



The Bridge

Making community connections

Save the date!!

Saturday, October 17th

The Alumni & Friends of Lowell School District will be hosting the **1st Annual Hall of Fame Celebration** on Saturday night, October 17th. Homecoming will be on Friday so this will be a great weekend in Lowell that you won't want to miss.

The Alumni & Friends Association is one of the many initiatives undertaken by the Lowell, Fall Creek Education Foundation. Committee members are busy collecting contact information for our many graduates and supporters of the District so we can be sure to invite everyone to upcoming events and notify them of important news. We also want to hear how Lowell graduates are doing and would welcome updates from parents, friends and graduates themselves. Please send your updates via email to AAF@lowell.k12.or.us, call 541-937-2124, or mail information to 65 S. Pioneer Street, Lowell OR 97452.

The newly revitalized Foundation Board has rolled up their sleeves and gotten to work on many exciting new initiatives. Read all about it in the Strategic Plan posted on the Foundation's webpage at www.lowell.k12.or.us under the Community tab. Board members have approved an initial Projects List (see list inside) and would like your feedback. Specifically, if there's a project you would like to champion — let us know! Or, if you have resources and/or contacts that could help us with any of these or a new one you would like to propose, please contact the Alumni & Friends Association at the addresses above.

Lowell, Fall Creek Education Foundation —
We're on the *move*...

The Bridge

Volume 17, Issue 9

March 2015

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LOWELL SCHOOLS: We're on the *Move...*

The Lowell, Fall Creek Education Foundation is committed to building positive relationships between the District and our community which support the academic, athletic and artistic achievement of the students served by Lowell School District. Following is the initial list of projects approved by the Board at their last meeting.

This will be a continually evolving process and we welcome your input. You may contact the Foundation board through the Alumni & Friends email address or contact any of the board members you may know. They are: Ron Johnson, Donna McCallum, Maureen Weathers, Diane Stephens, Warren Weathers, Nancy Garratt, Sharon Carroll and Walt Hanline.

Foundation Projects List Approved February 4, 2015

- Alumni & Friends of Lowell School District Communication Committee — M. Weathers/C. Neet
- Alumni & Friends of Lowell School District Annual Dinner Committee — Vallie Todd
- Mini-grants for Teachers
- Scholarship Fund — Toni Taylor
- Hall of Fame Committee
- Landscape Front of Lundy Elementary
- Replace Stage Curtains at LHS
- Expand weight room equipment
- New sound system for football
- Track renovation and installation of sprinters track
- New drama equipment and lights
- Renovation of Buddy Winfrey memorial
- New technology (Smart Boards)
- New scoreboard for Lundy Gym
- Water bottle size drinking fountains for both gyms
- New locker for the high school
- 3 D printers for Career Tech Program
- Purchase electronic sign for front of LHS
- Secure entrance with video at Lundy
- Video lab equipment
- New sound system for baseball field
- New science equipment
- Robots for robotics club
- Permanent covered bleachers for the football/track field

If you are interested in being a committee chair for one of these projects, please contact the Foundation.



**Lowell,
Fall Creek
Education
Foundation**

Food Service Program Update

Change is the optimum word to describe what's happening in Lowell Food Service. The participation of students in the program is up 35% and our income has doubled since last year. On February 9th, we launched our Super Snack Program at Lundy Elementary, which provides a quality snack for each student at the end of the school day. **Please note, if there are children between the ages of 1-18 years who would like to participate in the daily program, please contact the Lundy School Office and drop by for the snack at 2:55 pm each day.** We hope to launch the same program at the secondary school in March. Next year, after we renovate our High School Cafeteria, we will launch a dinner program that will be available to the students and the community.

The changes are the result of the District recruiting a national leader in the area of Food Service by the name of Billy Reid to serve as our Director. Billy has served for 37 years in the food industry and graduated from the French Culinary Institute. He is, at present, the Food Service Director in three California School Districts (Salida Union, Stanislaus Union and Denair Unified), in addition to serving as the Director of Food Service for Lowell. Billy was the first Food Service Director in California to win the Gold Award with Distinction from the Healthy United States Schools Challenge. He was described by First Lady Michelle Obama on October 17, 2011, during an award ceremony at the White House (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/photos-and-video/video/2011/10/17/first-lady-speaks-healthier-us-school-challenge>), as a leader to be emulated. Currently the recipient of seven Gold Awards with Distinction and the only Director in the Nation where every school in his district, Salida School District, is a Gold Distinction Winner; he most recently was awarded the 2013 National School Food Service Role Model Award from the Produce For a Better Health Foundation.

