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**RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS, STAFF AND COMMUNITY**

**POLICY ISSUE/SITUATION**

Tonight, the Board recognizes the following individuals for their outstanding achievements and contributions to the Beaverton School District and the community.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

**Youth Lung Cancer Awareness Project - Health Careers Rebels**

Students from several Beaverton high schools who attend the Health Careers Program are members of "The Rebels," a group dedicated to fighting the use of tobacco among young people. The Rebels have developed a youth lung cancer awareness program, which is a joint effort of the Beaverton Health Careers Program, Providence School Outreach and Providence Cancer Center.

The Rebels, which was formed in September 2010 for National Lung Cancer Awareness Month, was charged with developing a program to help middle school students to never start smoking. The program is based on the idea that no one is cooler to a middle schooler than a high schooler. The Rebels worked with members of Providence Cancer Center clinical and marketing teams to create the program using the "power of cool" to educate middle school students on the health risks of tobacco use and to influence them to "be smart, don't start."

The Rebels present their program at assemblies at Beaverton middle schools. Not all of the presentation is cool - most of the members of the Rebels have someone close to them who have either died or are currently suffering from a smoking-related disease. By sharing their personal stories, the students are able to make an emotional connection with their younger peers.

The group has grown to 17 students strong in their second year. They meet monthly with members of Providence School Outreach and Providence Cancer Center, and they are currently working with the American Lung Association, and the Tobacco Free Coalition of Oregon (TOFCO) to discuss future projects.

The teens have also testified in Salem to close a loophole in the state's Clean Air Act, made a five-minute documentary about the risks of smoking and have been featured on KPTV's High School Spotlight and Health Watch segments.

"This is an amazing group of students. I look at what they accomplished last year and what they continue to strive for this year, and I am very proud. They are all gaining valuable professional experiences while educating the youth within our district on tobacco issues - a cause that they all believe in." Paula Jacobs, teacher at Health Careers

Congratulations, on all of your accomplishments and keep up this important work! Thank you!

**At this time, please direct your attention to the screen for a viewing of the Rebels five-minute documentary.**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the School Board recognize the Beaverton Health Careers Rebels for their contributions to the School District.