



West Linn-Wilsonville School District

How do we create learning communities for the greatest thinkers and most thoughtful people...for the world?



Happy New Year West Linn-Wilsonville School Community,

Congratulations on another year well done! I hope the new year is treating you very well and that the holiday break provided you time to refresh and renew with family and friends. I have personally enjoyed attending the many community and school activities, events, and performances over the past few weeks. Our staff and students are tremendously talented ambassadors for our schools and communities!

A new year always provides us a natural chance to reflect on the past as well as the opportunity to generate our resolve for the future. Every day our children remind us of all we have to be proud of as a school community and the list of what we've achieved, and accomplished is infinite. 2011 was a wonderful year, but did provide our school community some "newness" and transition in regards to school. As we've moved toward 2012 we have spent a lot of time renewing our commitment to the powerful educational vision established by this school community. That strong foundation will be important this year as 2012 brings with it a number of changes and challenges.

- In the fall we will open Lowrie and Trillium Creek Primary School and over the course of the next couple of months we will have completed the creation of new attendance area boundaries for those schools. Many of our children, staff, and families will prepare to attend a new school in the fall.
- At the same time we must contemplate whether we will open our enrollment under HB 3681, which would allow students from other districts the opportunity to transfer in without the need to be released from their home district. We currently allow students to transfer in only when they have been released by their district of residence.
- We will also consider the reinstatement of our dual language programs and the initiation of world language programs as we move from being a district of 7 primary schools to a district of 9 primary schools.
- We will also learn more of how the Governor's education agenda and related federal guidance will influence our work and the efforts of our colleagues and communities throughout the state.
- At the same time, we have found that our local option and state revenue projections were not realized this year and as a result we must develop strategies to deal with the nearly 2 million dollar revenue shortfall.

While this work is complex and interconnected, most of it is very exciting and will provide opportunities to launch tremendous teaching and learning opportunities for our students, staff, and community supporters. There is not a school community more capable of rising to challenge of change.

We are resolved to work thoughtfully through these changes while maintaining our focus on the continuous improvement of teaching and learning in each and every classroom in each and every school. We are the district that can and will lead the way in ensuring that every child, each child, reaches their amazing potential and I am proud to be joining you in this endeavor.

I wish you all the best in the new year and I thank you for all you do for children in West Linn- Wilsonville Schools.

With Spirit-

Bill



West Linn-Wilsonville School District - 22210 SW Stafford Rd, Tualatin, OR 97062
Phone: 503-673-7000 Fax: 503-673-7001
www.wlww.k12.or.us

January 9, 2012