

Schools Update: School Project Receives Award

By Dr. Ken Cox
Superintendent, Vernonia School District

Recently I was privileged to accept the 2013 Daily Journal of Commerce Newsmakers Award on behalf of the Vernonia K-12 School Project. In attendance at the luncheon were Chris Linn and Jim Harold from Boora Architects, Steve Anderson, Kevin McCall and others from P&C Construction, Dewayne Cowles of

Vernonia representing one of the subcontractors on the project, and John Donovan and Eric Block from The Metropolitan Group. In addition, Tom Kelly, Co-Chair of the Vernonia Catalyst Campaign Committee, which has done so much to help with fundraising for our project and Tony Hyde, Columbia County Commissioner, also a member of the Catalyst Campaign Committee and Co-Chair (along with Tom) of the Vernonia Oregon Solutions project were able to attend.

Our project was one of 15 firms or individuals who received the award for having played a significant role in the region’s building industry. I spoke with DJC representatives last month and here is what they told me about the award:

“For more than 140 years, the Daily Journal of Commerce has served as the area’s main resource for news about the building industry in Portland, Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. A few years ago, we began honoring Newsmakers on an annual basis. In our selection process, we look for companies, individuals and organizations that have recently played – or are expected to play – a significant role in the region’s building industry. This year, we decided to break with tradition and include your district’s school project as a way to honor the district, the city, the project team and the entire community of Vernonia for a group effort in rebuilding the community’s school.

“The Vernonia K-12 School has been on our radar as qualifying as a Newsmaker for several reasons.

- The project created desperately needed jobs for the local construction industry.

- It helped set new standards in sustainable design for educational facilities.
 - Even more compelling of a reason, though, was the opportunity to recognize the tenacity, dedication and efforts of your school district, the government leaders of Vernonia, the students who attend the school, the citizens of Vernonia, and the construction, architecture and engineering firms who all worked together to create something that more than just a “bricks-and-mortar” structure.
- “In order to simplify the award presentations, we identified the Vernonia School District and the City of Vernonia as the recipient representatives. However, the purpose of the award is to pay tribute to all of those gave their time, skills and talents to create the new Vernonia K-12 School.”

I would like to once again express my appreciation to all of those companies, firms and individuals who have made, and are still making, our school something that we can all be proud of.



Check out our new website
www.vernoniasvoice.com
Like us on facebook!

Vernonia Students of the Month

February 2013



Leila Louchart, Kindergarten

Leila is a very responsible and respectful student who always follows the rules. She is a hard worker and is always willing to help others. Her teacher says she is an “all around great kid!” Leila says her favorite subject is Art. She says when she is at home she likes to paint.

Grace Coleman, Grade 8

Grace is known as a kind and compassionate student who is always willing to help others. She is a hard worker who always puts forth her best effort and consistently has a positive attitude. Grace says her favorite subject is Language Arts. She played volleyball and is running track this spring. She plays flute in the band. Grace says she likes to read in her spare time and helps out around the house with her siblings and helps her dad in the yard.



Hanna Farsch, Grade 11

Hanna is a foreign exchange student from Germany. Hanna is always willing to volunteer for activities. She helped wrap presents for Toy and Joy and helps at the Christian Church with childcare, youth group and with the Fall Carnival. At school she bakes her famous Lemonade Muffins to raise money for the senior trip and recently helped with the track team car wash. She is also a kindergarten teacher’s aid at school. Hanna says her favorite class is Art. She ran Cross Country, is a cheerleader and will try either track or softball. She plays the bass drum in the band. A lifeguard in Germany, Hanna goes swimming once a week. At home she enjoys caring for her dog, cat and especially her chickens because she likes getting the eggs.

Sponsored by State Senator Betsy Johnson

VSD Volunteers Wanted!

The Vernonia Schools are lucky to have dedicated volunteers. Our volunteers work in classrooms, chaperone field trips, help with band and robotics and so much more. All volunteers complete a criminal background check before starting and renew the check every three years.

- Current Volunteer opportunities available:**
- Breakfast Buddy - 7:30am - 8:00am once each week
 - Lunch Buddy - 10:45am - 11:30am once each week
 - Classroom help - grades K - 5, hours vary
 - Sustainability Days - help weed, plant, and clean during day-long project
 - Career Class Guest Speakers

For more information, please contact:
Vernonia School District Office at 503-429-1333

SCHOOL DISTRICTS SEEK TO IDENTIFY UNSERVED CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

The Northwest Regional Education Service District (NWRES D) and Columbia County local school districts seek assistance in locating children with disabilities (birth through age 21) who have not graduated from high school and currently are not attending nor receiving other special education services from public schools.

Oregon and federal law mandate appropriate educational services for children with disabilities. The NWRES D provides educational services for eligible children from birth to kindergarten. Local school districts provide educational programs and services for children from kindergarten through high school. These services are provided as appropriate to each child’s needs and disability.

Parents, guardians or others who know of a child (age five through 21*) with a disability who is not currently receiving educational services are asked to notify the special education contact person in the child’s home district (see below).

DISTRICT	SPECIAL EDUCATION CONTACT	PHONE
Clatskanie SD	Laney Coulter	503-728-0587 x2001
Rainier SD	Laurie Kash	503-556-9120
Scappoose SD	Mike Judah	503-543-6374
St Helens SD	Mary Mitchell	503-366-7230
Vernonia SD	James Brookins	503-429-0487

For children younger than kindergarten age, please call the NWRES D Columbia Service Center at 503-366-4100.

LOS DISTRITOS ESCOLARES BUSCAN IDENTIFICAR A LOS NIÑOS CON DISCAPACIDADES QUE NO SE ENCUENTREN RECIBIENDO SERVICIOS

El Distrito de Servicio Educativo de la Región Noroeste (NWRES D) y los distritos escolares del Condado de Columbia desean ayudar a ubicar a niños con discapacidades (desde recién nacidos hasta la edad de 21 años) que no se hayan graduado de la preparatoria (educación media superior) y que actualmente no se encuentren recibiendo otros servicios de educación especial en las escuelas públicas.

La Ley de Oregon y la Ley Federal ordenan que se provea servicios educativos apropiados para niños con discapacidades. NWRES D proporciona dichos servicios para los niños que sean elegibles. Los distritos escolares locales proveen programas educativos y servicios para los niños elegibles desde el kindergarten hasta la Enseñanza Media Superior (Preparatoria). Estos servicios son proporcionados de acuerdo con las necesidades de cada niño y su discapacidad.

Se solicita a los padres, tutores legales, u otras personas que conocen a algún niño (en edad de cinco a 21 años) con alguna discapacidad y que no se encuentre recibiendo servicios educativos, que contacten al distrito escolar de su localidad (abajo enlistados).

DISTRITO	CONTACTO	TELEFONO
Clatskanie SD	Laney Coulter	503-728-0587 x2001
Rainier SD	Laurie Kash	503-556-9120
Scappoose SD	Mike Judah	503-543-6374
St Helens SD	Mary Mitchell	503-366-7230
Vernonia SD	James Brookins	503-429-0487

Para niños menores de cinco años, favor de comunicarse al 503-366-4100 de NWRES D.

Open Gym Adult Basketball

Vernonia High School gym will be available to all adults interested in playing pick-up basketball games or just shooting around.

Sunday nights
7-8:30 pm
No charge

For more information contact
Aaron Miller 503-429-1333