TO: Board of Directors

FROM: George Russell
Superintendent of Schools

RE: Reports and Recommendations

VII. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. **Receive an Update on the No-Idling (Motor Vehicles) Outreach** (Staff: Dan Fuehring & Jon Lauch)

   The Facilities and Instruction Departments are beginning to work with the elementary and middle schools on a “No-Idling” outreach program. Our district goal is to reduce motor vehicle emissions at school sites, specifically targeting student drop-off and pick-up areas. Available data suggests that stopping and starting of automobile engines is preferable, with regard to emissions, than to allow vehicles to idle for longer than 30 seconds.

   Dan Fuehring and Jon Lauch will be available at the meeting to provide more detail regarding these efforts and to answer any questions you may have.

2. **Receive an Update on the Tripod Project** (Staff: Laurie Moses)

   During March of 2007, over 4,000 high school students in Eugene completed a 40-minute Tripod Project student engagement survey administered by classroom teachers. On August 29, Ron Ferguson, Tripod Project Director and faculty member of the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and Rob Ramsdell, President of FreshPond Education in Cambridge, Massachusetts, presented information about the project, along with district and school survey results, to teachers from 4J high schools. Leadership teams at each high school have begun analyzing their data in an effort to learn more about the student experience in their school.

   The Tripod Project is a national consortium of schools and districts that have a shared interest in raising achievement for all students, while narrowing gaps among students from different racial, ethnic and social class backgrounds. To this end, the Tripod Project believes that schools, classrooms, and homes should operate in ways that induce students of all backgrounds to achieve five student engagement targets:

   1. Feel trusting, safe and welcome in the school environment;
   2. Behave cooperatively and abide by school rules;
   3. Embrace mastery goals more than socially comparative goals;
   4. Work diligently and remain resilient in response to setbacks; and
   5. Achieve satisfaction and a sense of efficacy based on effort and progress.
In order to achieve these student engagement targets, schools, classrooms, and homes should operate in ways that help foster five conditions for achieving the engagement targets listed above:

1. Feasibility: Instruction and supports make success seem possible;  
2. Relevance: Lessons show connections to real life;  
3. Enjoyment: Lessons are interesting and appropriately challenging;  
4. Teacher Support and Press: Teachers are both supportive and demanding; and  
5. Peer Support: Peers are supportive (or at least not detractors).

Tripod Project research suggests it is actions that promote these conditions that will help schools and classrooms as they work to meet the student engagement targets.

VIII. CONSENT GROUP - ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Approve Grant Application: Smart Routes to School (Staff: Kay Mehas)

Staff from Monroe Middle School submitted a $13,265 grant application to the Oregon Department of Transportation. The project will involve a two-year campaign to create a safer environment and encourage students, staff, and parents to select walking and/or biking as a transportation option. Monroe’s campaign will promote, educate, and reward students for choosing alternative transportation options. Additional energy will be to reduce campus related vehicle speed and congestion as well as offer bicycle and pedestrian safety education. Plans include teaming with other 4J schools, Monroe’s neighborhood association, and the City of Eugene professionals.

Monroe has also applied for the second half of the ODOT Smart Routes to School Grant. The second half of the grant will include infrastructure requests to upgrade Monroe’s bike and skateboard facilities. This grant application is currently in the review process.

The superintendent recommends approval of the grant application. A copy of the grant description form is included in the packet.

IX. Comments and Committee Reports by Individual Board Members

X. Adjourn

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Under provisions of ORS 192.610 – 192.690, Open Meeting Laws, the Board of Directors will conduct an Executive Session for the following purpose:

To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations, pursuant to ORS 192.660 (1) (d).

CALENDAR FOR BOARD MEMBERS

SEPTEMBER
Tuesday, September 25  Chamber of Commerce Emerald Awards @ Hult Center, 5-7 p.m.

OCTOBER
Friday, October 5  City Club - Shaping 4J's Future (George speaking) 11:50 a.m.-1:15 p.m.  
Thursday, October 18  Eugene Education Fund Gala @LCC Building 19, 5:30 p.m.