We are proud to report that Billy has been recruited by other Lane County School Districts to review their programs and to provide guidance to the administration and Boards of each district. We believe that Lowell will become the role model for other Food Service Programs throughout Oregon and, in partnership with Billy, will have a significant impact on the school food service programs offered in Oregon.

On to State! On to State!

At the Class 2A/1A Special District 2 tournament, Lowell wrestlers took the district title over Gold Beach with a score of 207-147. The seven champion wrestlers are seniors Joshua Conner (132#) and Tanner Harvey (182#); junior Sam Thurman (220#); and sophomores Justyn Barton (138#), Tommy Harvey (152#), Hayden Trimble (160#), and Kenny Lane (170#). Also earning a first round spot at State is sophomore Chelsea Bryne wrestling at 106# and freshman Thomas Ward at 225#.

The State Championship Tournament will run from 8:30 a.m. until 8:15 p.m. on Friday, February 27th, continue on Saturday from 8:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and conclude with finals on Saturday from 6:30 until 10:00 p.m. If you are unable to make the drive to Portland, log on to www.osaa.org and sign up to watch the matches live online.

Basketball Teams update

In the run to the State finals, the Boys Basketball team lost in the first round to Crosshill Christian. The Girls team beat Willamette Valley Christian 56-33 and will play Damascus Christian on Feb. 28th. Stay tuned for more news...

Kaysey DeMarce signs with NCU

On February 5th, Kaysey DeMarce signed her letter of intent to play volleyball at Northwest Christian University this Fall. She also received a scholarship to study psychology and would like to get in to children's services work in the future. Congratulations Kaysey!

More Volleyball News

Coach Prenevost will be holding a youth volleyball camp August 11th through 13th. The cost is \$25. It is always a great time so mark it on your calendar. More details will be provided closer to the camp dates.

Our alumni game will be a little different this year. We are hoping to have groups sign up in teams so we can play tournament style. You can also sign up as an individual and we'll try to find you a team. Alumni to us means anyone who went to Lowell, married someone from Lowell/Fall Creek, lives in Lowell/Fall Creek, or really has any connection to the community, male or female. The date is to be determined but it's a good time to start putting together your dream team.



What is your child doing after school?

Why not join the Lowell After School Program!

When: Session starts Wednesday, September 3rd
 Who: Kindergarten through 6th grade
 Where: Lundy Elementary School
 45 S. Moss Street
 Cost: \$180/month (includes early arrival program)
 Drop-in rates available
 Sibling discounts

Register now! Forms are available at Lundy Elementary. If you have questions, please call 541-937-2105 or email jmatthews@lowell.k12.or.us.

The Lowell After School Program includes art projects, homework help, math and writing, fitness fun, exploring and learning and other enrichment activities.

Lowell Community Preschool Enrolling for the 2015-2016 School Year!

- Located inside Lundy Elementary School.
- Accepting children ages 3 to 5.
- Availability:
 - 10 Pre-Kindergarten spots (age 4 by Sept. 1st 2015)
 - 4 Preschool spots (age 3 by Sept. 1st 2015)
- Early Enrollment form and \$75.00 fee is due at registration to secure your child's spot.
- Forms can be filled out Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday in the Preschool room between 11:30am and 12:00pm every week until spots are filled OR go to www.lowell.k12.or.us/preschool to download the Early Enrollment form.

For questions and availability please contact Jessica Pelroy at pelroyj@yahoo.com.

FROM THE LOWELL FIRE DISTRICT

By Chief Keith Hoehn

Vegetation Debris Burning in Lane County

In the rural areas of Lane County, burning of vegetation debris is a viable way to get rid of tree branches, brush cuttings, needles, and leaves that will help keep your property wildfire safe. And with proper site preparation and forethought, you may burn this sort of debris with reasonable safety. Taking the time to plan an open burning project, preparing the burn site, and equipping yourself with basic fire suppression tools before lighting the match will dramatically reduce the chance of a burn pile fire getting out of control and becoming an emergency.

Outdoor burning of yard debris and the smoke such burning generates is regulated by the Lane Regional Air Protection Agency, (LRAPA). LRAPA provides open burning information and establishes “burn days” based on atmospheric conditions. As the weather gets dryer and warmer, LRAPA and Lane County Fire Agencies will jointly assess the fire danger and establish guidelines for burning.

