

Letters to the editor

# Sandy Elementary budget cut to limit

As a parent and former president of B.M.A.C., I would like to see our elementary school budget passed and our schools opened.

Our children are losing valuable educational time. We may lose some excellent teachers during our school closure. Think of the price we are paying while the schools are closed.

Do you know what it costs us in taxes for each election and the costs of school closure? If not, call on Mr. Lund at the elementary school office. I feel this budget has been cut as far as possible. Any further cuts will inflict further pain on our children and our community.

Also, our school closure closed our swimming pool. Our B.M.A.C. team not only lost a coach, we lost our swimming pool. We have some very good swimmers and a lot of new swimmers who have formulated high goals for themselves. These swimmers would like your support. Help them achieve their goals by giving them back their pool. The Sandy High School swim team is also closed out of our pool, as well as our community. This does not leave much open for recreation.

I want to thank Ron Johnson, the director of the Barlow pool, and the Mt. Hood Swim Team, for sharing their pool with us. Also, thanks to Michelle Abma and Terri Dennett for becoming our coaches.

Please help the children in our community and in turn our total community. Vote yes of Dec. 3.

Sue Hanson  
Sandy

I believe in good education for kids and I also believe they would be better off if we went back to the basics of reading, writing and arithmetic.

More than once I have heard college athletes get in front of a microphone to tell about the game and all they can say is "you know — you know."

No I don't know. Where is their education except to kick, throw, or run with a ball.

Oh yes, there are also some who can tell you how not to get caught smoking pot in school.

Parents, give your kids some responsibility.

Betty Timblin  
Sandy

## Other states find a way

I, like many other Oregonians, have done nothing but complain about high taxes for years and years. I now realize that complaining gets nothing accomplished. Our taxes are too high but it is unfair to punish our children because we, as citizens, are too lazy to fight to have the system changed.

We are the only state in the union that can vote to close our schools — We keep voting this way because we feel someone in the state government will hear our plea and change things.

I feel it is now time to face facts — the kids suffer and the government does nothing.

The legislature says our system is fair and just, so they will do nothing to change the constitution. How they come to this conclusion I have no idea — the system is not fair when even one child is denied basic education. One person cannot make a difference but if we all band together, WE CAN — Why doesn't Governor Atiyeh take time to find out how 49 states keep their schools open instead of traveling around the world — No one is going to bring a business into a state if their kids won't be given a good education!

The lottery moeny, for example, is to be used for economic development — you cannot develop an economy until there is a reason for people to come into the state — Again I emphasize that no one is going to come to a state that has the threat of no education.

I don't pretend to have all the answers. I do know, however, that something has to be done.

I have talked to many people since our schools were closed in Sandy — State Superintendent Mr. Duncan says it is all our faults as Oregonians. The legislature says the constitution cannot be changed until the system breaks down. The governor's office wouldn't even talk to me.

I am waiting to hear back from my state senator and my state representative. I am asking you as citizens not to punish our children any further — don't just keep fighting the system by voting NO — Write the governor — Write your congressmen — let them know how you feel and that you don't just want lower taxes — you want your kids educated.

There has to be a way to do it — 49 states do — we can too! If these people won't listen, get them out of office — don't stop with one letter — make a difference — We can do it if we band together.

Kathi Snyder  
Boring

## School officials cause of closure

The budget failures of the past did not all fail because of money. But also due to poor public relations on the part of the school district. The arrogance when their "holy budget" is questioned is most irritating and unfortunately always characteristic of the school district.

The perception is that those who run the school district are the "Spanish dons"; while the people are the "peons," who are expected to stay in line, keep quiet and do as they are told.

On the contrary, the school district exists for the purpose of a service to the children of that district, and the voters PAY THE BILLS. If there are areas in the budget which have a "legitimate" high cost then it would be a good idea to isolate these areas when communicating with the people. Convince the voters that the money is well spent, and they're just not gouging the taxpayer.

Please don't bore us with more threats of school closures or fears of a lesser education for our students. It wasn't that long ago when our precious educators had to reverse their own ideas about teaching methods, and I remember the skepticism on the part of the people concerning those new methods. But no, the "experts" knew better.

So let's stop acting like "King Tut" and that the people don't count. They proved at the last vote how much they do count.

Ralph A. Sandercock Jr.  
Sandy

## First of all, get kids in school

Sandy is at a crossroad. Voters have an important decision to make Dec. 3 that will affect over 1,400 grade school youngsters. The problem is complex and we cannot look for an easy solution. We understand the frustrations that taxpayers are feeling, however at this point we feel the important issue is to vote yes to get the children back into school.

The next important step is not to become complacent but commit ourselves to become better informed by studying our school budget and talking with board members and school administrators. These people have an enormous job which affects all our children. Offer them your ideas.

We have spent many hours exploring the budget and trying to understand Oregon's education system. The fact is most people can't or don't attend school board meetings, however their vote is important. One suggestion we have is for flyers to be sent to all voters asking for their input. The flyers should include: (A) a simplified school budget for the previous year and proposed budget printed side by side for comparison, (B) simple questions as to why they voted yes or no previously and, (C) space for suggestions. If flyers gather enough public opinion the board would be better able to draft a budget for the next year representing the majority of voters' wishes for our school district.

Raised in Iowa, Oregon's method for funding education astounds us. Iowa funded basic education for every student with local voters involved only for building new schools. We feel an in-depth study of how other states fund schools would be appropriate at the state legislative level.

