



# Multnomah Education Service District

## Agency Report

April 20, 2010

*2009-2011*

*Agency Goals*

- #1 Reconnecting Youth*
- #2 Districts Service Plans*
- #3 Professional Development*
- #4 Facilities*
- #5 Fiscal Stability*
- #6 Board Policy*
- #7 Legislative Advocacy*

### **ADMINISTRATION**

During our current budget process the Board set aside funds to bolster MESD infrastructure. Plans and actions are already underway with regard to our facility plan and use of the facilities fund. Offices and staff are being moved, spaces are being cleaned and re-purposed, sorting and disposal plans have been kicked off, and summer projects have been submitted to facilities services. **(#1, #3, #4, #5)**

The next version of our Listening Tour is being planned, with six dates set in May. Using feedback from the communication survey and from our Leaders Council, the Communications Department is scheduling forums with MESD programs and staff. **(#6)**

You will notice on this and future Board agendas our comprehensive Board Policy review is well underway. I'd like to relay huge kudos to Leslie and Barbara for taking the lead on this project. **(#6)**

MESD was a participant and partner at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Cross-Disability Inclusion Conference on April 17<sup>th</sup>. Administration also represented MESD at partner functions with United Way, Mt. Hood Community College, DHS, Workforce Investment Board, Parkrose, David Douglas, CGESD, Wraparound Oregon, OAESD, OSBA, Leaders Roundtable, and Classroom Law Project. **(#1, #2)**

MESD will be hosting a data coordinator position next year, to facilitate requests among community partners and school districts for student data. The budget has been approved and the position has been posted. Jim Rose will provide oversight and coordination. Interviews and selection will be completed during the first two weeks in May. **(#1, #2)**

Intergovernmental agreements to formalize our Reconnecting Youth Initiative have been sent to districts. Kelvin Webster is coordinating the effort and convening the work group which includes MESD staff and representatives from component districts. This endeavor has taken more time than we anticipated to get started but will provide great benefit to the large segment of our county youth who have been left behind by the education system. **(#1, #2)**

Next month will be the final meeting of the year for the Superintendent Council. We will meet with the Housing Authority of Portland. After the business session the group will say farewell to six current and acting superintendents who will all be replaced in July. Collectively the loss will be enormous. The last time we saw change of this magnitude was in 1998-99 when

Bonneville/Corbett and Gresham/Barlow/Orient were merging and Parkrose and Portland were changing leaders. This change in leadership presents great opportunities and significant challenges for MESD, our mission, our partners, our programs and the students we serve. We look forward to the challenges and feel we're up to the task. (#1, #2, #6)

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION SERVICES**

**Printing and Graphic Services**

MESD work in the last month included printing the "All Born In" conference and registration brochures for the NW Downs Syndrome Association. MESD's Early Childhood Program is a sponsor of this conference and they underwrite the printing for the event. (#2, #5)

P&GS Supervisor Carolee Iselin has had several recent conversations with the supervisor of the Clackamas ESD print shop. Our capabilities are mostly similar, however, CESD has some bindery equipment for which we may have projects for in the future. Since they do not have a wide format printer or a full color press, we will provide those services to them as needed. We already printed one full-color brochure for them (the Child Health Insurance Program brochure) which was based upon our version but revised with their specific information. (#2, #5)

**E2 Foundation**

Financial Report through March 31, 2010:

<b>Grant Projects</b>		<b>Revenue Forecast</b>	<b>Actual</b>
	E2 Scholarship (\$15,000 in pending applications)	\$10,000	\$3,500
	Outdoor School Special Initiatives (\$10,000 in pending applications)	\$20,000	\$5,000
	Nurse Mentorship Program (\$325 in pending applications)	\$270,000	
<b>Annual Giving Programs</b>			
	Friends of Outdoor School	\$72,000	\$64,500
	MESD Workplace Giving	\$20,000	\$11,293
	E2 Scholarship	\$10,000	\$10,000
	Photo of the Year	\$15,000	\$14,500
	Pam Benson Memorial Fund	\$2,500	\$2,926
<b>Earned Revenue for MESD</b>			
	Metro - Outdoor School	\$285,000	\$348,780
	Gray Family Foundation	\$221,300	\$161,500
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>\$925,800</b>	<b>\$621,999</b>

