



August 7, 2006

Dear North Bend School District Staff:

It is time once again for beginning school activities and preparation for the students that will be returning on September 5<sup>th</sup>. I hope you have enjoyed your summer leisure time and activities. It is such a great time for renewal and winding down. I am very pleased to be part of the district and have been learning about the district and have had the opportunity to meet many of you throughout the summer. I am very impressed with the staff, the district and community. I am looking forward to meeting more people and getting to know more about the schools and the various programs offered to students. My door is open and I would enjoy talking with you and getting to know more about our district.

It has been a busy summer for the district's maintenance and custodial staff as they have been working hard to clean buildings, make repairs, and do summer maintenance. The Board approved a project to build ball fields on district owned ground on Oak Street; bids have gone out on the first phase—excavation and drainage- with the bids for irrigation and seeding going out in about two weeks. By next summer, ground preparation will be to the point that field layout can begin and dugouts can be done so fields will be ready for use. Restrooms will be coming in the future as they are quite expensive and will have to wait until funding becomes available. Students will benefit greatly from these new fields as well as allowing space for community programs.

I am also told that this is the first year in awhile that we are able to offer a full year to students and staff. This is a legislative year and “talk” seems to be positive about school funding for the first time in many years. Hopefully, full years will become the norm and we will be able to maintain plus return some of the programs of the past. The budget is tight this year and so conservation and prudence will continue to be the norm with the hope that in the near future we can restore some of the things and people lost over the years.

Another new project is the wiring of the high school with motion sensors. It is hoped the motion sensors will deter theft of technology equipment and make the buildings more secure. The plan is to finish the high school this year and then move toward the middle school and elementary schools in coming years.

The in-service schedule begins with a combined effort between North Bend and Coos Bay School District. This is a great opportunity to get to know fellow educators in the community and have a chance to talk about students and programs. I hope you enjoy the time and the activities the district has planned for you as the week progresses.

Welcome back and I look forward to meeting you and learning more about the district.

Sincerely,

B.J. Hollensteiner, Ed.D.  
Superintendent