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Governor sees unique partnerships

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

Educators across the country are seeking to operate off a curriculum platform known by the acronym STEAM: Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics. The concept is that integrating these elements helps prepare students for jobs in the 21st-century economy.

Governor Kate Brown saw STEAM-powered education in action at Sisters High School last Friday — delivered by a unique set of community partnerships.

Governor Brown visited the luthier (guitar-building) program housed in the Sisters High School woodshop. The program is a partnership between the school district, Sisters Folk Festival, and Breedlove Guitars.

The luthier program is about much more than simply learning to build a guitar. Students learn computer assisted design (CAD) and hands-on design and building techniques that are

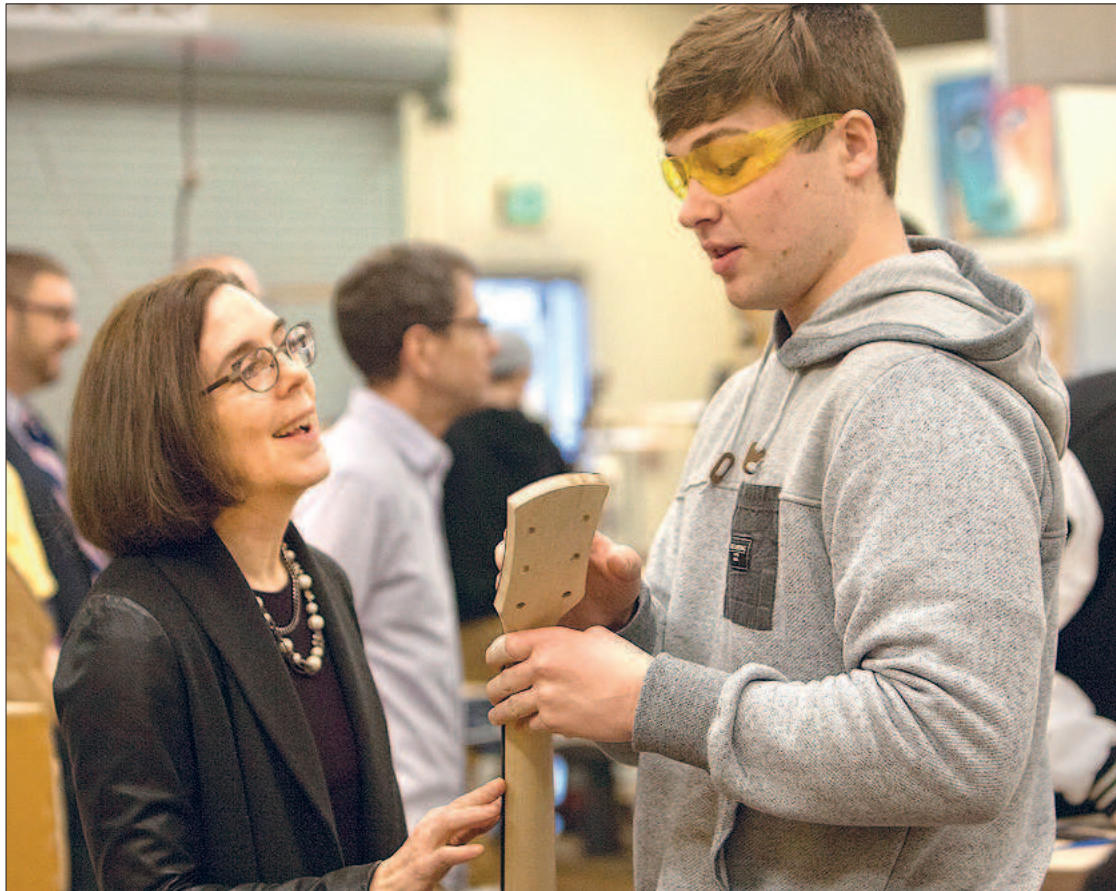


PHOTO BY JAY MATHER

Governor Kate Brown talks with Rory Petterson about his handmade guitar during a visit on Friday.

transferable to other kinds of work. And the class draws interest from students who are on a college-bound academic

track and those who want to go into the trades.

“The goal for me is to improve Oregon’s graduation

rate,” said Governor Brown. “And it’s all about hands-on

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School district seeks \$10.7 million bond

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

The Sisters School District is asking local voters to approve \$10.7 million in bond funding in the May 17 election.

“What we’re trying to do is protect the investment in the school district, in the community, that we already have by doing needed maintenance,” school board chair Don Hedrick told *The Nugget*.

The bond will fund safety and security upgrades; athletic facilities repairs and improvements; heating and air conditioning plant; site improvements, including high school roof repair; and pay off the district’s full faith and credit obligations.

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At least a week before action on manager

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

It will be at least another week before the City of Sisters is able to determine a course of action in handling workplace issues raised by some employees regarding City Manager Andrew Gorayeb.

Mayor Chris Frye told *The Nugget* he expects to receive the report this week from an independent investigation into the employee complaints. The council will likely review the report in executive session some time next week. The review

timeline is complicated by the fact that Councilor Nancy Connolly is currently out of the country, and her participation in the process will have to be via a scheduled conference call.

Frye could not say for certain when an executive session could be scheduled, because it will be dependent on coordinating with Connolly. It appears unlikely that action will be taken immediately upon review of the report.

“It’ll depend on what’s in the report,” said Frye. “Then

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On the border with Warfighters

By Craig Rullman
Correspondent

Brett Miller of Sisters, founder of the highly successful nonprofit Warfighter Outfitters, recently led a group of wounded veterans on a four-day “engagement mission” to Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument.

The veterans, who assembled in Ajo, Arizona — from Georgia, Idaho, Louisiana, Oregon, and California — were partnered with agents from the U.S. Border Patrol, the National Park Service, and full-time Park Service volunteers, to dismantle smuggling sites, to improve and rehabilitate landmark sites, and to learn first-hand the



PHOTO BY CRAIG RULLMAN

Brett Miller (kneeling, left) led a Warfighter Outfitters engagement mission of veterans to the Mexican border.

hard realities of daily life on the remote southern border.

Miller founded Warfighter Outfitters after being seriously wounded by an IED attack during a 2005 tour in

Iraq. He spent the next three years as an in-patient, two more years as an outpatient, has endured seven surgeries,

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