

District Proposes Higher Base Pay, Lower Increments

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the teachers is a \$6.50 per month payment towards health insurance for employees working three-fourths time or more.

Total Cost Low

It is expected that total cost of this plan to the district would be only about \$3000 above the budget presented by Supt. Ron Daniels to the budget committee. His budget did not provide for any salary increases but did include \$10 per month for employees on the health insurance plan.

The board had made the \$10 offer as an alternative to the teachers' original proposal of a base salary of \$6400 per year and 5% increments. Most recent proposal from teachers, through their negotiation committee, was a base salary of \$6300 and 4% increments, together with full payment of \$13 per month on the insurance plan.

In reaching the decision, the board also considered the teachers' proposal of \$6300 base and 4% increments; and another with the same base and 3 1/2% increments.

In proposing the \$6400 base and reducing the annual increments, the board was aware of settlements made in other districts on base salaries: Albany, \$6400; Condon, \$6400; Coos Bay, \$6600; Culver, \$6700; Days Creek, \$6500; Gold Beach, \$6600; Pendleton, \$6400; Pine Eagle, \$6350; and Sweet Home, \$6500.

Index Extended

The board also voted to extend administrators' index from 9 1/2 months to 11 months, which was previously estimated to bring average hikes to the administrators of \$300. However, if the new salary schedule is adopted, it would reduce this figure, since most administrators are on higher steps in the salary schedule because of experience and training, and the index would be applied to the lower increments of the proposed schedule.

The board went into executive session to consider the salary of Supt. Ron Daniels. Reconsidering, it passed a motion to increase his salary \$500 per year. After the meeting, Daniels said that he had not decided whether he would accept the increase, his action being contingent on what is offered on other certified personnel in the district. He said that he does not feel he should accept a raise that may be disproportionate to what others in the district are offered.

Proposal of the board to teachers will be considered by the teacher negotiation committee for acceptance or rejection. If it is rejected, and agreement

Semester Rolls Listed at Ione

Ione High school students have been listed on the first semester honor roll by Principal Harold Beggs.

Named on the "A" honor roll were two seniors, Charity Beggs and Jodi Snow; two juniors, Joy Beggs and Kristin Nelson; two sophomores, Jane Krebs, and Chris McCabe, and one freshman, Clint Krebs.

Those placed on the "B" roll were seven seniors, Bonnie Kae Akers, Bonni Morgan, Linda Nichols, Ron Palmateer, Earl Pettyjohn, Teresa Stefani and Teresa Tucker. Juniors were Ron Christopherson, Anita Crawford and Linda Pettyjohn; sophomores, Carley Bergstrom, Kathy Holtz, Marianne Pettyjohn and Jeri Snow; freshmen, Cheri Carlson, Wendy Christopherson, Mary McElligott and Marlene Magill.

Junior high honor students were, in the eighth grade, D. Ann Barnett, Doug Beggs, Cindy Ekstrom and Kathleen McElligott, and in the seventh grade, Cassy Chapel, Donna Flack and Mary Pat McElligott.

Rep. Mann Chosen Committee Chairman

Representative Irvin Mann, Stanfield, has been named chairman of the elections committee of the House of Representatives.

Mann said that because of the rash of court cases resulting from alleged violations of the corrupt practices act and delays due to "bedsheet" ballots, he anticipates the committee will have a heavy workload.

Mann was also appointed to his third term on the House taxation committee and to the committee on planning and development.

To Make Booklets

Ione Super Stickers 4-H club met at the home of Melanie Ball. It was called to order by Teena Stefani; Barbara Palmer led us in the American pledge and Melanie Ball in the 4-H pledge. Cheryl Hams substituted for secretary and gave roll call. We discussed making little booklets of all the dates of our meetings, and decided on dates for our next meetings. Refreshments were served by Lea White and Barbara Palmer. Our next meeting will be at the home of Cindi Martin on February 6.

Jan Ekstrom, reporter

cannot be reached, it may be necessary to go to arbitration with the board and teachers each appointing one person, and these two selecting a third. The three would then attempt to reach agreement, after which their proposal would be submitted to the board.



WHEN BICYCLES BOG down in snow, you can rely on Dobbin, Jack Yocom, 10, dolly paper carrier at Lexington, has discovered. He rides his horse, Cindy, to deliver The Oregonian and The Oregon Journal to subscribers there while snow is on the ground. At left in the picture is his sister, Debbie, 13, mounted on her horse, Don. Jack is a third grader and Debbie is a seventh grader. Both are children of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Yocom.

Committee Tackles School Budget, Hears of Problems

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and supplies as a result of the present inflationary period.

"While the budget does not reflect any program changes, it would be unrealistic for us to assume that some changes are not needed. When the economy of the district has improved, we need to develop a strong program for our special education children, we need to improve our elementary counseling program, we need to improve our secondary vocational program, we need to replace or remodel the Heppner Junior High and Ione Elementary School, and we need to add one more staff member at our district level whose job it would be to devote his time to the improvement of our total educational program."

"I consider this position to be of paramount importance because I feel it can greatly improve our program and give us maximum educational benefit from the money we now spend. The business and technical aspects of operating this school district have grown to the extent that it is no longer possible for the superintendent to devote any great amount of time to the development and supervision of the educational program."

8% Increase Seen
The proposed \$100,000 increase in the budget represents an increase of approximately eight percent.

