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Starting Sept. 1, Siuslaw High School varsity basketball coach Dylan Perry is going to be the BGC Teen Director.

"With Dylan being the varsity basketball coach, he is obviously a positive male role model, which is really important. That creates an even stronger bridge with Siuslaw School District," Trent said. "(Superintendent) Andy Grzeskowiak has been a phenomenal partner. He has just been a really awesome guy in being able to have that relationship with the school where we're supporting each other. It's not my kids or his kids — it's *our* kids."

Bonds will continue to grow between the club and the schools as fall sports get underway.

"It builds their sports program as well," Trent added. "Our sports program is a feeder into the middle school and high school, so that's the best of all worlds."

During the Amazing Race, the students were required to help with the Teen Center's daily garden harvest.



CHANTELLE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

The winners of Monday's "Amazing Race" challenge at the Teen Center were the first to make their own whipped cream in the recently outfitted Boys & Girls Club kitchen.

The eight garden beds contain pumpkins, corn, beans, flowers, cilantro, Swiss chard, spinach and potatoes. This winter, the beds will be covered to allow root crops to be grown.

"The kids started everything from seed, and they've done really well," Trent said. "Many of the kids at the Teen Center had no idea where food comes from, other than a can."

Now, the center is looking to expand to 12 garden beds for the fresh produce, which forms part of BGC's

nutritional requirement.

"We've had several harvests of Swiss chard, spinach and lettuce. The beans are ready to harvest now, and we have tomatoes and potatoes that are almost ready," Trent said. "It's all organic, we don't use any chemicals on the garden. We're trying to teach the kids that they can have this in their backyard, too. It doesn't take but a little bit of space. It doesn't need harmful chemicals."

In addition, the Teen Center's recent kitchen appliance additions have made food preparation easier and faster. The kitchen includes a prep table, fridges and freezers donated through a grant with the Department of Education, two ovens funded by Three Rivers Foundation and a dishwasher funded by Western Lane Community Foundation.

"This gives us a lot more options to be able to prepare healthy food," Trent said. "This will take us up to well over 100 kids in the Teen Center."

Club members with food handlers permits are able to help with meal prep, one of the more coveted jobs at the Teen Center.

"We assign every teen a job. That's a requirement," Trent said. "You don't get to come here unless you're willing to help."

In the past, teens were assigned chores with a reward system of club bucks to spend at the club store. Now, every teen has an assignment, which helps the Teen Center with activity clean up, equipment management, dish cleaning and more.

"A lot of the kids will start with their first job in fast food," Trent said. "Knowing how to prep, understanding the standards around food temperature, how to handle food, hygiene and all that kind of stuff helps them prepare for that."

Teen Center staff member Kara said, "We decided to give them actual jobs to help with their future. Some of them are almost old enough for jobs, so this will be the first thing on their resumé."

"Once these kids get out of high school, all of this lines up so that they have experience and knowledge that helps them be prepared to find a job that will pay livable wages and be able to keep that job," Trent said.

The teens still get to use their earnings in the club store, which Trent said helps them manage their money, save and make informed decisions.

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Wednesday's agenda was slight, "being that it's summertime and things are pretty quiet," Barnett said.

One of the only new orders of business came from Kari Blake, the district's Director of Finance and Operations, who introduced an Intergovernmental Agreement between Siuslaw School District, the DMV and other local school districts regarding licensing for school bus drivers.

"For many years, DMV has executed a formal written interagency agreement that authorizes Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to operate as a 'Third Party Commercial Driver Licensing (CDL) Skills Testing Entity,'" the agreement

read. "In 2018, there were two significant and high-profile driver testing incidents, prompting the DMV to take a closer look at the inter-agency testing agreement. ODE does not employ the skills test examiners who administer the tests to drivers, but rather, bus companies and school districts employ the examiners who actually administer the tests. No formal written subcontracts were ever established and no verification that insurance and surety bond requirements were being met."

Blake explained, "Basically, what this is saying is that in the past, ODE and DMV had an agreement directly. They oversaw the program, but not necessarily making sure that all of the people that were testing

had the proper insurance. So they changed that now so you have to contract directly with the DMV if we want DMV to do our testing. It pushes the timeline to get drivers in the driver seats. School districts are supposed to enter into third party testing agreements with other school services in order to provide testing to those entities. The districts that have reached out to us are Coquille School District, Mapleton School district, Myrtle Point School District, and Lewis Transportation. By entering into these agreements, it helps these school districts get drivers in their seats faster because they're not having to do appointments with the DMV."

The board passed the IGA

unanimously.

In closing statements from the board, Sneddon and King complimented the newly resurfaced track, with Sneddon commenting, "I think we need to remember how many students touch the track, middle school and high school students. There's a lot of students who use that facility."

The track was financed primarily by an estate bequest of \$165,653 from an anonymous benefactor, who will be named and honored during Siuslaw's first home football game on Sept. 20.

Regarding the football program, Barnett said, "I've had the privilege of watching some of our high school football staff and watching that work and watching the cohe-

sion that we're seeing with the team and staff and it's pretty exciting to see. I had a chance to talk with our head coach (Sam Johnson), and he's very motivated. It's uplifting."

After the meeting, the board held three executive sessions to "consider the dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or agent."

The specifics of the meeting were not discussed in regular session, though it was announced that there would be a hearing held on the matter during the Aug. 14 school board meeting. It was not specified if the hearing would be held in public or in an additional executive session.

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