(#1, #2, #5)

### **Other Foundation Activities:**

- Facilitated project to create a professional organization for seasonal environmental educators (#2, #5)
- Attended Sustainable Oregon Schools Initiative/MESD sustainability workshop; attended seminar on engaging donors into estate giving; attended Intertwine Alliance meeting to hear about upcoming plans and recent successes of the project. (#2, #5)
- Working with NWRESO/MESD Outdoor School programs and Metro on an I3 grant project. (#2, #5)
- Recruited community members to help do a feasibility and needs study and a plan to expand Friends of Outdoor School. (#2, #5)
- Began work on Portland Children's Levy application for Helensview After School Program. Proposal amount is \$250,000 and is due April 19, 2010. (#2, #5)
- Submitted three grants for the School Nurse Mentor Program. Spirit Mountain Community Fund - \$75,000; ODS Companies - \$50,000; Schnitzer CARE Foundation - \$15,000. (#2, #5)
- Participated in exploring a partnership with the Commission on Children & Family Services and the Oregon Department of Human Services which could generate revenue for MESD. (#2, #5)
- We are continuing the planning of a very unique fundraising event - "MESD IDOL." The fundraiser will be held on April 28 and will raise funds for the E2 Scholarships which go to students in MESD programs: Functional Living Skills, Alternative Pathways, Helensview and Alpha schools, Migrant Education, Hospital Program and D.E. Long. We have received 60 applications to date from students in these programs. Judges meet on April 30 to allocate scholarships totaling up to \$12,000. Also, laptop computers will be awarded to 20 MESD student applicants at spring graduations. (#1, 2, #5)

### **Communications**

- Working with the Instructional Services Department Team on an I3 federal grant application (#2, #5)
- In final stages of completing MESD website improvements including new Intranet, consolidated navigation for main page, interactive pages for all Interaction articles
- Completed April issue of Interaction featuring Helensview School music program, Alternative Pathways Futures Fair and Q & A on 2010 Proposed Budget (#5)
- Working with staff of the Child Health Insurance Access Program to update materials to include Oregon's Healthy Kids program. Contact made with all component districts to encourage and facilitate a spring, 2010 push for enrollments. (#1, #2, #5)
- Other: Continued to finalize "talent" for MESD Idol, organize rehearsals and support event publicity; updated MESD Boundary Map, a bi-annual publication that is printed and posted on MESD website. (#1, #5)

## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES**

### **School Nursing Services**

Nicky Zimmerman, RN at Roosevelt, has an ongoing project, "Walk with the Nurse," where she walks every day around the track. Her objective has been to get students moving. This year she also started a Diabetes Support Group where every Wednesday some of her students who either have diabetes or who are at risk for Type 2 diabetes share a meal prepared in the home economics room, offering healthier alternatives. This new program works nicely with her

walking efforts to decrease risk for diabetes and helps students have tools to intervene with the obesity epidemic that is affecting our youth today. **(#1, Mission)**

Thorough nursing intervention and documentation helped a local school respond to a parent's belief that the school did not advise the family about their child's behavior medication running out and therefore the discipline the child incurred for a serious event was inappropriate. The school staff were most appreciative that the nurse was able to share:

- 1) When parents bring in medication she routinely counts with them, and then asks them to note on their calendar how long the medication will last at school and to call in a new prescription a few days before the medication runs out.
- 2) The nurses documentation validated she had: (1) told the student three days in a row that he needed more medication to be brought to school, and (2) called mom and to tell her the medication was getting low, then out. **(#2)**

### **Child Health Insurance Access Program**

School Nurse, Barbara Mabe, reports how much the extra effort by Trisa Kelly, MESD/MCHD Child Health Outreach and Eligibility Specialist, meant to one student. Trisa is a Multnomah County Health Department employee out-stationed at MESD. Barbara Mabe also was a significant participant in the following scenario:

A student reported to Barbara how hard school was. Barbara learned in her nursing assessment that the student had failed hearing tests in kindergarten, first, second and third grade. The student, now many years older, was confirmed to have a significant sensori-neural hearing deficit. Of course school was hard -- the student could not hear! The student did not qualify, due to lack of a social security card, for medical care and insurance. Yet, the student had learned to read lips and was being relied upon by the family to be its interpreter. Barbara was dismayed that intervention was not provided earlier and knew that hearing aids were essential for the student. Barbara knew that the student did not qualify for Kaiser Permanente's Child Health Access Program (CHIAP), but she made a contact with the MESD's CHIAP staff determined to find some way to provide assistance.

