



# Cottage Grove Sentinel

SOUTH LANE AND DOUGLAS COUNTY'S MOST AWARD-WINNING NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1889



SPORTS

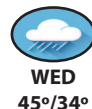
Cottage Grove boys and girls basketball tried to keep their state dreams alive. **B1**

PERSONAL | COMMERCIAL  
BENEFITS | SURETY



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WED  
45°/34°

For a complete six-day forecast please see page A5.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2018

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## TEAMS HONORED



The Cottage Grove City Council honored the high school swim team, wrestling team and cheerleading team on Feb. 28 for competing for a spot in the state championship of their respective sports.

Mayor Jeff Gowing awarded each team a proclamation detailing their accomplishments including a second-place win for the cheerleading team at the Oregon Cheer Championship and the win by wrestler Adam Lamb in the 4A Division to bring home the state championship. Gowing said he hoped to see all three teams back next year.

The swim team did not attend Monday's council meeting.



### Bohemia Park vandalized

Facilities closed after wall, electrical damage

By Caitlyn May  
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On Tuesday, Feb. 13, authorities reported damage to the men's restroom and picnic tables in Bohemia Park. As a result, the city closed the restroom facilities until further notice.

Vandals reportedly created holes in the walls of the men's restroom and ripped an outlet from the wall causing electrical wires to be exposed. Additional damage was reported to one of the concrete chess tables in the park.

This is the second time in six months that the park restrooms have been vandalized, sparking a call from community leaders for action.

Cottage Grove Area Chamber

of Commerce Executive Director Travis Palmer noted that Public Works and Development Director Faye Stewart and his crew would be installing signs with the non-emergency dispatch number for Cottage Grove Police.

"There are cameras there but when you have the cameras combined with reports and eye witness accounts, it gives the police more to work with," Palmer said.

Repairs to the park facilities were still underway as of press time.

If you see unlawful or suspicious activity, contact the non-emergency dispatch line at (541) 942-9145.

### School board votes to start superintendent search

Board hopes to have interim in place for July

By Caitlyn May  
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The South Lane School Board voted on Monday, Feb. 19 to begin a search for an interim superintendent who would be in place by July 1, a search for a permanent superintendent to begin work by July 1, 2019 and re-affirmed Kyle Tucker as acting superintendent through June 30 of this year.

The work session, lead by Oregon School Board's Association (OSBA) Director of Board Development Steve Kelley outlined a training session as well as a discussion surrounding the search for a new superintendent.

"Can you run a search this late in the year? Yes you can. Have I run searches this late in the year? Yes," Kelley said. "My recommendation to you is, don't rush it. You really don't have enough time."

At least two superintendent searches are underway in the

state of Oregon for districts comparable in size to South Lane—Crook County and Scappoose. Other districts including Forest Grove, Reynolds,

tin asked Kelley if the attention surrounding superintendent Krista Parent's pending retirement would affect the applicants for the position.

"... the attention surrounding superintendent Krista Parent's pending retirement would affect the applicants for the position. 'It will,' Kelley said. 'I'll be blunt, it will.'"

Oakridge, Klamath County and Reedsport are also searching for superintendents. According to OSBA, the ideal time to close a search for a superintendent position is in February.

Kelley informed the board that current applicant pools for superintendent positions were not "very deep" and directed the board to decide whether or not to launch a search for an interim or permanent superintendent.

Board member Merlene Mar-

letter was given to the school board in support of Parent and a handwriting analysis funded by the same resident who filed the initial complaint, concluded that Parent likely wrote the letter. District staff, including 110 employees and 17 administrators, spoke out in varying degrees asking the district to investigate the letter.

Kelley noted that "putting time" between Parent's retirement and the search for a permanent superintendent would be beneficial to the district.

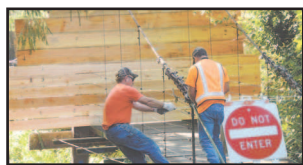
"People have shared with me that the experience we have gone through, some people are referring to the last few months, I refer to it as the last several years in this district," board member Jerry Settelmeier said Monday night. "The concern that has been shared is the culture of the district was led by our former, by our superintendent. That culture includes Brian (McCasline) sitting there,

Please see **SLSD PG. A8**

COMMUNITY

Benefit set

A benefit to raise funds for the Swinging Bridge has been set. **PAGE A3**



SPORTS

Teams try for state

Did Cottage Grove teams earn a spot in the playoffs? **PAGE B1**

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### COFFEE WITH THE EDITOR

Have a news tips? Want to talk about community events? Have a question? Stop by Backstage Bakery.

The LAST THURSDAY of every month from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.



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