

***District Newsletter
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Taking Back the Basin***

Have you ever wondered what makes the difference between a strong teacher and a weak one? Some qualities that make the difference include intelligence, skills, mission of service, and the ability to establish strong relations. Perhaps the most important trait of great teachers is one often overlooked: Self-efficacy or an instructor's belief that he/she can make a difference in the lives of children. Without this confidence, all other talents and qualities will have minimal impact.

The same can be said about communities. Those that believe in themselves have the confidence and the drive to make their cities thriving and positive environments. Those that lack hope or optimism about their towns will do very little to make them better. Why? Because they do not believe they have any control or ability to bring about positive change.

Klamath Falls is surrounded by natural beauty and wildlife, has a pleasant climate, is filled with limitless outdoor activities, is well situated near many interesting locations, and has good and friendly citizens. These key factors make it a wonderful place to live. However, many people say there is a lack of hope and optimism in the community right now. Admittedly, much of this is driven by the economic downturn it has suffered. However, this is only part of the reason.

Like an excellent teacher, unless the city residents believe they can improve the life of their community, they will find themselves overwhelmed by negativity and self-doubt. This must be overcome before the area can move forward and realize its great potential to become one of the premier places to live in the United States.

Supporting local education is a great starting point in creating a more positive future. Communities that support their schools become magnets for new businesses, industries, professionals, and families. Support for schools is good for everyone. It is one of the key ways to gain optimism and hope. It can allow Klamath Falls' citizens to take back control and create a preferred future for the wonderful Basin area. The economic downturn has overtaken the community. Let's take it back.

Did you know?

- If the levy passes, class sizes in the lower grades will reduce by about five students per class.
- Levy revenue would be used in grades 7-12 to add electives in art, engineering, human development, culinary arts, child development, and multi-media.

There will be a 6:15 p.m. meeting on Thursday, April 5th, in the Ponderosa Library titled, "Information on the Instructional Levy and What Can Be Done to Get the Word Out."