

SCHOOL,

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In addition to the sadness we are seeing in our students faces, we are seeing them disengage in what should be the best years of their lives. Whether we blame that on technology or not, disengagement is a serious issue. It fosters a lack of ownership, self-worth and the feelings of acceptance. I am seeing students work less towards something they once enjoyed, and harder to find more excuses to fail than to succeed. We are losing our children's interest in education, we are pushing them down a tunnel that only earns them adulthood, without feeling and living the joys of childhood. We have lost the importance of knowing what is developmentally appropriate for children.

We need to take a deep look at what is preventing student investment. We need to talk to those on the ground level, students and parents, they are the experts. We need to build on their passions, and investments and create environments everyone wants to be in. Creativity doesn't have to cost money, it may just require thoughtful listening and adjustment.

CL: The school board has one employee and that is the Superintendent, Christy Perry. Mrs. Perry has demonstrated the willingness and ability to address the major issues facing our District and students. It is important for the Board to monitor her performance on critical issues and support her where appropriate. The other

main function of the Board is passing a budget that reflects the needs of our students and employees in an equitable manner. At the end of the day, the Board needs to take an active role in lobbying the legislature for complete funding of our schools. Current funding is not even close to providing the resources that our students need and deserve. My

“The Board needs to take an active role in lobbying the Legislature for complete funding of our schools.”

— Chuck Lee



experience and contacts at the legislature make me the legitimate and best candidate for this position.

KT: Given all the improvements coming to the district in the near future, what do you hope to accomplish in the oversight role the board will have?

DB: We can look at the opportunities we have at our ready and find new ways to get access to students across the district to those oppor-

tunities. I would like to look at creating a new path of access for students to reach out and gain CTE skills, and not have to transfer from their home school. We have done an excellent job as a community supporting CTEC, now we need to find a way to broaden the access to what we already have in place. I know firsthand what it looks like in the job market today, I work with hundreds of local businesses who are begging for access to young, capable minds, who present well with a base set of skills.

CL: During the past two bond measures I was the lead Board member on the campaigns. I helped raise over \$200,000 for both successful campaigns. I advocated for keeping Keizer kids at McNary rather than opening a new school. Instead, we will

be increasing the capacity at McNary. I was pleased that we were able to negotiate a win-win with St. Edward [Catholic Church] for the needed additional land needed for expansion while giving St. Edward funds to meet some of their needs. I have been invited to attend the first meeting with contractors on March 15 at McNary to get updated on the project. In the next four years, I am committed to transparent and responsible oversight of the 2018 bond measure; providing the fiscal and policy leadership to give students hands-on integrated learning opportunities that blend academic, professional and technical skills.

KT: What issues, if any, would you like to see the school board address with greater urgency in the next four years?

DB: I want to look long and hard at the impacts of mental illness in our schools, identify what is missing and charge after solutions. I want to work within our communities to bring parents, neighbors and professionals to the forefront to solve the tragedies we are seeing far too often.

I would like the board to take a deep long look at the behavior issues we have within every building in our district. I want to review the policy and hand tying that has been done to prevent our spaces from being safe for all children to be successful/happy learners in. I would like to see a task force developed community-wide to take on both of these major issues, and

if necessary, work with state level leaders to undo policies or develop policies that give the professionals in our buildings the tools they need to focus on educational success.

I want to meet these kids where they are, let them be seen, show them they are loved and that we all want them to succeed. I want them to want to succeed and we need to collaborate and secure the tools, steps or whatever necessary to get them there.

CL: I can not emphasize enough the important and urgent need to stabilize public education in Oregon. In December, the governor released a recommended budget for the State School Fund at \$8.9 billion. This is barely current service level! The Co-chairs of Joint Committee on Ways and Means released their proposed budget for 2019-21 last week which was a reduction of \$100 million from the governor's proposed budget. If this amount is approved, it would mean a reduction of \$3.5 million or \$7 million for the biennium. This is equivalent to approximately 33 fewer teachers across our district. Without adequate and consistent school funding, we can not address class size, graduation rates, and best practice education.

In reality, the most important thing for the school board is to work with the superintendent and district leadership to identify the really important work, remove personal interests, and establish laser-like focus on our students.

Measles case confirmed in Marion County

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) has confirmed a case of measles in a resident of Marion County. The case is linked to a traveler who recently visited Marion County.

Marion County health officials were monitoring an additional suspect case with lab tests pending at press time Wednesday, March 13.

The county is working with the Oregon Health Authority to notify individuals of their potential exposure and help them take steps to prevent exposing others should they become ill.

Most Oregonians have been vaccinated against measles and their risk is low. Risk may be higher for unvaccinated persons who may have been exposed at one of these locations during these times only:

- Youth With a Mission, 7085 Battle Creek Road SE, Salem, Feb. 18, 7 a.m. through March 11, 5 p.m.
- Get Air Trampoline Park, 3910 Rickey St. SE, Salem, Feb. 21, 1:45-5 p.m.
- Red Robin, 831 Lancaster Dr. NE, Salem, Feb. 21, 12:30-3:30 p.m.
- Portland International Airport: Southwest Airlines check-in area and Concourse C, Feb. 22, 12:30-5 p.m.

If you or someone you know is not immunized, been exposed and is displaying symptoms, call a health care provider or urgent care center by telephone to create an entry plan to avoid exposing others in waiting rooms.

Measles poses the highest risk to unvaccinated pregnant women, infants under 12 months of age, and people with weakened immune systems.

The symptoms of measles start with a fever, cough, runny nose and red eyes, followed by a rash that usually begins on the face and spreads to the rest of the body.

Common complications of measles include ear infection, lung infection, and diarrhea. Swelling of the brain is a rare but much more serious complication.



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