



St. Paul School District No. 45

Proud History, Cultivating the Future

Our mission is to provide a progressive learning environment for all students to achieve by the objectives and principles outlined in the St. Paul Brand.

Joe Wehrli
Superintendent/ ES Principal
503.633.2691
jwehrli@stpaul.k12.or.us

Tony Smith
High School Principal
503.633.2541
tsmith@stpaul.k12.or.us

Dear St Paul Community,

We are pleased to inform you that the local budget committee has adopted a fully balanced budget for the 19-20 school year here in St Paul. We appreciate the time and effort on the part of our school board members and other members from the community at large who worked to accomplish this task for our students, teachers and support staff. This past year we graduated 100% of our seniors and our students scored higher than the state averages on statewide assessments. These are just some examples that are evidence of the outstanding teachers, support staff and students that belong to the St Paul school community.

The lack of sufficient state school funding in Oregon is not a new issue. Our schools have been asked to do more for our students with less funding for many years. Each year we advocate for more funding with our Oregon legislators and we have made some progress but not nearly enough. On May 8th our teachers have been asked by Oregon union leadership to participate in a day of action to highlight the need for additional state funding for schools in Oregon. This day of action will include teachers electing to leave work early on that day to participate in a rally in Salem. **We are informing the community that the district supports our teachers and will hold school on the regular Wednesday schedule on May 8th.** The district administration empathizes with our teachers and certainly agrees and supports the need for additional revenue to be added to the K-12 state school fund in Oregon. With additional funding we would be able to provide more robust services to our students including but not limited to the expansion of course offerings in the arts, Career and Technical education and other electives. We would be able to increase school nursing time, summer school opportunities as well as increase counseling services to students. Our teachers recognize and appreciate the generous support of our community and want to make it clear that this day of action is a statement about the overall state school fund and does not reflect how they feel about the support they receive here from the community, the administration and the school board.

Our current teaching contract does not allow interrupting school schedules and instructional time. Teachers have offered to minimize the impact by participating in the afternoon event in Salem, community members are welcome to join teachers in Salem at Riverfront Park at 1:30 pm. Teachers will have lesson plans ready for substitutes if they are planning to leave at any point in their regular work day. If you have any questions about our districts budget, the state school fund or the May 8th day of action please feel welcome to contact me.

Sincerely,

Joseph M. Wehrli
Superintendent St Paul School District

Don Kunkel
The St Paul Education Association