



# Superintendent's Update

Shared with the Corvallis School Board during the January 17, 2017 meeting.

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## Long Range Facility Planning

On January 6th, I presented to the Corvallis Friday Rotary. The focus of my presentation was on the long range facility committee, our core values of educational design and their translation to our learning environments. During the presentation I asked members of Rotary to look at pictures of educational environments, identify which core values are supported in the environments, as well as strengths and weaknesses observed in each picture.

In addition, I shared an infographic, developed by Olivia Meyers Buch, which includes key information about our facilities. Each of you have a copy of the infographic for review. As you can see, it highlights the age of each of our school buildings, and shows that only two schools have been built since 1971. This publication gives us a snapshot of the importance of maintaining and supporting a learning environment that is modern and safe..

We received more than 50 applications for the Long Range Facility Master Plan Committee and a selection committee reviewed and recommended 31 individuals for appointment. The committee will include parents, staff, business leaders, and city staff. All applicants were mailed a letter of thanks for applying and a meeting invitation if they were appointed to the committee. The committee will have their first meeting on January 31 at 6 pm here in the board room. Meetings are open to the public and information about this process and future meetings will be continually updated on the district website this year.

## Transportation Negotiations

First Student continues labor negotiations with the Amalgamated Transit Union. Their last bargaining meeting was held on December 21st. Both parties agreed to continue bargaining at the next available meeting date of February 14th. It is my hope that both parties can work collaboratively to achieve a mutually agreeable contract.

## Crescent Valley Principal Hiring Process

The search for the next Crescent Valley principal is currently underway. Human Resources director, Jennifer Duvall, and I have had the opportunity to meet with both parents and teachers, to identify the qualifications and attributes they are looking for in their next principal. We will meet with the classified staff in the near future to gather similar information. As you know, the decision regarding the next principal for CV will be one of the most important decisions we make this winter. The position is currently posted and it is our desire to have a principal identified by March.

## Winter Weather

As of today, we have cancelled five days of school due to winter weather. Our first priority in making the decision to cancel school is the safety students. Before making the decision to delay or cancel

school, our transportation provider, First Student, makes a recommendation about bus routes and our Facilities and Transportation Director also reports road conditions and facility safety. In addition to bus routes and parent drivers, we consider the safety of students that walk or bike to school and student drivers.

The calendar approved by the school board for this year includes six potential make up days, February 20 and June 19-23. We want to make sure students receive the learning time they deserve and we also know that extending school later in June has its own set of challenges. We have provided an opportunity for families and staff to provide input on two options in consideration. In both options, February 20th, President's Day, would be a make up day. In addition, either June 19-22 or additional time added to each day in the second semester will be added. We have received considerable input and plan to make a decision on these two scenarios in the near future.

I'd like to commend our facilities team as they have spent many hours shoveling and clearing snow and ice from sidewalks, parking areas, and pathways to modular classrooms. They are also responsible for checking school heating systems and maintaining the overall safety and comfort of our school buildings.

#### Thank You to the School Board

Through the district website the board received a thank you for the passage of the Resolution to Protect Undocumented Students. It reads:

Hello - I just wanted to thank the district for its resolution to protect undocumented children and families in our community. The declaration of support for all children's right to education, the importance of reducing/avoiding unnecessary trauma, and dedication of resources to train employees in matters that relate to these issues is forward thinking, just and kind. I am proud to have my family part of the Corvallis School District.

#### Student Artwork

We have a new display of student artwork in the board room thanks to art teachers from Adams, Franklin, Garfield, Hoover, Jefferson, and Wilson Elementary Schools and Cheldelin and Linus Pauling Middle Schools. Thank you to our students for sharing this work with us!

Some of the art highlights the upcoming total solar eclipse. Corvallis falls within the "path of totality" for this eclipse which will happen on August 21 at about 10:00 in the morning. We are planning additional learning opportunities for students about this upcoming event.

Presented by Ryan Noss, Superintendent