

SLSD board, OSBA seek input on search for new school district superintendent

By DAMIEN SHERWOOD
DSHERWOOD@CGSENTINEL.COM

South Lane School District's search for a new superintendent has begun and community input is being solicited as part of the process. School board members, staff and community members gathered at the Cottage Grove High School Oct. 8 for a community input session facilitated by the Oregon School Board Association's (OSBA) Director of Board Development Steve Kelley.

The superintendent position will be vacated June 2020 by Larry Sullivan, who was initially named to the position as an interim superintendent May 2018 after his predecessor, Krista Parent, was ousted by the school board amid miscon-

duct allegations and a scandal involving a workplace affair. The Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices Commission later dismissed the misconduct allegations against Parent.

In the coming search process, key priorities and standards for a new superintendent will be identified by community members and a screening committee.

"That becomes the lens by which your school board will look through the entire process," Kelley said. "That's what we will look at the applications through. That's how we'll develop the interview questions. That's how we'll judge the answers."

Kelley elicited ideas from the audience during the night's session, asking for opinions

about community and school district strengths and challenges.

Audience comments on strengths revolved around Cottage Grove characteristics such as its rural atmosphere, its level of cooperation, welcoming nature, a sense of its own identity and the longevity of stay of its long-term citizens.

Kelley articulated his own personal impressions of the town as well.

"I've gained an appreciation for your small-town feel — your ruralness, if you will," he said.

Community member Jimmy Schaper added, "We are a micro-metropolitan. We are the obverse of Portland."

In discussing challenges, participants brought up the

level of poverty in the area, graduation rates, academic performances, a high turnover rate of district staff and a lack of funding for educational assistance in the school district.

Kelley also facilitated a discussion about the qualities and qualifications the audience would like to see in a new superintendent.

Among the many ideas, audience members expressed a desire for someone who is collaborative with the community and staff, creative, passionate about their job, open to other opinions, hands-on, transparent and views the district through a lens of equity.

The session also outlined a timeline for the search process, which is expected to be completed next March.

For the time being, commu-

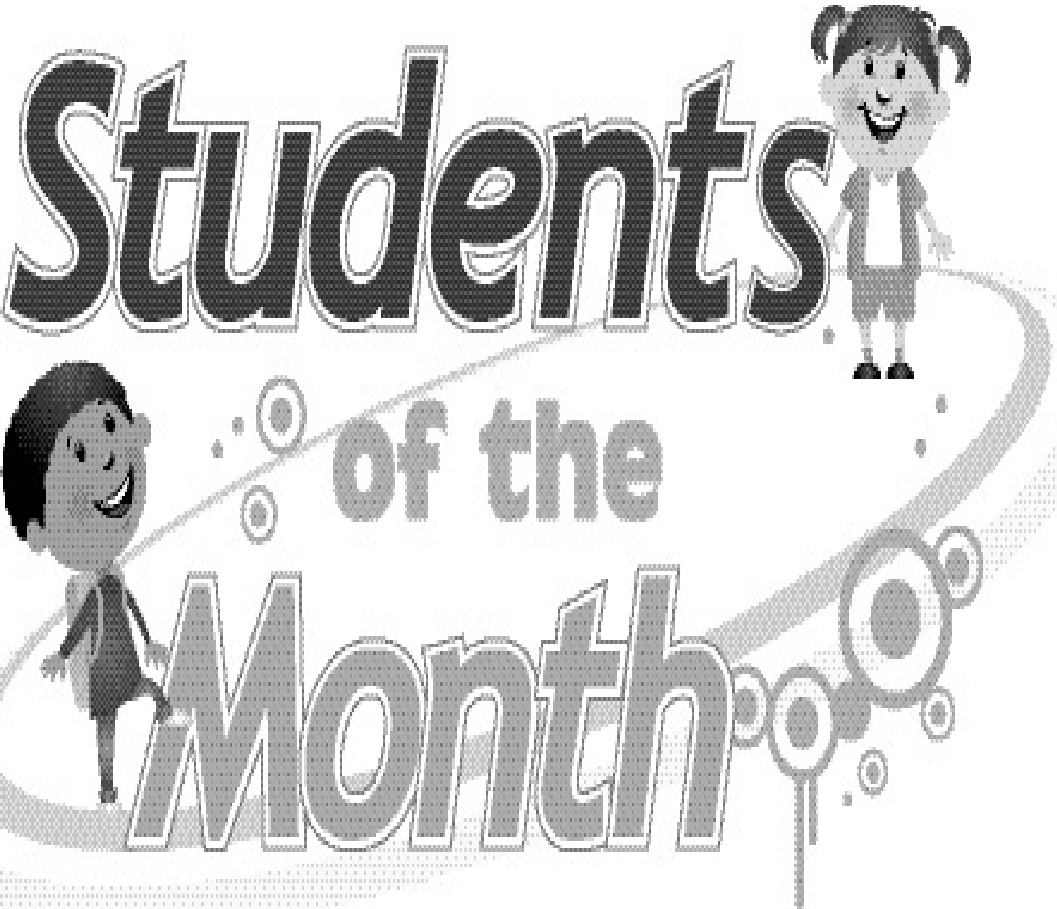
nity members are encouraged to take part in an online survey available on the South Lane School District's homepage. The survey will be available online until Oct. 22.

