



OCEAN DRIFTER. Crestview Heights teacher **Terri Hanshumaker**, left, and Taft 7-12 teacher **Kama Almasi** build an ocean drifter to be launched in Astoria.

Marine Science Partnership Heads into Year 2... Teachers Learning 'Ocean Literacy'

Q: What is one of the best ways to ensure that Lincoln County students are "Ocean Literate" – that is, for them to know and understand the importance of the ocean's influence on us and our influence on the ocean?

A: Ensure that teachers have the knowledge, skills and motivation to teach that topic!

"Research has shown that improved student achievement results from long term, consistent and sustained professional development of teachers," says **Ruth McDonald**, Community Curriculum & Resource Liaison for Lincoln County School District.

For that purpose, the school district entered into a partnership with area scientists and science educators to form a group known as OCAMP – Oregon Coast Aquatic and Marine Science Partnership.

During the 2009-2010 school year and summer months, OCAMP provided more than 100 hours of workshops, seminars and professional learning community collaboration to 32 LCSD and charter school teachers. All seminars and workshops revolved around the first year's theme: "Water – Rivers to Sea."

"OCAMP gives teachers the opportunity to interface with research scientists and to hear about the most current research occurring in the aquatic and marine science disci-

plines," says **Mary Koike**, a teacher from Isaac Newton Magnet School. "Students will benefit, because the teachers involved in OCAMP are essentially on the cutting edge of research methods and technology, and that knowledge and experience can be passed on to students."

Matt Falby, a teacher at Oceanlake Elementary School, agrees that the partnership has been an enlightening experience.

"I have become much more connected to our marine environment through my involvement with OCAMP. I have a better grasp of my teaching responsibility to increase our students' awareness and stewardship of the beautiful place in which we live," Falby says. "The partners play a key role in that education, and in motivating and engaging these future caretakers of this special place. I look forward to creating a stronger connection between my new learnings and the opportunities OCAMP affords my students directly and indirectly through my involvement."

Funded by a three-year U.S. Department of Education Math Science Partnership Grant, OCAMP's purpose is to develop an innovative teacher professional development model by partnering teachers, scientists and informal science educators. OCAMP is under the direction of Ruth McDonald and co-primary investigators Dr. Shawn Rowe and Dr. David Noakes, both with Oregon State University (OSU), and Dr. Tawnya Peterson of Oregon Health and Science University's Center for Coastal Margin Observation and Prediction (CMOP).

OCAMP's main focus is on:

- Increasing teachers' content knowledge of science through studying marine and aquatic science,
- Using the Ocean Literacy Principles and Oregon Science Content Standards to integrate this knowledge into instruction, and
- Using informal learning strategies and field-based learning to motivate and excite students in the areas of science, technology engineering and math (STEM Education).

OCAMP, YEAR 1: This past school year, teachers had the opportunity to hear from and work with more than 36 scientists and informal science educators from OSU, CMOP, Oregon Sea Grant, Hatfield Marine Science Center, Oregon Coast Aquarium, Yaquina Head Bureau of Land Management, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Oregon Hatchery Research Center.

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Letter from Your Superintendent

Dear Lincoln County School District Residents:

We are fast approaching the start of another school year. It is a time of year that gets me excited... the buildings are spruced up from summer repairs, paint and wax. Students are gathering school supplies. Teachers are gearing up for a brand new year. The start of the year always holds hope and excitement. My hope is that everyone keeps focused on our students' learning and we see great strides in student achievement!

The large state and federal revenue shortfall and its effect on our district continue to dominate planning for the new school year. It is very frustrating, but we must deal with the reality of the situation in which we find ourselves. We are finalizing a reduction of 12 work days to help address the deficit. Though this will certainly help, it addresses only about half of the expected shortfall. We will cut back spending, and reduce some more positions. My hope is we will be able to end this next school year with all the things we start with intact.

We are excited to welcome about 25 new teachers to our district this year. These teachers mainly replace folks who have retired. We will continue to see large numbers of

retirements in our teaching ranks over the next couple of years. It is an exciting time as we honor those retirees who have served our students and welcome new members to our district.

Also, our many business and community partnerships are flourishing. I am always amazed at how the people in our county rise up and get involved with the youth. It is an indicator of the overall health of our communities.

We will remain focused on providing the best education possible for our students.

I welcome your input. Please feel free to contact me by email (tom.rinearson@lincoln.k12.or.us), or phone (541-265-4403). You can also visit us on the web at www.lincoln.k12.or.us. Thanks for being a part of our district and community.