Trisa responded to Barbara's call and followed up with our Special Populations Contact for the Child Health Access Program at Kaiser Permanente, carefully explaining the medical need of this child and asking for special medical consideration. Word came back that Kaiser had granted Trisa's request for an exception. Trisa called the mom to let her know the good news and was ready when she met with Mom to provide the necessary Kaiser Membership number, Kaiser's appointment phone number, and to guide Mom through the steps to get the care she needed. Trisa told Mom she could make the appointment today.

Barbara, Trisa and the partnership between Multnomah ESD, Multnomah County Health Department and Kaiser Permanente definitely made a difference to this student. We sincerely appreciate Kaiser's willingness to make a difference for this student and Barbara and Trisa's capable and professional dedication to making the extra effort to do the right thing. **(#1, #2, Mission)**

### **Wynne Watts School**

The Wynne Watts School is proud to announce its first high school graduate. Jesse Meyers is a senior from Estacada and has attended Wynne Watts for the last two school years. He came to our school having missed most of his sophomore year. He began as a quiet student and soon grew into a leader with his peers and fellow students. He will graduate with a regular diploma from Estacada High School on April 9. Jesse has been a student in Gayle Foster and Leslie Miller's Therapeutic Classroom. We are very proud of him. **(#1, #2, Mission)**

### **Hospital School**

As of February 2010, Hospital School has served 1,159 different students at our hospital sites this school year. This puts the program on pace to serve over 1700 students, exceeding our record of 1,680 last year. **(#1, #2, Mission)**

### **Wraparound Oregon**

Naomi Bledsoe, the Social Marketing Specialist for Wraparound Oregon Early Childhood was invited by SAMHSA 4-THE-CHILD Campaign Team to be a feature speaker for the Youth Action Conference Call on April 12 to discuss sponsoring with schools. Naomi talked about her experiences partnering with schools in Multnomah County to help promote children's mental health. Joining Naomi were Youth Engagement Specialist Micah Thomas and Youth Advocate Martin Rafferty. The themes for the 2010 Mental Health Awareness Day include "When I Grow Up" and "My Feelings are a Work of Art". Naomi has taken her great work as our SAMHSA spokesperson to a nationally recognized level of expertise. Good for you Naomi! **(#1, #2, #5)**

## **DEPARTMENT OF INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES**

Cabinet Director Kelvin Webster, Judy Custy, Curriculum Coordinator along with Mark Skolnick from Communications Services are working on preparing a grant application to submit to the USDOE's, Investing in Innovations Grant Program. We are focusing our proposal on a critical component of our Reconnecting Youth Project – Reconnection Centers. The funding from this grant program would go along way with "jump starting" the staffing needs of this component of the project, and support a staffing model at the level we believe would be necessary to meet the goals we have established for this project. **(#1, #5, Mission)**

### **Alpha**

Five Alpha students represented the school's environmentally conscious activities and philosophy at the Oregon Green Schools Summit in March. Tyler Williams, Davontay Mosley, Rachel Matheny, Cameron Mandle and Audrey Olmstead met with students from across the state to share ideas about gardening, cooking, recycling and natural resource management. They also found themselves sharing some information with their local newspaper, the Gresham Outlook, ([http://www.theoutlookonline.com/news/story.php?story\\_id=126844621988722900](http://www.theoutlookonline.com/news/story.php?story_id=126844621988722900)) **(#1, Mission)**

Second trimester ended March 12<sup>th</sup>. Classroom and jobsite skill standards for all Alpha students are included with report cards as well as any progress reports for students identified with special education needs. Home schools receive copies of all student reports and any correspondence sent to parents or students. Most high school students change teachers at trimesters to a different academic focus area. High school students meet with their teachers and review their credit needs to assist in the process of teacher placement and selection of a career pathway. (#1, Mission)

