

June 8, 2012

Klamath Falls City Schools

**District Newsletter
Volume 1; Issue 18
Using the Investment**

Since the passing of the levy last month, administration has been moving forward quickly to utilize next year's funds effectively. Most of the \$1,041,300 will be used to hire 15 teachers. Seven of these are instructors laid off during last year's \$3.5 million budget-reduction process. The district will add 9.5 elementary teachers. As a result, kindergarten class sizes will decrease from about 29 to about 23 next year. First grade will go from about 29 to about 25. Second grade will go from about 29 to about 26. Third grade will go from about 29 to about 25. Fourth grade will go from 31 to 26. Fifth grade will go from 31 to 28. Sixth grade will go from 31 to 28. The overall average elementary class sizes will go from about 29 to about 25.

Ponderosa and KU will be each adding 2.5 teachers from the levy funds next year. KU will be adding classes in CAD design, engineering, child development, family studies, elective physical education, and culinary arts. KU will also be adding back a construction program. Ponderosa will be adding classes in art, technology, and culinary science. These additions will allow Ponderosa to reduce their class sizes from an average of 30 to about 27. KU will be able to add a seventh period as a result.

A process is also beginning on selecting textbooks with levy dollars. About \$100,000 per year from the levy was budgeted for this. The first subject to be updated will be social studies. It appears that the textbook dollars may stretch to replace social studies books at both KU and Ponderosa. This will provide good articulation of curriculum between the two buildings.

Next year, KFCS students will be enjoying the learning benefits that will result from the additions indicated above. This will go a long ways to helping the district address its mission of helping all students prepare for an ever-changing future. It is an exciting time for our schools. We all greatly appreciate the tremendous generosity of our voters. The investment will be put to good use.

Other Notes:

1. A phone satisfaction survey from our district will be sent to all our families on the evening of Sunday, June 10. The results will help us better serve our students next year. Your cooperation in taking a few minutes for the survey will be greatly appreciated.
2. Open enrollment ended up having very little overall impact on school enrollment. KFCS experienced a net loss of two students in the process.
3. Every month during the year a different district school provided a weekend enrichment opportunity for students who have special interests and talents. These activities were voluntarily planned and carried out by teachers and principals at each school. Some of the topics included math tournaments, special science projects, art opportunities, problem-solving activities, secret codes and spy techniques, and tours of farms and dams

to learn about the various viewpoints on dam removal. These events helped broaden the interests and understanding of students.

4. This year was one of particular distinction in KU sports and activities. Wayne Amos, KU Athletic Director, hosted a dessert banquet on May 30th to celebrate the following:
 - 5 Coaches of the Year
 - 9 District Championship Teams
 - 97 Scholar Athletes
 - 1 State Champion Team (DECA)
 - 39 1st Team All-Conference Players
 - 12 District Champion Athletes
 - 3 Players of the Year
 - 2 1st Team All-State Players
 - 4 State Champion Athletes
5. All of our schools conducted community service projects this year. One area that a few schools addressed was litter pick up in the neighborhoods around their schools. Mills went a step further and invited former Mills' students who are KU graduating seniors to come back and help the current students pick up trash in the blocks surrounding the school. It was a great cooperative project with the older and younger students.
6. **On behalf of the Klamath Falls City Schools, I want to thank all who helped our schools in any way. Countless volunteers and donors helped our schools enrich the lives and learning of our students. We could never have had a successful year without the continuous support of our community and parents. Thanks to all of you!**