Sincerely,

Tom Rinearson, Superintendent



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Lincoln County Schools
P.O. Box 1110
Newport, OR 97365

Postal Customer

TAKING NOTE

NEWS OF INTEREST
from around the district

Rx Drug Take Back Project Protects Kids, Environment

Prescription drug abuse is the fastest growing and most alarming type of drug abuse, surpassing methamphetamines. It has become a silent epidemic among youth and older adults.



The frightening fact is these drugs aren't coming from local pushers – most of these dangerous drugs are coming

right out of the family medicine cabinet or from the homes of friends.

To help people properly dispose of unused and unwanted medications, and to help make our communities safe and drug-free, several community partners are sponsoring a pilot project called "Rx Drug Take Back."

This program provides a free, safe, confidential and environmentally sound option to ensure that all medications are properly disposed. Anyone may bring their prescription drugs to the Lincoln City, Toledo or Newport police departments and drop them into a secure drop box. Drugs that will be accepted include unused or expired non-prescription or prescription medications and pet medications in pills, liquids and creams (but no syringes).

The Lincoln City and Toledo drop boxes are available 24 hours a day at the city police stations. The Newport drop box is available inside City Hall from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The drop box is free, safe, and confidential. Only a law enforcement agency is authorized by the federal government to collect and dispose of unused controlled narcotics. Because of this, the

local police departments will use the same procedure to dispose of prescription drugs in an environmentally safe incinerator.

For more information, call Jeannie Hale at 541-574-2995.

Auditions in November for 'Got Talent' Fund-raiser

"Lincoln County's Got Talent! is a fund-raiser for the LCSD Homeless Outreach Program. Produced by the Homeless Youth Alliance of Lincoln County, it showcases the amazing talent – singing, dancing, playing musical instruments, and more – of our local youth, between the ages of 11 and 18.

If you know a talented kid, please encourage him or her to try out for the Second Annual Lincoln County's Got Talent! show planned for Feb. 5, 2011. Auditions are **Saturday, Nov. 6** (noon to 2 p.m. at Toledo Jr./Sr., High and 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Waldport High); and **Saturday, Nov. 13** (noon to 2 p.m. at Taft High and 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Newport High).

Watch for information at your child's school. You may also call Gloria Baum at 541-765-4558 or send an email to hyalc@centurytel.net.

MyPath Careers to Help Train Younger Oregonians

MyPathCareers.org, a novel career exploration website focused on improving Oregon's pool of home-grown talent, launched earlier this summer.

MyPathCareers.org aims to inspire and energize Oregonians ages 17-24 to reconsider their options, and move them to take action by enrolling in a college class or job training workshop. The inventive site is the first of its kind in Oregon and features more than 250 career profiles, hundreds of links to education and training providers, and more than 450 videos and photo diaries of real career professionals.

"Finding the right career is tough for anyone. It's even harder for younger Oregonians who are fairly new to the job market and who may have only a high school diploma," said Bruce Schafer, director of Industry Affairs for the Oregon University System. "The



longer they're away from the classroom, the harder and scarier it is to get back in the saddle. With limited job options, it's not surprising that the idea of an actual career that pays real money starts to feel out of reach. Sadly, everyone suffers."

With baby-boomer retirement on the rise, Oregon businesses need to identify a pool of qualified employees to help meet their long-range economic goals. Roughly

334,000 young people between the ages of 17 and 24 live in Oregon – 83% have a high school diploma, but only 8% have their bachelor's degree.

Want to Help Local Kids? Consider Becoming a Lion

The Newport Lions Club is part of a world-wide service organization. Although their main focus is on sight and hearing problems and solutions, local clubs are active in many other community services – including those that help local children.

The Newport Lions sponsor the Lions Multiple Health Screening Unit (MHSU), which screens schoolchildren and others

for sight, hearing, glaucoma, and diabetes. The Newport Lions help as many possible to obtain free glasses, hearing aids, and other care as needed. In 2009 the MHSU screened 1,453 people, finding 215 potential health issues, or 15% of those screened.

Overall expenses amount to \$3,000 per year for the services of the MHSU, much of which is donated by local businesses in the form of sponsorship. Last year the Newport Lions spent \$6,000 providing eyeglasses and hearing aids to people who could not afford to pay for them.

The Newport Lions contribute to the community in many other ways, as well. A problem is that their membership is diminishing. Without active members, the Lions will have to cut back on their services, including those that help local children.

