to other schools that will continue to be overcrowded with limited staff.

Please get the students back into school, 5 days a week. Learning is survival.

I suggest moving the location of Highland and constructing a facility that can hold 2500-3000, so larger than the proposed option in this survey. I would support bonds dependent on what the District does.

I believe that rebuilding and enhancing Highland High School at its current location is the best solution for the community and would support that.

Split the kids up and send them together century and poky demolish highland and if kids and parents don't like it they can go to charter school or move

None

Please give Highland High School and the students the attention that they deserve. You have put so much money into Pocatello High School and it has been absolutely ridiculous! Pocatello High School should have been shut down years ago and you should stop putting money into it!

This needs to be done quickly so option 1 is best. The kids at century suffered while they had to share their classroom time. They can not continue this into next year. It isn’t fair to highland OR century kids

Please stop expecting us to pay for your lousy budgeting! Life is too expensive as it is!

Prepare for our future!

I’m concerned about the maintenance of the schools and would like to see more preventative measures put in place.

The history of highland is worth more than brand new school, I am all for revamping it but preserve the history as much as we can. I will always be proud to be a HIGHLAND HIGH SCHOOL graduate!

No Comment

"This is a hard one to weigh out and decide on, no question. I support SD25 in making the decision that will not only serve the immediate needs well, but our future needs the very best. Given the development that has been happening in the Highland boundary area, I can see the benefit in both having a new elementary or middle school, and in having a up-to-date, capable high school. I recognize that this option may create an added strain on things currently, but if it is what is going to serve our community the best in the long run, then I am all for it.

We are fortunate to live in a community that stands by our youth. I think as long as the youth really are the largest consideration in this decision, then, even if met with some initial hesitation, the community will get behind it.

"

You could never give the schools enough money!

Highland needs to be expanded to accommodate the growing population of Pocatello and Chubbuck. I think most patrons understand that the school district has an opportunity to enhance or build a new
Highland HS. The school district should strongly consider partnering with the city and/or others, and
make a large event center (which has been pined about for years) in conjunction with potentially
building a new school with enhanced facilities so that additional events can be enjoyed in the
community year round.

Why not rebuild Highland at it’s pre fire level and then build a whole new High School. That way it
doesn’t look like one High School is being favored over the others.

I believe Century’s gym is the gym that needs the improvement in size. It is more the size of a middle
school gym.

I am a retired PCSD 25 teacher.

Turn highland into a junior high, and close Irving jr high. Build the new high school off of the new
interchange . Keep the name and mascot the same and align the boundaries. STOP busing students
across town from the north. bus Irving’s students to Hawthorne then to poky Franklin to century,
highland jr high to new highland and divide alameda among the 3 high schools. Thanks for your time

I am sorry, but Highland has enough! Their own stadium, a new baseball field coming, two gyms, all the
money and all the athletes. All those parents were outraged about the proposed school boundaries a
few years ago. The parents manipulated the powers that be to get the boundaries exactly as they
wished (right, Dr. Stoddard?). Well, they used their money and influence to get the boundaries they
wanted! Now they can foot the bill if they want new upgraded facilities. Have the parents in THAT
boundary pay for a bond. I don’t understand why people think because of a tragedy, they should get a
whole new school! Only PART of ONE building was destroyed! If my kitchen has a stove fire, I don’t get
an entirely new house in a nicer neighborhood at the expense of my neighbors! This is people taking
advantage of a sad thing situation, but it’s not a tragedy. Not one person was hurt. No one lost their
life. I feel horrible for the kids that lost their musical instruments and that the kids had to take a few
weeks of classes at Century. Now, I would be HAPPY to support a bond that replaced and even
upgraded the musical instruments. But not one penny beyond that! We have had ENOUGH of
pandering to the parents of Highland. And my wife and I are ALUMNI!

"The smoke had barely cleared and you were talking about taking advantage of the situation to stick us
with increased property taxes. Have you not been paying attention to what’s been going on the last few
years? People are being taxed to death in Pocatello/Bannock county. Enough already.
Pocatello/Bannock county is a low income area. The population as a whole can't afford the pie in the sky
dreams of an apparently out of touch with reality board.

