## The Future of Our Business:

# Enabling our students to create a successful future and embrace our "RURALNESS"

## **Our Mission Statement**



# How Can We Meet Their Needs? Students Need Time

#### Challenges to Meet:

- OAKS and Essential Skills Requirements
- SMARTER BALANCE Assessment- a one time test
- 2+2 and AP classes
- Business and Vocational programs
- Job and Internship positions
- Club Sports and Activities

### The Reality

Cut days = less student contact time

Cut days = less time to create curriculum

Cut days = less time and fewer opportunities

## It's in the Room...



# Short Term Situation Now a Long Term Dilemma

- Students: discriminated against by a budget shortfall
- Staff: preparing our students for increasing graduation requirements with fewer resources

Consequences: Disinvestment is a disservice to students and the community and the future of our state

# Educational Providers to Our Students Have Lost

- Cuts in staff salary since 2003
- Over 100 teaching positions eliminated
- Using the partial 2009 salary schedule
- MOUs to administer salary cuts and lost days
- Transportation costs more than 11% of the budget - unreimbursed and taken out of the classroom/programs

#### Recently:

- Home foreclosures
- Car repossessions
- Garnishments and bankruptcies
- Creditors calling school buildings

## Four Day School Week Is Not a New Idea

- Support from community members, parents, students, teachers, support staff and administrators
- Mentioned recently by the Jerome Prairie
   Closure Committee
- 90% of Membership expressed that they would support this idea for 2013-14
- Will fit our rural size, rural needs:
  - 1,800 square miles of transportation
  - Reduction in enrollment
  - 9,000 miles driven daily

# Benefits of a 4 Day Week

- Financial savings Approximately 20% of the overall transportation budget, or 1/5 of the week
- Student achievement increases
- Student and staff morale improves
- Student attendance improves
- Maintains and sustains legal instructional time
- Decreased substitute costs

# **Innovation Fridays**

- Local business people are given the opportunity to provide programs to enrich the lives and education of our students
- Increased student success in the work force by creating time for Job Shadows, Internships and Work Experience

# **Innovation Fridays**

- STEM Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
   Education Project
- RCC/SOU programs
- College visitations
- Club activities
- Sporting events
- Driver's Education
- Community sponsored programs

## Four Day Week -Less Becomes More

- A full school year is a benefit to students education
- Substitute costs go down and students have assigned teachers in the classroom
- Reduction of transportation returns money to the classrooms

## What Are The Alternatives?

- Merge the Josephine County School Districts
- Cut more school days
  - This creates a negative impact on students, parents and staff in the upcoming year
- Cuts to staff compensation
  - This maintains the calendar in the short term, but forces more staff to take a second job, burn out or go to District 7
- Lobby the legislature to fix transportation funding
  - This makes the most sense, but this won't solve our funding problems in the 2013-14 school year.

## Our Students Are Our Future

- Give them a full school year
- Give them the opportunity to learn
- Give them support from staff who are offered full compensation for:
  - Dedication
  - Curriculum design
  - Preparation for increased federal requirements and proficiencies
  - Creation of intentional relationships with students
  - Preparing students for university, military service and the workplace
  - Leadership

### Be a LEADER

- We lead the state on proficiency development and Common Core Curriculum
- We can lead the rural districts of Oregon to an efficient financial model
- Be Proud of our Specialized Rural Niche
- Embrace our "RURALNESS"