Anyone interested in learning more about the Lions may call Earl Dobson at 541-265-8486 or 541-961-1495, or Jerry Srofe at 541-961-7944. Or, go online to www.lionsclubs.org. ♦



LCSD HELP PROGRAM IS GROWING!

Earlier this year, youth group volunteers from Newport Young Life and Newport Foursquare Church assisted LCSD staff in preparing the LCSD Homeless Education and Literacy Project (HELP) Family Center located at the former Yaquina View school building in Newport. The young volunteers organized clothing donations, cleaned and painted the center, moved furniture and storage boxes, and even started the beginning stages of a local gardening project! Pictured here, from left, are Young Life volunteers **A'briana Cortes, Bradley Larson, CJ Marsh, Aspen Soifakis**, Americorps VISTA Homeless Coordinator **Kaija Daniel, Joey Jacques** and **Andrew Becerra**.

The LCSD HELP program is housed at four family centers in Lincoln City, Newport, Toledo, and Waldport. The centers focus on providing basic needs items, referrals, and enrichment programs that promote literacy and education. Events and classes offered at the centers are free and open to all children, youth and families regardless of their current living situation. For more information on services and/or how you can help, call LCSD Homeless Outreach Program Coordinator **Katey Townsend** at 541-265-4506. ♦

BE INFORMED ABOUT YOUR SCHOOLS!

Parents, Students, Community Members... Did you know that there are several different ways to get information about Lincoln County School District and your neighborhood schools? Check 'em out!

☐ **LCSD WEBSITE:** Go online to www.lincoln.k12.or.us and you'll find an abundance of great information. For instance, on the homepage you can link to recent news releases, the Oregon Department of Education's school report cards, individual school websites, the LCSD budget, and much more.

☐ **SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS:** Ask

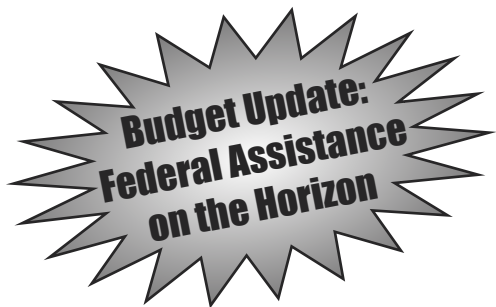
your school about their newsletter and how you can "subscribe" to it.

☐ **DISTRICT DIALOG:** Watch your mailbox at home for this community newsletter that is published quarterly. You also can access current and past issues on the LCSD website, in both English and Spanish.

☐ **LCSD TV:** Turn your cable TV to

channel 4 (in south county) or channel 21 (in north county) to see a variety of student produced programs highlighting school district activities.

☐ **LCSD 24-HOUR INFORMATION LINE:** Call 265-4437 anytime to learn about emergency news (such as school closings because of bad weather). ♦



Lincoln County School District Finances: 12-day cut approved, other options considered

Lincoln County School District and the Lincoln County Education Association on July 23 agreed to a contract reduction of 12 work days during the 2010/2011 school year. This is just one step the school district is taking in response to an estimated \$2.5 million budget deficit for the coming school year as a result of state and federal revenue cuts.

If the economy continues on its present track, there could be additional mid-year budget cuts, bringing the total deficit for the next school year to as much as \$4.5 million, district officials say.

“Even in the best of years, it’s always a difficult balancing act. We must provide a quality education to our students, while meeting state and federal requirements and honoring our contractual agreements with teachers and support staff,” says LCSD Superintendent **Tom Rinearson**.

“I’m pleased that we were able to come to an agreement with our teachers and the union leadership, but this is merely a short-term response to an ongoing problem. It is

by no means a solution to our financial problems.”

By including all district staff (licensed, administrative, classified and confidential) in the 12-day work reduction, the school district will save approximately \$1.12 million, or less than half of projected beginning year deficits.

Changes to the 2010/11 school calendars reflecting the 12-day reduction are being drafted and will be presented to the LCSD Board of Directors for approval at their meeting on Aug. 24.

In reworking the calendar, the overriding goal is to lessen the impact on students by creating minimal disruption to the school year. One way to do this is by placing the non-work days around existing holidays and breaks, says LCSD Assistant Superintendent **Dr. Sara Johnson**. However, one consequence of including too many of these days in a single week is a possible increase in unemployment claims, which goes counter to the school district’s efforts to save money. District officials

are consulting with an unemployment specialist to ensure that the 12 days are being built into the calendar to lessen any negative educational or financial impact.