The state finally stepped up this year to do something about the outrageous property tax situation and
you are selfishly jumping right in to nullify the move by trying to pass a bond. Wake up people! If you do
this, I will never again vote for any levy or bond you propose. Never! You need to do what the rest of us
have to and live within your means with what you have."

I think an additional elementary/middle school would be beneficial for the students within the SD25
boundaries as well as the community as a whole. However I hesitate to completely support the initiative
because as someone who doesn't live within the Highland High School boundaries and did not attend
Highland High School but rather Pocatello High School. My concern is that it would appear that all the
money that might be acquired from a bond would go to benefit just the HHS students/faculty and area
where the new high school would be build, my guess in the Northgate Development and causing an even bigger desertion between the affluent "Highland" area and the neighborhoods surrounding Pocatello High School and the families that are serviced by that historically significant school. This is the best opportunity to deliver the community something it desperately need in terms of a facility that can hold the capacity of a true 5A school in the state. Do this correctly to give the community something to be proud of instead of two grossly outdated schools and one that is in the opposite direction of the area of growth.

PUBLIC sd25.us

1 It’s time to be fiscally responsible with SD25 $$ and build facilities that represent history and legacy of the school Highland is. Don’t be wasteful like what’s happened with with the ridiculousness that has become Pocatello High school. It’s become the laughingstock and joke of all the surrounding communities when they hear about the wasteful spending SD25 has done there.

2 Seems like chubbuck needs a highschool and a highschool in town - century is pretty far.

3 Create a middle school for 6 graders only with the old highland building and build a new highland high school.

4 I feel like we need another elementary school but not in that area. We need one over in the Chubbuck area to reduce numbers in those schools over that way where all the growth is happening. I would support a bond to build an elementary school in that area.

5 My concern is for my neighbors here in the Highland area. Most of them purchased homes decades ago at much, much, much less than they are valued now. Most of them are living on retirement funds. Adding additional taxes to their budget every month adds up. If they are being charged at what their home is valued at now, they'll end up taxed out of their homes. Yes i know it doesn't sound like much. But considering these homes are valued several hundred thousand dollars, it definitely adds up. I know they have grandchildren and great grandchildren in the district. Yes i know we all have to do our part. But I can't say yes knowing someone that has worked their whole life will have to make sacrifices on an already tight budget.

6 It is well known that Highland has been the "golden child" of high schools for many years particularly relative to Poky High, therefore, I don't think it is right for Highland to be "enhanced" while Poky's enhancements have been getting a big hallway and ADA access. I could support a new higher capacity high school, but would need more information including justifying the very high cost mentioned in the survey.

7 My learner attends century and it has been difficult having virtual learning two days a week. Hard for my learner and hard for me as a single mother juggling the new schedule.

8 I would like to know if a new high school would include all new sports facilities on location. Where would the new location be?

9 One of my students has had multiple daily health issues including: nosebleeds, vertigo, headaches, light sensitivity, and severe congestion flare-ups during classes in the basement level of the current building over the last 3 years. My student has had none of these issues since attending Century's facilities. I feel
that IF the Highland building is continued to be used that mold, mildew and other probable allergens
and hazards be thoroughly inspected, cleaned and/or removed for the sake of the students health,
before it is reopened. The lack of student parking at the current location will need addressed
imminently, as well.

"My husband and I are Highland alumni, along with all our siblings. We love Highland. I want to send our
kids to Highland when they're older.

Century has a new school (at least I consider it new), Poky just got a brand new addition as well as more
parking space.

Highland, on the other hand, burned down and the field across the street, which would've been perfect
for a much needed parking lot, or a great business opportunity for restaurants, is being turned into
apartments which will further congest traffic in an already dangerously congested place.

Highland deserves a new school, a place where there's enough space for all the students to study and
park. I will happily help pay for this to happen and I think many others would as well.

I've been to many schools across the state, many of them smaller schools like Rigby and marsh valley,
which have large band rooms, offices, practice rooms, and a separate room for orchestra. I believe
century has this too if I remember correctly. Highland is also the only high school that cannot fit in their
own auditorium for performances and/or assemblies. I remember many times performing at poky,
century, ISU, or most often just in the cafeteria or gym (which have terrible acoustics). Highland has
needed a bigger auditorium for a long, long time.

Building the school back exactly as it was would be a regrettable missed opportunity to turn this tragedy
into a chance for growth.

