



PRESS RELEASE – Corvallis School District 509J

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Corvallis School District to Facilitate Community Visioning Process

The Corvallis School District is launching a process to identify the community's collective vision of quality education for our students. The goal of the Corvallis Community Visioning Process is to identify what the community values and to align the targets for student outcomes with those values. The process also will include discussion about how, as a community, we define student success.

“I am very excited to engage our community in a conversation about our district and the goals that we have for student learning,” said Superintendent Dawn Tarzian.

The district will build the foundation for the Community Visioning Process by gathering information from a wide variety of stakeholders in the district community. The process seeks to engage students, staff, parents, businesspersons, community leaders and other community members to create a working definition of student success.

School board chair Kari Rieck said, “Working with the superintendent, the board hopes to engage our stakeholders in a process that will define student outcomes and help us set district priorities.”

Participants in the community engagement sessions will be posed three guiding questions as the basis for their input:

- As a community, what knowledge and skills do we believe our students need to possess to be successful?
- What learning experiences and opportunities should we provide for our students?
- What kind of culture are we committed to fostering in our district?

Community and district participants will have the opportunity to take part through a variety of mechanisms including electronic surveys, facilitated discussions and other general input sessions. The district will reach out to existing community groups in combination with inviting parent, student and staff representatives to provide input on behalf of their respective groups.

The Corvallis Community Visioning Process will take place throughout the 2006-07 school year with the community engagement phase occurring from November 2006 to March 2007. A culminating public forum is scheduled on Tuesday, March 13. During the second half of the school year a representative group will synthesize and compile the community's input.

In May 2007, the representative group will present the findings of the Community Visioning Process to the school board and unveil its newly formed vision and mission along with recommendations for the future of schools. In addition to proposing a shared vision of the district and its future, the group will present specific student outcomes identified by the staff and the community, and an articulated set of recommendations to guide the future of Corvallis School District.

For additional information, contact Jeanne Holmes at 757-3844.