LRAPA provides a “daily burning advisory” which provides for specific burn days and hours that burning may be performed. These advisories are established daily and must be accessed prior to burning during open burn season. The open burn season is generally October to June and may be based on fire risk and weather conditions. The Daily Burning Advisory can be accessed by calling LRAPA at 541-726-3976, or by going to www.lrapa.org.

Once you have determined that burning is allowed, follow these simple steps to help ensure you have a safe and effective yard debris burn.

- Make sure burning is allowed - Call LRAPA or the Oregon Department of Forestry office to learn whether or not a permit is required. On the day you plan to burn, call to ensure burning is allowed that particular day. Fire agencies may suspend burning on short notice due to a change in weather conditions.
- Check the weather - Even on an allowed burning day, local weather fluctuations could make it too dangerous to burn. Gusty winds, for example, could carry sparks from your burn pile to flammable brush or grass a considerable distance away.
- Follow the rules - Comply with the burning regulations.
- Always stay with your fire until it is dead out. Do not leave your fire unattended.
- Plastics, treated lumber, and other manufactured products give off toxic fumes and are not allowed under LRAPA Regulation. Only burn the backyard debris that is safe and legal to burn. It is illegal to burn plastic, tires, and just about anything else that isn't from a tree or shrub.



Before burning backyard debris in a pile, prepare the site to reduce the risk of the fire escaping. Otherwise, flame or sparks may ignite nearby vegetation and cause a wildfire.

Follow these simple steps:

- Choose an appropriate burn site - Select an area where flames, radiant heat, and airborne embers won't set nearby vegetation afire. Vertical clearance needs to be at least three times the height of the pile. A burning pile of tree branches will send visible flames several feet into the air above the pile, but the invisible heat influence will go even higher. There should be no overhanging limbs or power lines, and the site needs to be well away from buildings.
- Clear the ground - Horizontal clearance should be twice the height of the pile. The ground around the burn sites should be cleared down to mineral soil or gravel out to at least 10 feet in all directions.
- Assemble necessary equipment - Have a charged garden hose or a fire extinguisher and shovel available at the site, and keep the surrounding area well watered down during the burn. When burning backyard debris, think small.
- Limit the quantity of materials – Limit the quantity of limbs, twigs, and other yard waste that you put on the fire at one time.

- Add small additional amounts - as material is consumed, adding small additional amounts of material will keep the flame lengths short and reduce the chance of sparks carrying off-site and will assist in complete combustion, limiting the amount of smoke produced.
- Never use an accelerant on a burn pile, either before or after you light the pile on fire.

Like a campfire in the woods thought to have been put out, a burn to dispose of backyard debris can rise from the ashes unexpectedly. Every year in Oregon, wildfires are kindled from debris burns that homeowners thought they had extinguished.

It seems odd to be talking about wildfire in February, but if the warmer, dryer weather stays with us, wildfire can become a significant hazard anytime. For more information about backyard burning, contact LRAPA at 541-736-1056 or call the Fire District Office at 541-937-3393.

Firefighter/EMT?

What does it mean to be a volunteer firefighter or emergency medical services provider?

For some it's a way to give back to their communities, others it's a way to move into a career path and others it starts off as a way to meet friends and interact with a group of individuals who are motivated to come together to help one another. It's responding at all hours to help their neighbor or someone they have never met before.

Almost without exception, being a volunteer firefighter or emergency medical responder can be one of the most rewarding, fulfilling, and worthwhile activities you can do to support your community. The demands are great, but the rewards are even greater, not only for the community, but also for you personally.

Stop by the station for a visit, and see how you might be able to help support your community and neighbors while learning new and exciting skills. What makes a great community is its people, and we have a great community. If you have some time and would like to learn new and different things that support positive personal as well as community growth, or have some skills that you would like to pass on to your local firefighters, contact the fire district office or go to www.lowellfiredistrict.org for more information.

DEXTER HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE ROUND-UP



**SATURDAY
MARCH 7
9AM-2PM**

**DEXTER FIRE
STATION
82781 BARBRE
ROAD**

SPONSORED BY LANE COUNTY,
SPRINGFIELD UTILITY BOARD,
DEXTER FIRE STATION &
MIDDLE FORK WILLAMETTE WATERSHED COUNCIL



What to bring:

Paint, household cleaners, lawn and garden chemicals, car care products, arts and crafts products, and just about any other household hazardous waste. The limit is 35 gallons of total waste per household.