“Even though we agreed to cut 12 work days, that doesn’t necessarily translate into 12 days of school lost,” Johnson says. “It’s possible that we can cut some school improvement days or conference days, but that is something we are researching right now.”

School Registration, Start Dates Unchanged: Although calendar revisions have not been completed, one thing is certain: the previously approved and publicized dates for student registration and the first day of school for administrators, teachers, staff and students remain unchanged. For most students, the first day of school is Tuesday, Sept. 7, but that date varies, depending on the student’s school and grade level. School calendars are posted online at www.lincoln.k12.or.us (click on “District Calendars” located in the left hand column).

Budget vs. Spending: The school district is required by law to approve a budget for the next school year by June 30. On June 15, the LCSD Board of Directors adopted the budget for the 2010-2011 school year, which includes a general revenue fund of \$45.6 million.

Depending on whether the federal funds will be appropriated to help K-12 Education [see below], the district’s actual revenue is still unknown. A budget is simply an allocation document – the district cannot spend more than what is allocated, but can spend less. So, the district is developing a spending plan based on actual revenue.

Among actions being considered to close the gap between revenue and expenditures are paring back on discretionary spending, freezing salaries and health insurance caps, laying off teachers and staff, reallocating certain funds, using cash reserves, and eliminating or reducing certain programs.

Federal Assistance: On Aug. 4, the U.S. Senate approved a bill to send more money to states, with a portion to help keep teachers employed. The bill must gain House approval and be signed into law by the President.

“Then the money gets into the funding channels and we will see how much we get, along with the strings attached to it,” Rinearson said. “We will start school before all this gets done. Furthermore, we will get a state revenue projection at the end of August. The bottom line is the money, hopefully, will help us to not cut anymore.” ♦



SARA JOHNSON
Assistant
Superintendent

SCHOOL’S OUT FOR SUMMER... which means that the LCSD Facilities and Maintenance staff have been busier than ever!

Under the guidance of **Rich Belloni**, director of LCSD Support Services, district-employed electricians, painters, carpenters, maintenance crew and office staff have been busy with routine repairs and more substantial improvements so that our schools are safe, clean, fresh and ready for the new year!

❑ Photo 1, painter **Ed Babinski** sprays a fresh coat as part of complete exterior repainting of Newport Intermediate.

❑ Photo 2, a pedestrian tries out the newly widened concrete sidewalk at Oceanlake Elementary’s bus loading zone. Bushes were later planted along the edge instead of a safety rail for better esthetics.

❑ Photo 3, **Gilbert Buring** drives drywall screws into the outside wall of a new computer lab that was created out of an open area at Taft High.

❑ Photo 4, electrician **Jeffery Johnston** installs bright new, energy-efficient hallway lighting at Toledo High.

Here’s some more of the summertime activity... ❑ Energy efficient windows installed at Oceanlake Elementary ❑ New science laboratory work stations installed at Toledo High

❑ New brick face and windows installed at Sam Case Primary

❑ Removal of exterior wood shades at Sam Case Primary

❑ Newport Intermediate library book shelves and work space reconfigured for better student supervision

❑ New bath tile installed at Toledo High

❑ Concrete curbing poured along new access road at Toledo Elementary

❑ Several rooms at Crestview Heights were painted

❑ Taft High doors replaced and entry repaired

❑ Four special education rooms remodeled at Newport Prep Academy

❑ Fire and security alarm main panels replaced in all LCSD buildings

❑ Locks for keycard entry completed at Taft High and Oceanlake Elementary, Taft Elementary and Toledo Elementary

❑ Cameras installed at Taft High and Newport High as part of keycard locks grant. ♦



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Ocean Literacy

continued from Page 1

Additionally, teachers worked with researchers from NOAA and the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI), South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve, and Oregon Institute of Marine Biology (OIMB).

Culminating the year's events and activities, participating OCAMP elementary teachers spent a week at Florence, during the Northwest Aquatic and Marine Educators conference; and in Charleston, at the South Slough Reserve and OIMB. There, they learned about curriculum and instructional strategies to help them implement what they have learned into their classrooms this coming school year. In particular, they are planning integrated, multi-disciplinary units on marine debris and sandy beaches that will incorporate science, math, reading, writing and social studies.