On Nov. 4, a selection process will begin for a potential screening committee, who will receive training and present superintendent candidate recommendations to the school board in January. Final interviews are expected to be held in March and the new superintendent will begin work July 1.

The selection of a new superintendent will mark the first time the role will be filled in a long-term capacity since Parent's vacancy.

The online survey can be found at www.slane.k12.or.us.

October Students of the Month



BOHEMIA SUNRISERS KIWANIS CLUB OF COTTAGE GROVE



The Bohemia Sunrisers Kiwanis Club of Cottage Grove has honored Cottage Grove High School seniors, Reba Bradsby and Justin Francis, as Students of the Month

for October. Reba has served four years on student council and completed mission trips to China, Washington, DC, and New York. She credits her plans to pursue teaching at Western Oregon University to a special connection with her teachers. Justin is an outdoor enthusiast who works with the Youth Conservation Crew, acts as a lifeguard, and is an outdoor counselor. He also competes on the Varsity cross country team. After high school he plans to pursue a nursing degree at Western Oregon University.

Cottage Grove Sentinel
116 N. 6th . PO Box 35, Cottage Grove, OR
541-942-3325 • cgsentinel.com

YONCALLA MIDDLE SCHOOL



Paige was nominated because she is the model of a good student. She is quiet, attentive, and dependable. She knows that getting better at something takes hard work, and when she wants to improve, she puts in the work to make that happen.

Future Goals: In the future, Paige plans to join Job Corps and become a CNA. Hobbies: Paige loves playing the flute and piccolo and she loves to read and draw.

Parents Rebecca Agee and James Crain

PAIGE RILEY

Cottage Grove Sentinel
116 N. 6th . PO Box 35, Cottage Grove, OR
541-942-3325 • cgsentinel.com

LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL



she needs notes, she comes in for help on her own. If she is not quite solid on a concept, Mariah seeks help to make sure she understands. She is a positive influence in class and gracefully handles difficult situations. Mariah is a hardworking member of the LMS Concert Choir, and she also participates in musical theater at the Cottage Theatre and The Shedd in Eugene. She is already proving herself to be a dedicated musician and great leader!

MARIAH BAILEY
Mariah Bailey is a dedicated 6th grade student. When

Brad's Chevy
COTTAGE GROVE CHEVROLET, INC.
2775 Row River Rd • 541-942-4415
bradschevy.com

DORENA ELEMENTARY



grade! She has been a model student who sets a positive example for her peers. Kayla's hard work and consistency shines in the classroom and she always has a smile on her face. She even helps the K/1 get to the buses at the end of the day so that they can learn from the great example that she sets for them. Great job Kayla, you deserve it!

KAYLA
Kayla has done an awesome job this year in 4th

STARFIRE
2795 MOSBY CREEK RD, COTTAGE GROVE
(541) 942-0168
WWW.STARFIRELUMBER.COM

COTTAGE GROVE HIGH SCHOOL



Cottage Grove High School nominates Kassity Hanks Cave for student of the month. This summer Kassity attended the Congress of Future Medical Leaders in Boston, Massachusetts. Kassity was able to interact with prestigious physicians and world renown individuals. This experience has strengthened her determination for a career in the medical field. Congratulations Kassity for being a great ambassador for Cottage Grove!

KASSITY HANKS CAVE

South Lane County Fire & Rescue
233 Harrison Ave • 541-942-4439
southlanefire.org

NORTH DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL



Natalie Draeger, North Douglas High School, Senior. Natalie is an honor roll student, enrolled in college classes, and the Student Body Treasurer. She is involved in FBLA, National Honor Society, Unified Club, and plays varsity volleyball & softball.

NATALIE DRAEGER

North Douglas Fire & Rescue
531 South Cedar St.
Drain, OR 97435

NORTH DOUGLAS MIDDLE SCHOOL



The North Douglas Middle School would like to nominate 6th grader Graywin Ehrike for Student of the Month. Graywin works hard in class, asks questions, is interested in learning, kind of everyone, has integrity, and is a self-manager.

GRAYWIN EHRIKE

North Douglas Fire & Rescue
531 South Cedar St.
Drain, OR 97435