

Four finalists are announced for Banks Schools superintendent

After a series of meetings in February, Banks School Board met briefly March 14 to name four finalists in the search for a new superintendent to replace

Marilyn McGlasson, who is retiring. The final four are Robert Dunton, Superintendent of Corbett School District; Joseph Hunter, Principal of Sexton

Mountain Elementary School in the Beaverton School District; Marvin Ott, Superintendent of Port Orford School District; and James Foster, principal at

Banks High School. The board expects to announce their choice at the April 11 meeting.

Board member Duane Lundstrum thanked Gary Hartman for his work on the Parent Internet Viewer. This application will allow parents to log in to their students' records to access information on daily attendance, a report showing current grades for every class, and class assignments. Parents will need to sign up and will be assigned passwords at that time.

The district will be negotiating with both certified and classified staff unions this year. Doug Nordholm and Angie Duyck will serve as the board negotiation team.

McGlasson told the board that building the school budget was a 12-month project that she and business manager Nancy Hall begin during the summer, soon after the adopted budget takes effect July 1. The governor's proposed budget of \$5.0 billion (for the state

school fund) was designed to allow districts to continue a status quo budget, which in many cases actually means further reductions in non-contractual expenses because of increases in salaries and benefits. McGlasson told the board that, because of extreme and frugal attention to expenses, the district has a healthy cash carry-over from last year and may begin to add back "a little bit of staffing."

McGlasson will present a budget built at the \$5.0 billion level, however, she expects the legislature to add at least another \$200 million and possibly more. Every \$100 million added to the budget brings an additional \$95,000 to the district. Therefore, McGlasson said, she will also prepare a "shadow budget" at the higher funding level. By the time the budget is presented in May, more accurate numbers will be available from the state, allowing adjustments before adopting the final budget.



Smiles were well-deserved when a bioswale built and planted by Banks Elementary School students was dedicated April 4. Retired teacher Bonnie Shumaker, leader of the HOH Club, helped the students plant 400 plants of 15 species in the swale engineered to help filter surface water run-off. Helping at the dedication were April Olbrich, coordinator of Tualatin River Watershed Council and Dave Nutt of Clean Water Services.

Advisory panel volunteers needed

Washington County is seeking applicants for the following volunteer positions:

Audit Committee

Because independent oversight is critical to the effectiveness of financial statement audits, the committee monitors audits of the County's finances.

Board of Property Tax Appeals

Consider taxpayer challenges to assessed value determined by the County Assessor, review the annual Ratio Study, recommend adjustments, and examine the assessment roll for needed corrections. Also considers requests to excuse penalties for late filing of real and personal

property returns.

Civil Service Commission

Volunteers provide a third-party review of County employment practices. The Commission is comprised of five volunteers from the Commissioner districts who review changes to job classifications and specifications, approve new classifications, and hear and decide appeals by employees and candidates for employment.

Developmental Disabilities Council

Identify community needs, recommend funding priorities, and help select and evaluate service providers. County contracts with community agencies for social services makes the work of this volunteer advisory council critical.

Farm Board of Review

Meets annually to inform the Assessor regarding farm land rents and other information pertaining to the valuation of farmland for property taxation as provided by Oregon law.

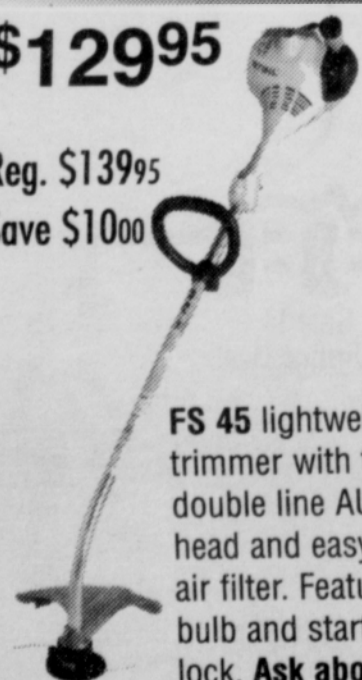
The application deadline is May 2. Applications are available on the website <www.co.washington.or.us/cgi/boards/commis.pl> or by calling 503-846-8685. Descriptions of all the boards may also be found on the website.

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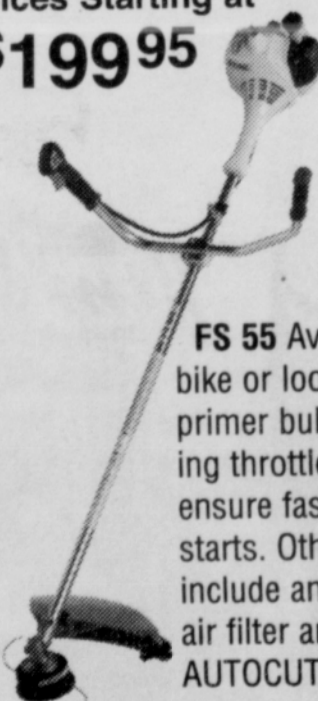
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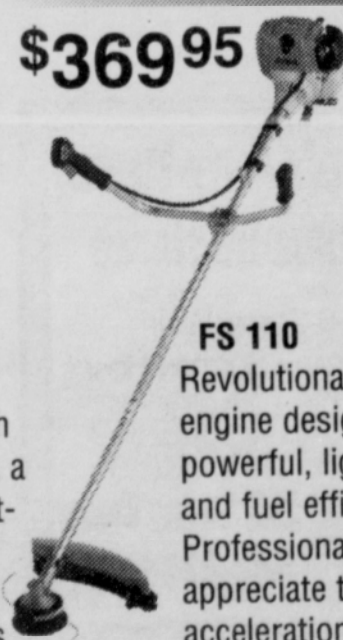
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