What not to bring:

Empty containers, drums, radioactive waste, asbestos, explosives or electronics.

On the web: www.lowellfiredistrict.org

City Beat

2015 AWWA CASCADE TO COAST 8TH ANNUAL BEST TASTING WATER CONTEST

On February 19, 2015 the City of Lowell's Public Works Department entered a drinking water sample into the 2015 8th Annual AWWA Cascade to Coast Best Tasting Water Contest held in Eugene. Lowell placed 5th out of 14 water providers from across the State. First place was given to The City of Bend for the 4th year in a row and Bend will go on to represent the State in the Next level of competition. This is the first year Lowell has entered the drinking water contest and we hope to enter again next year.

There's a public library at City Hall?

Several times a week volunteer City Librarian Maggie Osgood hears from people, "I didn't know we had a public library in town!" So for those of you who haven't yet visited, Maggie invites you to come take a look around. Just come in the front door of City Hall at 51 East Third Street and you'll be directed to the library.

The library started with a small collection of donated books and has grown to include three internet connected computers, a wonderful children's section complete with play area and over 8,000 books on many different subjects, fiction and non-fiction. Also available are DVDs and VHS tapes for checkout.

Library cards are free to all area residents, just stop by between the weekday hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to get yours. Children need to have a parent/guardian present to sign up. The all-volunteer staff will help you find just what you're looking for.

Maggie is always looking for additional volunteers, so if library service is on your list of interests, please contact Maggie at 541-937-3759. And be sure to pass on this information to students who might need a quiet place to get some extra studying or internet research done, especially on those no-school days.



Lowell City Council Actions

This report of actions taken by the Lowell City Council is a regular feature of this newsletter and is provided to inform citizens of recent decisions made by the council.

From the February 3rd regular meeting:

- Approved Resolution 616, a resolution to change City Hall open hours to 9:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. In support: Bennett, Burford, Osgood, Paulson; Opposed: none; Absent: Rennert.
- Approved a motion to reconsider the appointment of Pam Bryant as an alternate budget committee member. In support: Bennett, Burford, Osgood, Paulson; Opposed: none; Absent: Rennert.
- Approved a new contract with the City Administrator increasing hours from 20 to 32 per week. In support: Bennett, Burford, Osgood, Paulson; Opposed: none; Absent: Rennert.
- Deferred the Leash Law Ordinance for discussion at the February 17th work session. In support: Bennett, Burford, Osgood, Paulson; Opposed: none; Absent: Rennert.

From the February 17th regular meeting:

- Authorized the Regional Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program's representative, Andy Clay of St. Vincent de Paul, to approve the use of Defederalized Funds to supplement loans in the amount of \$34,406 for the Home of Your Own Program. In support: Bennett, Osgood, Paulson, Rennert; Opposed: none; Absent: Burford.
- Approved changing the Accounting Clerk from Temporary Part-time to Permanent Part-time. In support: Bennett, Osgood, Paulson, Rennert; Opposed: none; Absent: Burford.
- Approved the appointment of Gail Harris, Mary Wallace and Nancy Garratt to the Planning Commission. In support: Bennett, Osgood, Paulson; Opposed: Rennert; Absent: Burford.

In and Around Our Community

Free Easter Sunday Breakfast

East Valley Church invites anyone and everyone to come join them Sunday, April 5th at 8:00 a.m. for a free breakfast/brunch. East Valley is located across from the Grange at 72 East 2nd Street. Feel free to stay and attend the regular Sunday service which follows at 10:00 a.m.

April Grange Breakfast moved to the 12th

Due to Easter Sunday, the free Grange breakfast that is normally held on the first Sunday of each month will move to the second Sunday in April. March's breakfast will be on March 1st.

Columbia Drag Boat Association Schedule

The race dates are set for 2015 as follows:

- June 20-21
- July 17-19
- August 15-16

Be sure to come out and support the Lowell Fire Department as they cook a great breakfast during these events!



March 7th Free Movie Night!



The Lowell Cub Scouts are offering this month's Free Movie Night on **Saturday, March 7th** with the showing of **Muppets Most Wanted**. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the movie starts at 7:00 p.m., at the Lowell Grange, 51 East 2nd Street.

