



PINE EAGLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dear Co-Chairs Senator Fred Girod and Representative Rob Nosse and Members of the Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital Construction.

For the record my name is Cammie deCastro, the Superintendent at the Pine Eagle School District located in Halfway, Baker County, Oregon. I am writing to you today to ask for your support for the Pine Eagle School District Teacher Housing project requesting \$827,000.

Pine Eagle is asking for funding to complete our “shovel-ready” project. The funds would go to build two duplexes on district property for staff housing. The funds will pay for building materials and services. Students in the Pine Eagle Building Trades program, in conjunction with local contractors, will work together to build two duplexes. Each home will be roughly 2,000 square feet of living space to adequately accommodate a family. The Pine Eagle Building Trades program has established industry partnerships with local building contractors, utility providers, plumbers, electricians and other industry professionals. The partnerships entail in-kind services including, but not limited to, student instruction, mentoring, internships, job shadowing, some construction services, and use of equipment.

It is a hardship to find affordable housing for Pine Eagle staff in the school district boundary. Housing values in the area are too expensive for staff to afford, therefore it is difficult to recruit and retain teachers and support staff for the district. The median home price far exceeds the median income for families in the area.

The Pine Eagle School District Staff Housing project is “shovel ready” and has land use approval from the City of Halfway. The Pine Eagle School District Board approved and completed road installation and lot preparation. The sewer, electrical, water, fiber Phone/Fiber conduit installed and road construction built and approved by the City of Halfway Fall of 2024.

Acquiring funding to begin building duplexes on the prepared site is the next step. The Pine Eagle School District asks for your support to fund the Pine Eagle School District Staff Housing project to ensure affordable housing for recruitment and retention of staff to support the education and growth of the Pine Eagle community in the amount of \$876,000.00.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Cammie deCastro

Cammie deCastro
Superintendent
Pine Eagle School District
Halfway, Oregon 97834