Please, I implore you, don't miss this opportunity that we've been given. Let's make lemonade, I truly
believe our community will support you."

TIA BLOOM

I feel bad that the school had a fire. I am not supportive of a bond. Our taxes are already the highest in
the state. While there are other schools in district 25. None of them receive the coddling that highland
does. Highland got a new stadium that was supposed to be for all schools, but that didn't happen. Then
they couldn't use it because of an engineering mistake. Who paid to fix it. Pocatello is not growing at
the rate that the city is showing. I would hope that you would consider our economy and where we are
for jobs before asking the public for more money.

If the School District submits a bond to build a new high school, I think it should be bigger, since we will
probably see an increase in students in the future.

The pocatello school district is sitting on a pile of excess money that should be used prior to any bond
measurements. It's ridiculous to propose taking more money from tax payers when the insurance
money and current funds held by the district should be used to help cover the costs. Only after those
funds are used would I consider supporting a bond.

"We need one mega school that serves ALL high school learners and affords them equal access to all
sports, extracurricular, and special programs. If a student does not have transportation, they should not
be excluded from welding or CNA or police officer programs, etc at the other campuses. This would also
centralize resources and allow for less transportation issues if everyone was going to the same place.

If we want to boost our standards and encourage people to live and stay in Pocatello, we need better
offerings, including top notch school facilities. While I do not want to pay additional tax and my children
have all graduated, I support the future learners of Pocatello and the teachers and staff who should
have the best facilities and resources available to them.

The buildings at Century and Pocatello HSs could easily become junior highs to replace those aging
facilities, and Highland could also replace Franklin (far for the Highland area users) or Gate City which
seems to always be over capacity."

With the allowance of private donations to a specific school, I imagine the support behind Highland
could raise a significant amount of money (ICCU?) instead of putting it on taxes

I think we need to rebuild Highland but also prepare for an additional high school

We need a new school. Our schools are over crowded. I support the decision to build a new high school.

As a student, we need a new school that looks like a 5a schools. We should accept all donations and not
have to share them between the other schools in our school system.

It would help to know the planned enhancements described in option 2 and what the current needs are
for an additional elementary or middle school.

I'd love to see the school district utilize the 23+ acres on the corner of Olympus and Chubbuck Road to
put athletic facilities. A new basketball gym, wrestling room, soccer fields, softball field, tennis courts,
and a swimming pool. The ground was originally intended for a middle school but never happened. No
acquisition costs would be required; just construction costs. Then in the area that needs rebuilt at
Highland along with the tennis court area could be built into a cafeteria, choir room, band room, and
additional parking. Boise High School has their facilities spread out to a couple of different locations
because of land logistics as well. New athletic facilities in that location would be a great continuation of
use from the Portneuf Wellness Complex.

I am a student from Century. Whatever you believe will get Highland back to normal the fastest is my
preference. I would like to have a senior year without a hybrid schedule of any sorts.

I've lived in this area for close to 9 years. My husband and I have 5 kids and recently bought a home so
we can continue to stay here. He is currently finishing a bachelors degree, and plans to enroll in a
masters program by fall. I work full time and often pull overtime every month. Although we would
definitely love a school with more amenities to support it's students, a bond would kill us financially. I
would vote no against any bonds right now. Inflated economies are not the time to push for extra.

Thank you!

I would like to know time line projections for each of these proposed options.

I feel Century is under utilized. We should not build a new high school until all high school are full.
Century has room for hundreds of more kids! I am 100% for boundaries, but they need to be done with
Century in mind and not catered to what Highland wants. If boundaries were readjusted and made
without bias and emotions then the three high schools could support Pocatello learners. Century is a
beautiful school and people need to get over the longer drive it takes to get there. We can’t change its location, we need to embrace it. For the safety of students, the school district should work with the city to put a traffic light at the 5th street freeway exit. This is a death trap waiting to happen! Putting a light there would help parents feel better about letting their kids drive to Century. Before we discuss spending millions of dollars on a new high school or creating a bigger high school, it would be good to let the public know what the capacity each high school can hold and what their current enrollment is.

Let’s repair the school first before drastic means of building a new school are taken. The purchase of Downard Funeral Home this year then asking for a bond would not bode well with the taxpayers.