### **Alternative Pathways**

Staff spent many hours in March organizing the second college fair of the school year. Due to the success of the first fair in late November, 2009, our college transition advocates decided to offer another event that would feature community colleges and trades programs. Over 100 Alternative Pathways students attended the event at Portland Community College on April 2. Twenty community college programs and trade schools presented information to students during the event. Feedback from students, teachers, counselors, principals and postsecondary participants was highly positive. (#1, Mission)

Over 60 students applied for E2 Scholarships and made the deadline. Alternative Pathways staff participated on the E2 Scholarship Committee to streamline this process for students. Scholarship judges were selected to assist with the awarding process and will convene in April to decide recipients. E2 Scholarships will benefit all MESD students. (#1, Mission)

### **Arata**

The second after school program Cooking Club concluded on March 16. Five students participated over a four-week period learning quick and easy prep meals. Thanks to Carol Sweeney and Darla Johnson for running the club. Debbie Todd, Jackie Lenox, and Evan Armstead helped with shopping for items and transporting students home. (#1, Mission)

March 12 the second Family Fun night at Arata was held. A "BIG" thanks to all of the volunteers who participated in make this a success. Many students and their families won great prizes, with all students and their siblings leaving with at least a small prize (#1, Mission)

On March 18 and 19, eleven food baskets were delivered to students and their families for the Spring Break. Thanks to Evan Armstead and Jackie Lenox for delivery and to Pam Pestolozzi for organizing. (#1, Mission)

### **Curriculum and Student Assessment Services**

Twenty-four high school math and science teachers will continue their work under the guidance of Lynn Howard and Jan Christinson from the Center for Leadership and Learning on April 26-27, 2010. They will be presenting their performance assessment tasks as well as serving as lead facilitators with a middle school math and science team which will begin this same assessment work with unwrapping standards and creating performance assessments. (#2, #3)

MESD will host the third and final regional Secondary Literacy Network meeting on April 14. The group of forty literacy specialists have been conducting a series of three book studies on adolescent literacy. Penny Plavala has been participating in Reading Apprenticeship training conducted by WESTED as an invited guest of Centennial School District. (#2, #3)

Forty school teams representing five school districts participated in a two-day training on use of data to strengthen the performance of school-based AVID site teams. Dr. Dennis Johnston and Dr. Judy Walker provided both new approaches to working with data as well as facilitated team-work in developing new school plans for the next academic school year. (#2, #3)

### **Donald E. Long**

MESD has started providing GED services at Donald E. Long and Inverness Jail. The totals for the first month are as follows:

22 Total GED Tests Given	(DEL; 17 and MCIJ; 5)
19 Total Individual Tests Passed	(DEL; 14 and MCIJ; 5)
3 Total Completed GED	(DEL; 2 and MCIJ; 1) (# 1, #3, Mission)

DEL Reconnection Program has reconnected 58 students since November. (# 1, Mission)

### **Helensview School**

Helensview curriculum has been supplemented by excellent career-related fieldtrips in March. Helensview students explored post-secondary training options through Legacy Hospital's Health Career Day and PCC Cascade's Preview Day. Students also attended Alternative Pathway's Futures Fair where they practiced gathering information from prospective schools, training programs, and employers. Students also had the opportunity to tour and ask questions of two local businesses during fieldtrips to Precision Press Printing and VersaTech Welding. Students exploring a career in the building trades visited the Local 49 Roofers and Waterproofers Union where they discussed training, wages and benefits, and were able to practice welding roofing material. (# 1, Mission)

Staff participated in an excellent training on the Sex Industry led by members of the Portland Women's Crisis Line, Sexworker Outreach Coalition and Outside In. Staff gained a better understanding of the local sex industry, and left with new ideas on how to best support students working in the sex industry. (#3)

The Horticulture Program completed an on-site greenhouse this month, which extends the growing season and the garden's educational opportunities into the cooler months. Students are engaged in the process of planning the garden through classroom activities that integrate math, science and language arts, and planting seed starts indoors. (# 1, Mission)