Children of all ages are welcome but those under age 7 should have an adult present to

supervise them.

Admission is **free!** Sales of refreshments support scouting activities. For more information call 541-937-2643.

Grange Events in March

Breakfast on March 1st

Texas Hold 'em Poker on March 6th & 21st

Bingo! on March 4th & 18th

Bunco on March 13th

Your support of these events help restore the historic Grange Hall Building. Thank you very much!



US Army Corps of Engineers

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers would like to inform the community about two upcoming projects near Dexter Dam:

Tree Removal Project: Trees and brush will be cleared from a small area on the south end of Dexter Dam near Dexter Park this spring. The vegetation is interfering with the dam's drainage system and must be removed to ensure the continued safety of the dam. The larger trees will be donated to non-profit organizations and government agencies for watershed enhancement projects.

Erosion Repair Project: About 210 cubic yards of large rocks (3-7 tons each) will be delivered and stored on the south side of the river below Dexter Dam this spring. This material will be used to stabilize a portion of the river-bank that was eroded away by high flows in December 2010, causing collapse of a fishing platform. The actual repair project has not yet been scheduled, but will not interfere with fishing season.

For more information about these projects, please contact the Corps of Engineers Willamette Valley Project office at 541-684-4300.

The Bridge

Lowell School District #71
65 South Pioneer Street
Lowell, OR 97452

Phone 541 937-8405 Fax 541 937-8709
On the web: www.lowell.k12.or.us

Making community connections

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Postal Customer Lowell/Fall Creek

*The Bridge is a cooperative effort of Lowell School District #71,
City of Lowell and Lowell Rural Fire Protection District.*

Upcoming Meetings and Events: March 2015

- 1—Breakfast at the Lowell Grange, 8:00-11:00 a.m.
 - 2—Read Across America! at Lundy Elementary
JH Boys Basketball v. McKenzie, 4:00 p.m.
 - 3—**City Council Budget Hearing & Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall**
 - 4—JH Boys Basketball v. Mohawk, 4:00 p.m.
BINGO! at the Lowell Grange, 7:00 p.m.
 - 5—Parks Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm., City Hall
 - 6—Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
 - 7—Household Hazardous Waste Roundup, Dexter Fire, 9am-2pm
Free Family Movie Night at the Lowell Grange, 6:30 p.m.
 - 8—Daylight Savings Time starts — spring forward one hour
 - 10—Blackberry Jam Committee Mtg, 7:00 p.m., Lowell Fire Hall
 - 11—Preschool Registration, Lundy Elementary, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Economic Development Committee, 7:00 pm, Lowell Fire Hall
 - 13—Bunco at the Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
 - 14—JH Boys Basketball Tourney @ McKenzie, time TBA
 - 17—Varsity Baseball @ Thurston JV, 4:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall
 - 18—Varsity Softball & Baseball v. Creswell JV, 4:00 p.m.
BINGO! at the Lowell Grange, 7:00 p.m.
Fire District Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Lowell Station
 - 19—Varsity Softball & Baseball v. Myrtle Point, 4:30 p.m.
 - 21—Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
 - 23—Varsity Softball & Baseball @ Cottage Grove, Noon
School Board meeting, Lundy Comm. Room, 7:00 p.m.
 - 24—Varsity Baseball v. Waldport, 4:30 p.m.
Lowell Planning Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m. City Hall
 - 26—Varsity Softball @ Thurston JV, 4:30 p.m.
 - 31—Varsity Softball & Baseball v. Crow, 4:30 p.m.
- In April:
3—Varsity Softball & Baseball v. Monroe, 4:30 p.m.
4—Easter Egg Hunt at the Lowell Grange, 10:00 a.m.
5—Free Breakfast, East Valley Church, 8:00 a.m.
- Watch for flyers in April about the upcoming
Kindergarten Round-up!**



March 23-27th!

Oregon Department of Energy

Energy success stories from around the state



Lowell School District's energy project inspires local pride

People should value K-12 schools as an integral part of their communities, says Lowell School District Superintendent Walter L. Hanline, Ed.D. Last year, the Oregon Department of Energy's Small-scale Energy Loan Program worked with the school district on a complete energy efficiency overhaul. The result: the district now uses a third less energy, despite the increased use of facility space.

"Before the upgrades, it would have cost local taxpayers here \$1000 per year over the next 20 to 30 years if we replaced the schools," said Dr. Hanline. "Rather than that, we worked with SELP on energy installations that offered our schools a new look and feel, and provided us a chance to use unusable facility space," Superintendent Hanline added.

