

SHAM ...

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Micro Tier I production sites may have a maximum of 625 square feet of canopy for an indoor grow and 2,500 square feet of canopy for an outdoor grow. Micro Tier II production sites may have 626 to 1,250 square feet of canopy for an indoor grow and 2,501 to 5,000 square feet of canopy for an outdoor grow. For reference, 5,000

square feet is 2.3 percent of the total square footage of 5.01 acres.

The regulations don't apply to medical grow sites but, because of changes at the state level, such sites can have no more than 12 mature plants, in most circumstances related to RR land, at a time.

The ordinance's final deliberations resulted in a handful of changes. The previous iteration planned to prohibit the sustained generation of mechanical

noise at night to 30 decibels, measured from the property line, but was raised to 50 decibels after the commissioners realized that 30 decibels is the volume of a whisper. Legal operating hours were also redefined. The hours are now 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. rather than dawn to dusk.

The annual Compliance Inspection Certification process was the primary point of contention during the final proceedings because

of its potential illegality under state law. ORS 475B.345(1) mandates that no entity other than the state legislation may levy a tax or fee on cannabis, aside from the three percent local sales tax which can be enacted at the discretion of the voters. The commissioners, after realizing that the state is giving the county cannabis tax dollars and that the county is using those dollars for additional code enforcement personnel

who will be performing the inspections, vowed to eliminate the fee. The fee's formula, which was not outlined in the ordinance itself, ran as high as \$500.

"I wanted to approve this last week but I'm thankful that Commissioner Morgan stepped up and stopped the process," DeYoung said, insinuating that the changes were necessary and for the better.

GRADE ...

Continued from A-1

Another readiness effort is the Kaleidoscope Play and Learn program, now in its second full year at Evergreen, which offers weekly, facilitated play groups for young children and their parents and other caregivers, such as extended family. Through guidance and modeling, conversation, peer learning, and hands-on experience, caregivers learn what they can do at home to support children's learning and healthy development. But the program is able to serve only nine to 12 kids weekly.

"It's a piece of the puzzle," said Regal, while noting its limitation due to the large number of persons -- among children, parents and extended family -- that must be accommodated in a limited space.

And last year Evergreen started a new, two-afternoon-a-week program for incoming kindergarteners, called Kinder Bound.

But still, according to Regal, the school is not able to reach all the kids who need help. "I would like to have a preschool on our property. But it all comes down to dollars and cents."

For those children who are not school-ready, Evergreen staff is faced with the challenge of teaching such considerations as how to follow directions, how to act with their classmates, and so on. "There's a lot

of modeling, teaching, practicing, over and over again, that we have to do," said Regal.

As with all three of the Illinois Valley schools, chronic absenteeism, defined as missing 10 percent or more of school days, is a serious problem at Evergreen. In a school year of 176 days, 10 percent of classes equates to roughly 18 missed days. Last year, 34.8 percent of Evergreen students were chronically absent.

Regal said that now, as part of a Three-Rivers-School-District-wide effort, a software program automatically generates letters on a weekly basis to parents or other caregivers when a student misses school. On a daily basis, phone calls are generated automatically when a student fails to show. If a child continues as a no-show by about day three, then office staff will follow up with a personal phone to check on the situation. By state law, added Regal, any child who misses four school days in a month automatically receives a letter of truancy, though unlike in days gone by, there are no longer any truancy officers. "But," said Regal, "we're working our butts off to get those kids back in school."

"After about the third letter," said Regal, "I set up a meeting with the parent to try and come up with a game plan. Sometimes it's as simple as they need an alarm clock. There's always a different situation with each parent, and we try to figure out how

to support them."

Regal added that students who miss many days of school are not only missing crucial lessons for success in elementary school, but lessons that can determine all of their future academic success.

"Studies show that if kids are reading at third grade level by the end of third grade, they will graduate from high school. If kids understand fifth grade math by the end of fifth grade, they have a better chance of graduating from high school."

Our conversation then turned to the new emphasis in teaching, focused on critical thinking, and embodied in the Common Core standards that have been adopted by almost all the states, including Oregon.

"It's different from when I was in school and you had to memorize stuff," said Regal. "Now what we are teaching kids in Envisions, our math curriculum, is that there are multiple ways to solve a problem. The kids have to choose the solution that fits best with the way their brains work."

Evergreen offers a variety of academic and enrichment programming for students.

In math, there are daily hour long grade level sessions, and then a half hour of what the school calls Double Dose math sessions, when kids get remedial help, or math enrichment, based on their needs. In reading, there are hour regular sessions, then a half hour of small

group instruction, and then a half hour Double Dose session in reading.

Every day there are what the school calls Specials, which is a rotation among computer lab, library and physical education, depending upon the day. Then there is Theme Time," a 40-minute period at the end of every day when there is a teacher's choice among such 'themes' as art, science, social studies, etc."

There is also emotional support for students - Options for Southern Oregon, a mental health organization, comes in and provides either therapy or emotional skills training to a current case load of 50 students. Regal said that his kindergarten and first grade teachers have all taken training on the PAX Good Behavior game, which helps reduce student problematic behavior.

Regal added that he will do home visits, including conducting parent-teacher conferences at a students' homes. He and his office manager will often drive a sick kid home.

"As principal you're the advocate and support system for parents, kids and staff."

"Our staff is like a family," he added. "We are all there for tough times and good times. We stick together. We support each other. The reason we got into this because we love and are passionate about kids."

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- Granny Smith Apples: \$1.29 lb. (Reg. \$1.89 lb.)

Meat

- Country Natural Prime Rib Roast: An all natural beef. \$12.99 lb. (Reg. \$16.99 lb.)
- Organic Prairie Summer Sausage: All 3 flavors. \$11.99 pkg. (Reg. \$13.79 pkg.)

Wines

- St. Christopher Gluhwein Christmas Wine: \$6.79 ea. (Reg. \$7.99 ea.)
- Chaucer's Sparkling Mead: \$8.19 ea. (Reg. \$9.59 ea.)

Produce

- Garnet & Jewel Yams: \$1.09 lb. (Reg. \$1.59 lb.)
- Beets (single): Local Oregon Farm. \$1.09 lb. (Reg. \$1.69 lb.)
- Medjool Dates: 1 lb. \$6.59 ea. (Reg. \$8.39 ea.)
- Sunview Organic Raisins: \$3.59 ea. (Reg. \$5.29 ea.)

Cheese

- Belflore Feta In Brine: 12 oz. \$3.89 ea. (Reg. \$4.79 ea.)
- Organic Wildwood Tofu: High protein. 16 oz. \$3.09 ea. (Reg. \$3.79 ea.)
- California Premium Mozzarella and Cheddar: 16 oz. \$4.99 ea. (Reg. \$5.39 ea.)

Groceries

- Asstd. Imagine Organic Broths: \$2.29 ea. (Reg. \$4.19)
- Field Day Green Beans & Sweet Corn: \$1.79 ea. (Reg. \$2.69)
- Asstd. Bob's Red Mill Natural Flour: \$2.99 ea. (Reg. \$4.49)
- Wholesome Organic Candy Canes: \$3.29 ea. (Reg. \$4.39)

Deli

- Grill Menu: Grilled Ham & Cheese Sandwich: Your choice of bread & cheese. With a side. \$3.99 ea. (Reg. \$4.99)
- Salad Case: Slice of Heaven Bakery Asstd. Pies: Apple, pumpkin or berry. \$12.99 ea. (Reg. \$15.99)
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