



BMCC PENDLETON
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BMCC, Umatilla County Fire District #1 to break ground on fire tower

HERMISTON, Ore. – Blue Mountain Community College will partner with Umatilla County Fire District #1 to break ground on a new fire training tower to support its fire science program on June 29 at 2 p.m. at Fire Station #23 in Hermiston.

The approximately 47% of the \$748,000 training tower is funded by bond dollars approved by voters in May 2015 to enhance BMCC programs. The remaining costs are funded by UCFD. BMCC started a fire science program three years ago, and the tower will allow students access to essential hands-on training. Though located in Hermiston, the tower will benefit students from around BMCC's eastern Oregon district who participate in the fire science program at the College.

BMCC's fire science program prepares students for occupations or advancement in fire suppression, investigation, prevention, public safety education, emergency management, emergency medical and rescue services, hazardous materials technology, wildland fire fighting, college transfer and other educational programs. BMCC offers an Associate of Applied Science degree in Fire Science Technology, as well as numerous certificates for both students who want to enter the fire service and professional firefighters who seek to obtain an AAS degree or meet specific Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) accreditation requirements or meet entry requirements for bachelor degree programs in fire administration.

The public is invited to the groundbreaking ceremony for the fire tower at Fire Station #23, 78760 Westland Road in Hermiston on Thursday, June 29, at 2 p.m.

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