

ARE YOU A REGISTERED VOTER?

PLEASE REGISTER

AND VOTE

ON NOVEMBER 5TH

Next Vernonia school board meeting will be at Mist

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and the security system at the high school appears to be inadequate. The committee recommends fixing the fire alarm system as required, and purchasing a key system for the district. The key system would allow Lewis to re-key all outside doors and the only source for replacement keys would be the

district's maintenance office.

In other action the board agreed to:

- Hold the October 10 business meeting at Mist School.
- Consider adding a procedure to the staff complaint and grievance policy similar to that attached to the public grievance policy.
- Consider adding language to the vacation and holiday policy to limit the number of vacation days that an employee can be compensated for in the event they leave the district to five days.
- Take no action on a requested change in the transportation contract. The contract will remain in place until 2004.
- Ratify a contract with ad-

ministrators that moves the \$1500 compensation offered to administrators in June (to reimburse for the cost of attendance to a national convention) to offset employees PERS contributions. The contract includes no raises and covers only the 2002-2003 school year with the understanding that a longer-term contract will be negotiated with the administrator group before March of 2003.

- Set Monday, October 7, for an executive session hearing on a staff complaint.

- Noted that the fee for the annual Oregon School Board Association meeting has been waived this year in recognition of the financial difficulty of districts across the state.

Unemployed workers may qualify for ongoing Jobs Plus program

The JOBS Plus Program for Oregonians receiving unemployment insurance benefits will continue after October 1.

The Employment Department is making this announcement because a similar program, also known as JOBS Plus, administered by the Department of Human Services for families receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) will be ending October 1.

Employers participating in the Employment Department's JOBS Plus Program get a work-experienced individual who has been recently laid off through no fault of their own. Employers are reimbursed wages up to \$5 per hour for the first 13 weeks of employment. After 30 days in the program, the employer contributes one dollar per hour into an individual education account (IEA). The money in the employee's IEA can be used to pay for additional classes or training, which will improve the person's skills. The position the employ-

er hires the JOBS Plus client into must be a new position and cannot replace an existing full-time position.

Every Oregonian filing a claim for unemployment benefits receives information on the JOBS Plus program. Oregon Employment Department staff identify individuals who are most likely to exhaust their unemployment benefits and review for referral to both JOBS Plus and regular job openings.

The JOBS Plus Program is a part of the department's overall claimant re-employment program, a major effort by the Oregon Employment Department to maintain a dialogue with unemployment insurance claimants. The purpose is to follow-up on a claimant's job search and direct them to the many re-employment tools available in the department's field offices.

For more information, call Jeanette Sharinghousen at the St. Helens Employment Department office at 503-397-4995, ext. 26.

Harvest Festival at Rock Creek campus

The Harvest Festival returns to the Rock Creek Campus of Portland Community College, on Saturday, October 26, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Parking is free.

Free pumpkins from the campus pumpkin patch will be featured, along with plenty of entertainment, including live music, hayrides to and from the Washington County Historical Museum, pumpkin painting and much more.

Search for the perfect pumpkin, from a 1,600 mound pumpkin patch as long as the supply lasts. A photo booth will be set up for pictures with your pumpkin. A number of contests are also planned.

The Rock Creek campus is located at 17705 N.W. Springville Road, off Highway 26 at the 185th Avenue exit,

For more information, call Mandy Ellertson or Loretta Dike at 503-614-7261.



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