After 30 years of dealing with deteriorating schools, the district modernized boiler controls, insulated walls, and replaced windows and lighting in the schools. Dr. Hanline said the ambitious project took only three months to complete, half the time it usually takes for a project this size.

"Our students had to succumb to an uncondusive environment that was so bad they did not want to come to school," said the superintendent. "The window seals were rotting away and the heating and cooling temperature inside the schools weren't working properly, which affected how engaged students were."

Dr. Hanline referred to substantial research done on how student motivation and academics can wane

Lowell School District's energy project inspires local pride

depending on the comfort level of the school. Improving student experiences and learning environments can improve student performance. Within the Lowell School District, Superintendent Hanline said student scores are up because kids feel more connected. He shares this sentiment with other school districts that have used ODOE's energy loans for energy installations and upgrades.

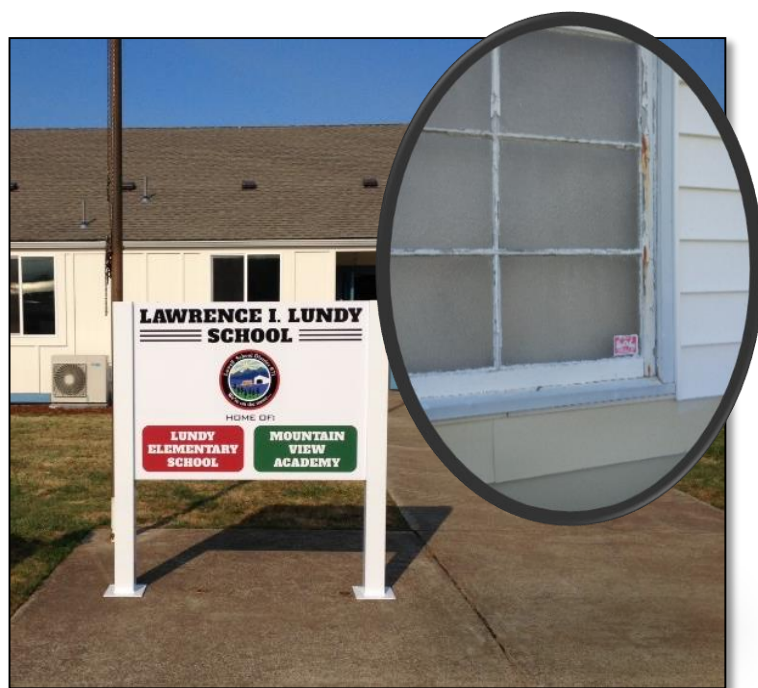
When the school doors opened after the renovations, Dr. Hanline and the Board knew their investment had paid off. Right away they noticed a total shift in attitudes and a new cultural mindset both inside and out. The investment brought back community pride.

"A student representative on our board says they feel like they are in a brand new school," said Dr. Hanline. "They look forward to coming to school now."

Without the support of SELP, the school district would not have had the funding to do the work. Superintendent Hanline also noted that working with the state energy loan program, rather than private sources, comes with greater value and support. The superintendent also spoke about the graciousness of staff, their expertise and ideas on how to make things happen.

John Hobbs, SELP loan officer said, "I'm pleased that the improvements to the school have had such a positive effect on students and the community. It was superintendent Hanline and the district leadership's vision that made this project successful."

Dr. Hanline said the district receives an enormous amount of community support. Schools in smaller cities, such as Lowell, see their schools as community centers, a focal point of their town.



Before energy upgrades students and administration were subjected to issues such as rotting window seals and windows that weren't favorable to summer and winter conditions.

"Taxpayers don't want to invest in schools that look like dumps," said Superintendent Hanline. "Schools are really noticeable here and you can definitely see the difference in how Lowell residents embrace and see our upgraded school facilities."

Dedicated to educational achievement and the success of every student, the Lowell School District is located in the city of Lowell in Lane County and includes Lundy Elementary and Lowell High School.

About the ODOE Energy Loan Program

The purpose of the Small-scale Energy Loan Program is to promote energy conservation and renewable energy resource development. The program offers low-interest loans for energy projects. For additional information about SELP, visit ODOE at [Oregon.gov/ENERGY/LOANS/index.shtml](https://www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/LOANS/index.shtml).