I would like to see one of the bonds pass with money allocated to a new gym at Century High School that is able to host a high school tournament size crowd.

If we choose to try to bond for a larger school (3rd option), I think we need to look at a school with a student capacity of 2000+ as the community is continuing to grow.

I agree with building new school, Stagger attendance times for 2023-2024 because alternating days does not work well for all students.

I would be 100% against going back to the way Highland was before. It needs to be bigger and better. My only problem is if the tax payers pay for the school then the tax payers own the school not the district. Same as the football fields. We as a community should be able to use them. If the school district wants to say it is theirs then they need to lease the fields and the school back from the tax payer. Why would we give anyone something for free and not be able to use it freely or get somewhat compensated. This is how the world works. I am for a bigger better school so we can always grow together as a community.

"I have a personal and professional opinion about Highland because I am a graduate of Highland and I am an employee there too. The driving situation is not safe for the students. With only one direction to get approximately 800+ student vehicles as well as staff vehicles in and out of the area isn’t the safest situation. IF the vacant property across from the front doors could be acquired, it would make for a great gym (castle shaped even to represent Highland and it’s Scottish tradition), all physical fitness courses, as well as possibly the band and choir, essentially everything we lost in D building except for the cafeteria. A skywalk would need to be built over Bench road to the school so students could cross safely. IF that portion of D building could be moved and more parking added to the student lot, that would help a bit more with the number of cars that don’t have room to park in the student lot. I do feel Bench Road needs to have the closed off access opened up again. I know it will cause more traffic for the neighborhoods below, but again, something needs to be done about there only being one access out of the student parking lot and out of that area, especially with the football field and baseball field both being up there as well as the future new gym, IF Highland stays put.

I have so many memories at Highland, but building a whole new Highland High School seems like the best idea to put versus putting all the money into the rentivations and to rebuild what it needs to be replaced. It seems it would be a smarter option to put it all into a new 5A high school that would meet the needs of every department and activity and not just "'make due'" with what we have. I definitely don't see the benefit of rebuilding everything just how it was since we are already needing more space.
I appreciate you reading my thoughts and opinions for the future of Highland. Best wishes in this decision. I will show up to work wherever my office ends up."

Highland gets spoiled enough. The other schools especially century have done a lot for highland and have gotten almost no recognition. Replace what was damaged but everything else is fine and functioning and should be left as is.

If you want this bill to pass you better figure out how to lower taxes. We pay too much in taxes to have the schools that we currently have.

I feel very strongly that our school district needs to look to the current and future growth of the highland area and build schools to accommodate the increased number of students attending schools in this area. Our kids and teachers deserve better than what we have now, at all levels, from elementary through high school.

I will be attending Highland Highschool starting in 2024. I would love to have a new and better facility.

I loved going to highland and the teachers where amazing but the facilities there made it a little difficult things

Please look forward to what we need as a district. We are growing we need more schools!

Never let a good tragedy go to waste...right?

Highland gets spoiled enough. The other schools especially century have done a lot for highland and have gotten almost no recognition. Replace what was damaged but everything else is fine and functioning and should be left as is.

Not sure you can use the insurance money for anything but to rebuild. Consult the insurance company - not your in-house attorney.

"Please build a new High School. Make it big enough for the growth of the town. Look to the future of Pocatello. I have a daughter that is 24 since she went to Elementary her elementary has been not big enough. Alameda Jr. High need to be closed as well. Make Pocatello HS a Jr High and build a large enough for all of the students and the growth.

I don’t support bonds, use the insurance money and rebuild.

Were there plans or an identified need to expand HHS prior to the fire? The proposals for additional bonds need background, context, and justification.

Maybe a minimal bond will pass. Don’t get stupid like Idaho Falls and try to pass a bond in the 100 million plus range. Won’t happen in this current economy. Our property taxes are already too high.

Would be a waste of time to try. Just get Highland going again before school starts!

Let’s make our schools better!

Cut half of the waste from the individual departments and you would not need a bond.
Time factor for these proposals would also be a factor in my consideration. I have a daughter who will be a freshman at Highland this upcoming school year and want her to be back in a school as soon as possible.