Daniels told the committee, "It is now our duty to evaluate each section of the budget and to present a document to the voters that will provide us a maximum educational program at the lowest possible cost. It is not going to be an easy task."

Summary of budget increases, as itemized by Supt. Daniels, include the following:

Instruction, up \$42,335. Salary increments are in excess of \$14,000, and the board has given tentative approval of the addition of three new staff members at a cost of about \$30,000. (Six were cut from the district staff last year). Amount for supplies is also increased to cover higher costs and the textbook fund is increased since this is a textbook adoption year.

Transportation, up \$3,995. Increase is primarily in salaries. A part time driver at Ione was also approved and drivers' salaries for field trips and activity trips were transferred to this section. Transportation insurance is increased to cover seven additional vehicles on fleet insurance.

Operation of plant, up \$9,475. About half of increase is due to salary increments and the addition of a part time custodian at Riverside. Also included is an increase in supply funds

County Students On BMCC Rolls

Two Morrow county students were named on the honor roll and six on the dean's honor list for fall term at Blue Mountain Community College, Pendleton. The honor roll includes all full-time students with a grade point average of 3.50 or above. The dean's list includes all full-time students with an average of 3.00 to 3.50, according to Truman A. Baily, director of admissions.

Named to the honor roll were Verina French, Heppner, and Richard Skoubo, Boardman. Those achieving the dean's list were Michael Bunch, Erin Dick, Carl Jones, Mary Malcolm and Wesley Marlatt, all of Heppner; and Betty Eppenbach, Irrigon.

Accounting II Class To Start February 7; Enrollments Needed

Blue Mountain Community College will offer a course in Accounting II at Heppner High school starting Wednesday, February 5, providing that enough students sign up for the course. Class hours will be 7 to 10 p.m.

The class will run for 12 weeks and will cover such topics as partnerships, cash control, notes, asset valuation, departmental accounting, and accounting for sales and property taxes.

Costs of the course are \$15 for tuition, \$7.50 for textbook, and \$3.35 for working papers. Anyone wishing further information about the course is asked to call Heppner High school.

New Variety Store Has Long History In East Oregon

When the E. L. Knox Company opens its variety store in Heppner within a few months, it will continue an operation that dates back to the turn of the century in Eastern Oregon. History of the firm is reported in a story in the Blue Mountain Eagle of John Day in the January 23 issue, which announced the closure of the store there.

The story that tells history of the business and plans for the future is reprinted below:

E. L. Knox Co., a John Day landmark since 1907, will pass from the Main Street scene this spring.

Henry (Hank) Gohring, who has operated the family-owned department, general merchandise and variety business since 1951, confirmed recurring rumors of recent weeks that the company would close its John Day store.

"We figured our chances for expansion were greater in the area we're going into," Gohring said. With the closing of the John Day store, he added, the firm's merchandise will be exclusively of the variety type.

The firm got its start about the turn of the century when E. L. Knox, who died in 1959 at age 89, started a general store in Mitchell in adjacent Wheeler County. Knox moved about 1900 to Antone before coming to John Day in 1907 to form a combination hardware - general store business with W. H. Johnson. Johnson's sons built the Knox store building in 1902.

The company continued to sell groceries and dry goods until 1947, when the grocery part of the business was sold to Chester's Market, John Day, which

HOSPITAL NEWS

The following patients were admitted to Pioneer Memorial hospital during the past week, and are still receiving medical care: Clyde Cox, Heppner; Nadine O'Brien, Heppner; Mary Healy, Heppner; Nellie Jones, Heppner; Nate McBride, Heppner, and Luke Padberg, Lexington.

The headquarters of The United States Jaycees is in Tulsa, Okla.

is now located diagonally across East Main Street.

The Knoxes acquired a general store in Dayville in the late 1920s or early 1930s and continued to operate it until March 1967, when the business, now known as Ripa's Mercantile, was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Don Ripa.

Four years earlier, in April 1963, the company purchased the store in Burns. The newest and largest Hermiston store was purchased in September, 1967.

Theron Knox, a son of E. L. Knox, joined his father in a partnership in 1922 and continued in the business until he was incapacitated by a heart attack in 1951. Gohring, who is married to Theron's daughter, Anne, moved to John Day in

1951 from Yakima, Wn., to take over active operation of the business.

Gohring began his retail career in McMinnville in 1936 in a grocery store, moving later to Sheridan and Hillsboro. He switched to the dry goods business in 1942.

Besides surviving severe economic conditions in the county through the years, Knoxes' store rallied from a disastrous fire in February, 1957 and opened again two months later with all new merchandise.

Gohring said the firm will cease its operations no later than May 1 and will start its closing-out sales in mid-February. Both families will move to Hermiston.

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NOTICE

Personal property taxpayers are required to file a return of taxable property as of January 1, 1969 with the Assessor on or before March 3, 1969. A penalty is provided for late filing.

Inventory owners (including all livestock) will again be eligible for some reduction of property tax this year if the return is filed on time. The law does not permit the Assessor to allow the reduction in inventory value for tax relief under certain circumstances when the personal property report is not accurately reported or is filed after March 3.

Any person who has not had an opportunity to report by mail or personal contact may obtain the forms at the office of the assessor.

Time is getting short. ORS 308.290 makes it the responsibility of the taxpayer to file these reports on time or incur the penalty provided by law.

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