"Participation in OCAMP provides me with an opportunity for continued professional development in acquiring



TOURING THE SOUTH SLOUGH: Tom Gaskill of South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve in Charleston leads OCAMP teachers on a tour of the property through the salt marshes and giant skunk cabbages.

ocean literacy skills," says **Pat Whetstone**, of Siletz Charter Schools. "I am looking forward to implementing what I have learned at trainings into my sixth grade classroom. Implementing and integrating inquiry-based instruction about our marine ecosystem will also provide students with the opportunity to use real-time data in their investigations."

Secondary teachers spent their workshop time in Beaverton and Astoria, at the MBARI EARTH workshop held at OHSU's Center for Coastal Margin Observation and Prediction. They learned about ocean observing systems, near and real-time data, and how to use this data in the classroom.

One of the high points of the week was traveling to Astoria

"OCAMP has changed the way I look at streams, rivers, and the ocean! I hope to instill the same sense of wonder in my students that OCAMP has instilled in me."

—Jana Osterlund, Newport Intermediate School

to build "drifters" which are released into the ocean to collect data that scientists use for observations of ocean dynamics, meteorological conditions and climate variations, biochemical concentrations, and air-sea fluxes throughout the ocean. At the end of the week, LCSD teachers collaborated with 20 other teachers from around the country to develop and present lesson plans and resources to be implemented in their classrooms this year.

The program is being evaluated by Education Northwest, with data and results from the Year One evaluation to be available after Sept. 30. McDonald says preliminary data indicate stronger achievement on Oregon's Science Assessment among students of participating OCAMP project teachers.

OCAMP, YEAR 2: The theme for OCAMP's second year is "Marine Resources and Human Impacts." The two-day kick-off event will be held Aug. 26-27 at the Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport.

During the 2010-2011 school year, teachers will again be learning from and working with top researchers and informal science educators, and taking LCSD students into the field for exciting and relevant learning experiences.

OCAMP'S BEGINNINGS: In 2006, LCSD Superintendent **Tom Rinearson** established the Ocean Literacy Initiative, a partnership between the Oregon Coast Aquarium, HMSC/ Sea Grant and the school district to support the goal of developing Lincoln County students into the most Ocean Literate students in the country. ♦

"Before OCAMP, I did not think it possible to plan inquiry-based science lessons about marine/aquatic science for 1st and 2nd graders. Next year it will be easy!"

— Ingrid Olson, Crestview Heights School

Taft Athletes Get a Boost

Earlier this year, the Pacific Power Foundation awarded a \$2,000 grant to the Taft 7-12 High School Booster Club. The funds were used to purchase first aid kits and restocking supplies for the kits. The first aid kits will be available to all sports teams at the school.

Pictured here, from left, are **Kathy Joy**, Booster Club president; **Scott Reed**, Taft High School principal; **Doris Johnston**, Pacific Power regional community manager; **Julie Turner**, LCSD district nurse; and **Majalisse Tolan**, former assistant principal (and current Newport Intermediate principal) who helped in securing the grant.

The Pacific Power Foundation is part of the PacifiCorp Foundation, one of the largest utility-endowed foundations in the United States. It was created in 1988 by PacifiCorp, an electric utility serving 1.7 million customers in six Western states.



DISTRICT DIALOG

Current and Past Editions of "District Dialog" are available in Spanish and English online at:
www.lincoln.k12.or.us

Your School Board

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Jean Turner Vice Chairman

Karen Bondley - Brenda Brown - Liz Martin

Go online to www.lincoln.k12.or.us, to Departments to School Board. There, you can learn more about the board member who represents your area, including contact information; and find out about past and upcoming school board meetings. *Public input is always welcome!*

LCSD VISION:

Quality Learning For All

LCSD MISSION:

To Develop Passionate Learners and Responsible Citizens

IMPORTANT DATES

STUDENT REGISTRATION

Taft Elementary, Taft High: Aug. 16-20

Oceanlake Elementary: Aug. 17-20

Toledo Jr/Sr High: Aug. 20, 23-24

Toledo Elementary: Aug. 23-24

West Area: Aug. 23-27

South Area: Aug. 24-26

NEW TEACHERS REPORT TO WORK

Monday, Aug. 30

LABOR DAY

Monday, Sept. 6

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

varies by school and grade level Sept. 7-10

Sept. 13

STATEWIDE INSERVICE DAY

No School

Friday, Oct. 8

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT DAY

No School for all except Oceanlake Elementary and Taft High

Monday, Oct. 11

LCSD has six school calendars for its different areas and schools. The new calendars with the 12-day contract reduction will be available after the School Board approves them on Aug. 24. Please contact individual schools for a copy or go online to the LCSD website at:

www.lincoln.k12.or.us