Please preserve the heritage of HHS

1. Does the insurance cover full replacement of what it would cost to rebuild Highland at today’s costs? If not, why not? 2. Why was the school in such disrepair even before the fire, and why was it not maintained properly? Taxpayers need an explanation. 3. The state of Idaho has a surplus of funds. Can some of that be used? 4. Why isn’t the term STUDENT used, instead of Learner? A student is someone who actively Studies, while a Learner would indicate some kind of passive, weak individual who has little motivation. It’s a stupid term, with all due respect.

No more bonds, use the insurance money only!!!

The current economy being in distress, how do you propose Idaho/Pocatello residences be able to support a bond that will require more funds being taken from their monthly income? In 2001 studies show the median household income of Pocatello was around $51,293 and the poverty rate was at 9.1%, in 2023 the current poverty rate is 17.98% with a median household income of 62,916. As a two medium income resident, this bond is unethical. I support reconstructing the damage area’s of Highland High School using insurance funds to do so.

Please build a new school in a much more accessible area.

Social Media

1. I’d love to know where the lottery money goes. It doesn’t seem to help or district or Cassia County at all
2. Option 3 would allow for numerous job opportunities in the community as well as creating a new updated space for an overpacked high school in addition to help with any overcrowding that may be occurring at the middle school grade levels.
3. I would support a larger bond for all schools to be made ADA accessible/compliant too!
4. I think no matter what happens, people do want this to be done quickly. 2 years. So whatever the outcome is, quickness is key.
5. My (busied) MS student at Franklin never made it to school in time to eat breakfast. It was worse once they had to travel clear to Century.
6. I need more information. I support option 1, I *might* support option 2 if I knew more about what it means to ‘enhance’. I actually think it would be a really good idea to rebuild the gym area and make it better BUT ALSO build a performing arts center. I am a HHS Choir alum and we always had to have concerts at Poky because HHS fine arts facilities are not big enough. My kids have participated in choir and their concerts are in the gym. The school district can do better.
7. Highland is too old. Make it a Middle School and build a High School on the land north of Siphon between Philbin and Hawthorn in Chubbuck.
"From what I understand the replacement value funding was under insured for the property/contents of Highland High School. It’s not fair to anyone (staff or students or community) to only rebuild/replace with the valuation of money provided from Insurance leaving Highland with less than they had before. Highland has sat as the "estate home" on hill, neglected and left as is year after year because priorities were placed elsewhere and above the needs of what Highland truly need because of a fairness mentality and equal opportunities touted to be the reason for projects completed at our other two high schools. When the district accepted one million dollars from lookout credit to directly benefit Poky; you no longer get to tout that fair and equal choice based reasoning. Accept and reach out to all alumni asking for contributions and take them when offered/given. This community needs a bigger, better High School comparable to our counter parts and district competitors. Money and rebuild should be prioritized there first and then focus on finding additional space for an elementary school. Both are needed. Your running out of space for everyone at every grade level. You dismissed what could have been several hundred thousand or millions of dollars right after the fire started when you told people not to fundraise because you were confident insurance was adequate."

Grandparent of HHS learners and alumni (both of us) of HHS

Highland is not functional and has not been for years. You can’t just compare Highland to the 4A schools in town. Please compare it to the other schools in their district; Thunder Ridge, Madison, and Rigby. It is time to build them a new school!!

I will help people out

You turned down money from Taysom Hill for $1,000,000. I do not trust this district with any funds. You spent money on Poky that didn’t require a bond. In Highlands case, This was a fire. You need to try to get the money other places. Or get people in there who know how to spend the tax payers money. Right now your administration earns it all. Don’t trust

You already have the funds and the bonds built in right now. I also know you have enough reserves to do #2 right now without additional property taxes.

Graduate of Pocatello High School

Highland was already in desperate need of better facilities. I know there was probably a lot that I didn’t know about, but I was personally very familiar with our theatre facilities. Our stage was barely large enough to effective, we had very limited storage space, no fly system, a very small tech booth with outdated equipment, and limited lighting. As much as we managed to do great things with what we had (winning districts and State, putting on state award-winning productions), what we accomplished is very telling of what we have the potential to do with better facilities. There are definitely other areas of the school (especially C Hall) that were falling apart and moulding with a burst pipe, and several areas where the hallways in passing time had such heavy foot traffic that was overall very congested. I don’t know if this is the type of information you were looking for, but I hope you already aware of a lot of the needs of the students.