



Parkrose School District

OREGON SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION REPORT 2008

Thank you, patrons of the District, for your support of the Board's training and development. Attending the Oregon School Boards Convention, held November 14-15 at the Downtown Marriott Hotel once again provided important information for a better understanding of the challenges facing educators' and school boards. I appreciate your support of this training.

- Opening ceremonies included Parkrose's own ***Debonaires***, led by Choral Director Leslie Bossert. Beginning with a stirring rendition of the National Anthem, Parkrose's elite choir held the audience captive. Many compliments were received throughout the convention on their wonderful performance.
- ***Governor Ted Kulongoski*** spoke about the current financial impacts and the need to scale back on some initiatives. His somber message was not unexpected. Many board members from across the state discussed the need to carefully examine their expenditures and ensure financial controls are firmly in place.
- Parkrose Board members presented a training session to those attending the convention, ***School Board Committees that Work!***
The Board was honored to be selected for the second year in a row, to provide timely and valuable information to fellow board members. The room was full and participants expressed appreciation to Parkrose throughout the weekend on the effective training we provided.
- At Saturday's Award Banquet Parkrose's Board of Education received a ***Leadership Institute Award*** for our activities throughout the year in training and professional development.
- Finally, a ***Salute to Success*** recognition was awarded to Parkrose Middle School Principal Ana Gonzales and ***Sparrow Project*** leader Laura Queen during the closing ceremonies.

The weekend was not all performances and banquets, but hard work occurred. Interested in several topics, I attended a workshop titled *Transforming School Boards into Management Teams* on Friday and Long Range Planning-Bond *Initiatives and Professional Learning Communities* on Saturday. Featured speakers included Greg Bell focusing on *21st Century Leadership* and Victor Cary discussing equitable schools provided valuable insight to board members.

The convention provided me an opportunity to meet school board members across the state and hear nationally recognized leaders in education.

Thank you,
Alesia J. Reese
Board of Education
Parkrose Board of Education