Locally we feel it would be worthwhile to again look at combining the elementary and high school districts into one with perhaps seven board members instead of five. There should be some savings in having one administrative office instead of two. Time could be saved with fewer board meetings and elections.

We can be models for our children at this time in how to respond in times of trouble. Please support their education then work to make the system better.

Matthew and Barbara Sah  
Sandy

## Schools need lottery money

I am writing this letter as the concerned parent of a student in the San-

dy Elementary School District. Our school has been closed since Nov. 7 because the people of our district are tired of the state, or county, or city wanting to raise the property taxes all the time for our schools. I'm sure the people in other districts feel the same way about rising property taxes.

I feel that we should use the proceeds of our state lottery to fund our schools. In order to do this, the matter would have to go before the voters. I feel that the money spent for more business would not benefit our state in the long run. If our children do not get the education they deserve and need how will they get jobs in these businesses? After all doesn't the future of our state lie in our children? What kind of a future can we look forward to if our children are not properly educated?

I urge the people to write to your district representative and the district senators to see if we can get this matter taken care of!

Mrs. Wendy M. Walker  
Sandy

## Suggestions for saving money

People are voting against the budget for no other reason than the tight financial bind we are all in. They remember the large increase in their taxes when the high school budget passed. I think there are many ways the schools could raise some small part of their operating expense. A few suggestions:

1. Don't throw away the books that are being cleaned out of the shelves, have a book sale at the school open to

the public, the money to help offset some of the expense for new ones.

2. The same could apply to athletic equipment, etc.

3. Charge small user fees for use of the building.

4. Instead of cutting the programs out for activities, sports, drama, music, etc., a small users fee to offset the cost of these expendable programs. For instance in some Portland Public Parks programs there is a one-time fee of \$30 plus \$10 a month.

5. A rental fee on costumes, athletic gear and sweats, even a small transportation fee to away meets. The fees would help offset some of the replacement costs. The bus fare would help pay for the gas.

These are the kinds of changes taxpayers are waiting to see. I don't believe most people want to see teachers' salaries cut, teachers out of work, programs eliminated, or schools closed. There does need to be an explanation of why we need so many chiefs, what their function is and if they could be as efficiently taken care of by fewer personnel at that level.

Mrs. Caren Topliff  
Sandy

## 'No' voters don't hate kids

Common belief seems to be that we who vote no on the school ballot hate kids. This is not so.

We who are on low income or a fixed income have a choice to make. We can either buy fuel for the winter and pay our electric bill, or we can vote for higher taxes. Unfortunately we cannot have both.

We have put our kids through school and we know pretty well what it is all about. It is a hard struggle.

We have spent our lives working to pay for a home, and with taxes rising every year, many lose their homes only to go on welfare. So where are we?

## Student honored for ability to write

Debra Lamm of Sandy High School has been cited for outstanding performance in writing. The National Council of Teachers of English has named her a winner of a 1985 NCTE Achievement Award in Writing.



Debra Lamm

Over 6,000 students were nominated last January by their English teachers for the NCTE Achievement Awards in Writing. Each nominee submitted a sample of his best writing and an impromptu essay. These compositions were evaluated by state judging teams of both high school and college teachers. The approximately 850 finalists selected each year represent high schools in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and American Schools Abroad. The number of possible winners for each state is keyed to state population.

The Council recommends those cited, now seniors, for college scholarships in 1986 should they need such assistance. Names of the students are sent to admissions officers and English department chairmen at two- and four-year colleges and universities.

The National Council of Teachers of English is a professional organization of individuals and institutional members at all levels of instruction. Its goal is to increase the effectiveness of the teaching of English

language and literature in the nation's schools and colleges. NCTE furnishes such teaching aids as books and recordings, and publishes several professional journals, among them College English and English Journal."

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DR. HYLAND SPEAKS TO YOU ABOUT HEALTH:  
NEEDLESS MIGRAINE SUFFERING IS WITHOUT REASON

In almost all cases, there is a formula for getting out of trouble and staying clear. It's true with the body's health, just as it is with problems which plague the nation, such as migraine headaches.

NERVES IMPORTANT

For example, sensible eating habits, enough rest and good living conditions are necessary to health and happiness. But there are too many who do not realize that the nerves in the spinal column mean life and death, sickness and health. It is not romantic to think about because illness never is, and yet, good nerve condition is just as necessary as food, water and shelter. The relief of headache through the use of deadening drugs is, at best, a temporary measure - these drugs relieve pain temporarily, but that's all they'll do.

CAUSE OF HEADACHES

The cause of most headaches including migraine, has been demonstrated as a nerve pressure problem in countless cases, and the proof is in those instances where relief has been brought about permanently. In these cases, the unique hollow

Dr. George Hyland

bones of the spinal column have been found to be out of place, and the nerves within their protective centers have been pinched and the brain began to ache in protest.

RELIEF AVAILABLE

Some patients have been given relief immediately through chiropractic care, while in others it takes longer before the pinched nerves can regain full normal function.

The important thing to remember about Chiropractic, is to seek competent chiropractic care for the problem. Needless suffering is without reason. And there is no better example than the suffering brought on by migraine.

Do You Have Questions About Chiropractic Care? Stop In And Let Dr. Hyland Explain His Care Method. It's Complimentary, Of Course!

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