

High school names new vice principal

The new Sandy High School vice principal promises "to bring a lot of positive energy to a nice place."

John McMahan, 32, began planning this week for the upcoming school year and his duties which will include discipline, counseling and moving to decrease the school's absenteeism rate.

Discipline, he said, will not be an arbitrary measure. "I plan to listen and try to understand, but I plan to be firm," he said.

McMahan comes to Sandy High School with a master's degree in counseling and earlier degrees in anthropology and business. Last year he was the

pupil — personnel coordinator at Madison High School in Portland. Before that he spent five years at Portland's Metropolitan Learning Center as a teacher-counselor.

That experience provided him a wealth of background for his new position. MLC is the oldest alternative school on the west coast, he said, and afforded him the opportunity to work with students from kindergarten to 12th grade.

One problem he plans to attack is the number of students who hang out on Hood Street near the high school during school hours.

"I plan to be a very visible person," McMahan said. "I

plan to be out and about and I will be confronting the people on Hood Street. Hopefully, it won't be in a threatening way."

The students on the periphery who aren't involved in the regular school functions, he said, "often need communication. They're often lonely." In some cases, he plans to offer the students counseling from agencies available to the area. He also plans to utilize the school's counseling center.

He is not coming to Sandy with a formulated plan for handling his position. He will wait, he said, until he is familiar with the school, community and its needs.

"As I see needs then I can suggest programs and contribute what I can contribute," McMahan explained.

To combat absenteeism, he plans contact. That will come at the first level with direct contact with the students and teachers. At the secondary level, there will be parent

contacts.

McMahan is thinking about hiring a support to contact the parents between the hours of 5 and 8 p.m. This is not just for punitive measures. "Our job is to make sure people graduate," he said.

"I like meeting with people. That's why I'm in this occupation," he said.

McMahan plans to move to Sandy with his wife and two sons as soon as he can find a place to live.

Thursday, Aug. 2

The Clackamas County Library Bookmobile will be at Firwood School from 9:30 to 11 a.m.; at Brightwood Store from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and at Hoodland Plaza in Welches from 2 to 4 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 4

The Clackamas County Library Bookmobile will be at Zigzag Inn from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.; at Aims Community Church from

12:15 to 1:30 p.m., and at Dodge Park from 2 to 4 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 5

The annual Chapel of the Hills picnic will be held at Wildwood Park at 1 p.m. following church services at 11 a.m. Participants are asked to bring their own picnic lunch.

Monday, Aug. 6

The Sandy City Council meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Rainbow Girls meet at the Masonic Hall at 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 7

Sandy Chamber of Commerce meets at noon at TJ's Restaurant.

Wednesday, Aug. 8

Sandy Area Merchants meet at 7 a.m. at TJ's

Restaurant.

The Sandy TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Club meets at 9 a.m. and 6:45 p.m. in the Community Action Center. For more information on the morning club, contact Shirley Reed at 668-5338. For more information on the evening club, contact Ginny Rada at 668-7348.

Thursday, Aug. 9

The Cottrell School Board meets at 8 p.m. in the East Building. The board will meet the second Tuesday of each month throughout the school year.

Eastern Star meets at the Masonic Hall at 8 p.m.

The Golden Age Club will hold their semimonthly potluck luncheon at the Sandy Senior Center at noon.

Job finder sees much potential

Working as a job placement specialist is like working on a crossword puzzle, according to Lillian Dilling.

"I try to match the right student to the right job," said Dilling, who is in charge of the Oregon State Employment Division office at Mt. Hood Community College.

The 2-year-old office, located in a room adjacent to the financial aid office on the Gresham campus, is an outreach of the Oregon State Employment Division in Gresham.

Dilling interviewed more than 2,000 students and placed approximately 500 of

them in jobs last year. She also handled about 1,400 requests from employers seeking someone to fill a position.

"It's a busy office, but there is so much more potential," said Dilling, a 17-year veteran of the employment division.

She said the problem is a lack of knowledge on the part of students and employers. "They don't know about us out there."

Dilling's services are free to prospective employees and employers. Her work isn't limited to MHCC students.

Dilling prescreens job applicants and recruits on

campus by posting jobs on a community bulletin board. She also contacts college instructors and provides announcements which are broadcast hourly over the campus radio station.

"In addition, employers may come here any time and use our facilities for interviewing," the Gresham resident said.

Dilling counsels students on how to prepare for job interviews. She also learns about the skills, education and interests of applicants, and sometimes calls employers to try to develop

"I often have good success — especially with the federal

government," she said.

Dilling provides career counseling when asked.

"Lots of students come in here and ask what to take in school," she said. "I try to tell them what the labor market is like, as well as the latest job information."

Dilling places students in both full- and part time jobs. She also has assisted MHCC graduates in finding work in other parts of the country.

"I have job information for all over the United States," she said.

The job placement office is open five days a week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Appointments are not necessary. For more information call 667-7241

668-6446 668-6338

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Keeping Posted

Book offers outline on organic gardening

"The Prosperous Gardener" by James Jankowiak is among the new books at the Sandy Public Library. The book is an accumulation of Jankowiak's 20 years of gardening and is written, as he says, "as if we were leaning on our hoes in the late afternoon sunlight talking about the best gardening possible."

The book is written for the beginner and expert alike, according to Librarian Sue Newlands. It clearly and concisely outlines the

principles of organic gardening.

Other new books include "A Dancer's World" by Margot Fonteyn, "Gestures" by Desmond Morris and "The Wonder Of It All" by Jeanne Logue.

New juvenile and easy books include "Steve Garvey: The Bat Boy Who Became a Star" by George Vass, "Masks Around the World" by Shaaron Cosner and "I Can Read About Trucks and Cars" by Norman Olson.

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