

Prospect Charter School



Prospect, Oregon • (541) 560-3653 • prospect_school@prospect.k12.or.us
Daye Stone- Superintendent Greg Bryant- Secondary Principal
Liz Steward- Executive Assistant Sheri Eary- Business/HR Manager

5/5/25

Dear Co-Chairs Girod and Nosse and members of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction:

My name is Daye Stone, the Prospect School District Superintendent, and I am submitting this testimony in strong support of funding through SB 5531 for the purchase and installation of backup generators at the Prospect School District. Total cost of this project is \$74,958.

The Prospect School District serves as more than just a school for our rural and isolated community that is located on the Crater Lake National Highway with its closest neighboring town being over 35 miles away. Our school district is the primary emergency hub, a designated Red Cross Shelter in Place, and a vital resource during crises such as wildfires, severe storms, and power outages. As we've experienced in recent years, particularly during wildfire season, rural communities like ours are increasingly vulnerable to prolonged power outages that disrupt not only education but also access to shelter, medical services, communication, and safety. In the past year, we have lost power nearly 30 times for a variety of reasons.

Currently, the district lacks sufficient backup power to ensure uninterrupted operations during such events. Investing in emergency backup generators will provide critical resilience for the community and our school district. It will ensure the school can continue to serve its emergency role by providing a warm and safe shelter while maintaining refrigerated storage of food and kitchen operations, and supporting emergency coordination efforts.

This funding is not only an investment in infrastructure- it is an investment in the safety, health, and stability of the entire community of Prospect and the surrounding rural area. When power and disaster strikes, the school is looked to as a resource and lifeline for the entire area. Ensuring its readiness with reliable backup power is essential.

I respectfully urge you to support this funding request within SB 5531 and help safeguard our community's capacity to respond and recover when necessary.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Daye Stone
Superintendent
Prospect School District