



School News

March 27, 2019

A monthly newsletter covering area schools

SLSD adds days to school calendar

The countdown to summer just got a little longer.

By Zach Silva
zsilva@egsentinel.com

At the March South Lane School District (SLSD) board meeting, the board unanimously agreed to superintendent Larry Sullivan's proposal that the district will be adding three school days to make up for days that were cancelled due to February's historic snowstorm. This year, six school days were cancelled in addition to a pair of two-hour delays.

"We have lost six days of school this year to inclement weather. What that really means is that

our children have lost six days of instruction and learning time," Sullivan told the board on March 11. "What I'm going to recommend to the board is an adjustment to our school calendar."

The last day of school for students was scheduled for June 13 but days will now be added on June 14, 17 and 18 for students; teachers will have an in-service day on the June 19 to finish out the year.

"We're above the minimum but again, we're not about minimums here," Sullivan said at the meeting when asked if the dis-

trict had fulfilled the minimum hours needed in a school year.

In addition to helping students learn, board members also expressed that having additional days would also help classified employees.

"Three days of pay for our classified is a lot of money. A lot of our classified employees, you know, they don't make a lot of money. And so three days can impact them greatly," said Merlene Martin.

Districts across the area are looking for similar solutions to add days to the school year.

North Douglas School District names Terry Bennett as new superintendent

The North Douglas School Board announced that Terry Bennett has been named the new superintendent of the district effective July 1.

Bennett currently works for the Oregon Department of Education in the office of Teaching, Learning and Assessment. His previous administrative experience includes building and district level roles in Durham (CA), Klamath, Portland and Lebanon school districts covering a 17-year span.

Bennett has a master's degree from University of Oregon in the area of Educational Leadership. He completed his administrative licensure program at Portland State University.

His teaching experience includes middle and high

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—School board chairman Tom Kelley

school social studies, distance learning and alternative education from 1988 to 2000.

"We are really excited to have Mr. Bennett as a new addition to our leadership team. He brings to the district a great many skills and talents that he will enhance and grow our school district," said school board chairman Tom Kelley. "We know he will bring the excitement and leadership that will indeed move us to the next level."

"As the new superintendent, I am grateful for this time to engage our district and community in the process of building relationships, listening to all voices of our community — students, parents, staff, teachers, administrators, board members, residents, district partners and civic leaders," said Bennett. "I will hit the ground running to build upon the strong legacy that the school district and community have established for our students."

Snow School



London School Wild Photo: (Courtesy April Sexton, London School Office Manager (Photo)

Pictured is the original one-room school house (left) with the geodesic art dome in the background. "This picture depicts London's commitment despite the conditions to teaching old-school values with modern quality education."

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