

Selma Community and Education CenterEC 1 2 2008

Selma, OR TSTAR TRSD 541-415-1000

sceceselmacenter.org

December 8, 2008

Mr. Dan Huber-Kantola, Superintendent Three Rivers School District 8550 New Hope Road P.O. Box 160 Murphy, OR. 97533

Dear Mr. Huber-Kantola:

It has come time to request renewal of our lease of the Selma Elementary School. We also need to re-file our property tax exemption. I have been in contact with our tax assessor, Mr. Michael L. Schneyder, who informs me that the normal filing dates fall between January 1 and April 1. If we can negotiate our lease renewal prior to the April 1, 2009, deadline to allow for timely filing of our exemption, which requires the lease agreement to be attached, it would be greatly appreciated.

Also, we respectfully appeal for a lease term renewal of 10 years to enable our community center to expand our long-term goals.

The community and the supporters of SCEC have made great strides in working toward both long-term and short-term goals. During the past five years, we at the center have rallied to provide the following improvements and activities:

- •A free lending library of approximately 5000 donated books with an average of 80 visitors a month. (A great boon to the community considering the closing of our county libraries.)
- •A community event featuring former Vice President Walter Mondale which filled the gymnasium to overflow capacity
- •A Farmer's Market operating from May through September with local growers and producers of foods and goods made available to the community. This activity is organized under the expansive pole building at the south end of the property.
  - •Solar panels producing electricity to reduce electricity cost
  - •Exterior painting of the main building.

- •Donated computers are rebuilt and provided to students in grades 1-12 in the Illinois Valley
  - •Meetings and/or classes for 20 or more groups are held per month
- •A commercial cost and energy efficient dishwasher has been installed in the kitchen via a \$4000 grant
  - Ongoing recycling center
  - A children's activity room
  - •Ethnic dinners bringing the community together
- A Computer Center with internet connection available for visitors to use free of charge
  - •A quarterly newsletter, The Villager, published and mailed to 1200+ residents

In these times of financial crunch, we continue to seek additional grants and donations to expand our efforts to improve the center and its availability to the community. A favorable decision to extend the terms of our lease would be most appreciated. Such a decision would give us a more favorable position when seeking future grants. May we hear from you at your earliest convenience? I can be reached at home at 541/597-2455, by email at <a href="mailto:jimmel37@frontiernet.net">jimmel37@frontiernet.net</a>, or through the center at the above number.

We look forward to working with you in the future and invite you to visit the Selma Community and Education Center for a tour of the facility and to meet with our volunteer board members.

Sincerely,

Jim Tehan Chairman