Helensview began a Health Skills and Careers Class this month. The class, which meets twice per week, teaches students about healthcare career and training options, and integrates practical hands-on pre-nursing skills. (# 1, Mission)

The Basketball Team and the Alternative Basketball League wrapped up a great season this month with a banquet for all the teams and their coaches hosted at Helensview. The banquet was a celebration of the players' continued sportsmanship and cooperation in the league, and featured a video of the season games produced by Helensview students, and accompanying music recorded by students in the Helensview music studio. **(# 1, Mission)**

### **Outdoor School**

Elizabeth Lawrence, a senior at Portland State University, has chosen a project with Outdoor School as her capstone project. Elizabeth will be coordinating with a number of 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers to field test revised classroom curriculum materials. Materials were developed by a group of teachers and staff members this winter and will be rolled out for full use in 6<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms in the fall. Elizabeth will be gathering feedback from test teachers on usability, effectiveness and accessibility to students. Feedback will be used to revise and finalize the materials so they are ready for the fall session of Outdoor School. **(#2, #3, #5)**

Deanna Roberts-Pickett, a Corvallis therapist who specializes in working with children with severe behavioral challenges, provided pro-bono training for Outdoor School staff in "collaborative problem solving." Forty seasonal and regular Outdoor School staff members learned theory and strategies for working with the small percentage students who sometimes demand a large percentage of our time and energy. The excellent seminar was well-received by staff members. **(#3, #5)**

The spring Outdoor School student leader workshop launched during a noteworthy spring storm April 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. In spite of severely inclement weather, 1,125 high school students spent the night at six Outdoor School sites. One of the largest school bus events in the country, Outdoor School student leader workshop flooded the Ainsworth building with buses and teenagers excited to volunteer as leaders and teachers. Staff members provided training in teaching techniques, leadership, science content and how to encourage youngsters to use table manners. Two sites, Namanu and Sandy River, recorded their largest attendance ever. Cooks rallied to the task, providing hot soups and other nutritious meals to hungry and cold students. Spirits were bright, with staff, volunteers and bus drivers noting that students were especially positive. First Student Transportation provided bus service, getting students safely from 28 area high schools, through the Ainsworth parking lot, to six Outdoor School sites, and back again. **(#1, #2, #3, #5m, Mission)**

### **DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES**

FLS supervisors are partnering with local universities, such as Portland State University and Pacific University, to provide practicum opportunities and internships for students completing their special education licensure. Some of these adult students have worked in our MESD FLS classrooms as assistants while studying their way through college and eventually becoming members of our teaching staff. The MESD FLS program currently has two dedicated staff working on their certification. **(#3)**



Two members of our FLS motor team attended the Therapy in Educational Settings Conference this month. The conference addressed current evidence-based practices for physical and occupational therapy in school settings. A new edition of the manual, "*Physical and Occupational Therapy in Educational Settings*" was presented. Significant changes in the manual include: recent updates of *Oregon Practice Acts for OT and PT*, IDEA 2004, Special Education Law and new chapters on Early Childhood and school-aged laws in Oregon. This conference is a wonderful opportunity for professional growth and networking. **(#3)**

The FLS Transition Program is holding its annual *Pathways Prom* on May 7, 11:00-1:00 p.m., at Skate World in Gresham, Oregon. This event, made possible by a MESD Terra Nova Grant, includes transition-aged students from our eight component school districts and their regular education peer mentors for a fun filled event. There will be great music, healthy snacks and pictures in a parked limousine to keep students engaged. The experience should be a positive, memorable, social experience that incorporates our component districts and community partnerships. **(#1, #2, #5)**

Multnomah Early Childhood Program is actively involved in activities to promote successful connections between our program and school age services. MECP is serving on the Steering Committee for the Oregon Early Childhood and Community Schools Linkage Project. The goal of the project is to strengthen the connection between early childhood efforts and community school strategies. **(#2)**

MECP staff participated in three Portland Public Schools Kindergarten Fairs. Staff was available to answer questions from families with young children about evaluation and services for children birth to five years of age and the Peer Preschool Program. **(#1)**

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