Statewide Leaders Panel for School Facilities

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Isaac & Assoc

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The Chalkboard Project

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Gregg Kantor
NW Natural

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Phil Keisling
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The Samuel S. Johnson Foundation

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Mark Long
Schwabe Williamson & Wyatt

Lynn Lundquist
Lundquist Consulting

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Oregon Business Council

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OHSU Board

Talking Points for
OEIB Public Testimony

Lynn Lundquist, Statewide Leaders Panel on Facilities

Lynn Lundquist again, wearing a related hat -- along with the Children's Institute and its Early Childhood education work I am also a member of the Statewide Leaders Panel on School Facilities. As you may know from OEIB Forum testimony around the state – the Center for Innovative School Facilities is non-profit group with a strong volunteer-base.

The Center is proposing a set of initiatives that we believe will fill a void in State programs for Oregon's P20 Education continuum. They create a means for a seamless, unified system for investing and delivering public education -- connecting early learning through K-12 and beyond.

This is not about creating some big, new line item for the State budget, but rather these initiatives are about leveraging our existing resources and creating savings.

The initiatives brought to you by the Leaders Panel and the Center reflect the thinking of its volunteer base of school administrators, facility managers, business and community leaders, and construction and design specialists from around the state who give their time and energy to create better schools for our children and communities in Oregon.

Let me give you an example – a couple of years ago Center volunteers and staff worked with David Douglas School District to identify buildings and property that could be used for expansions and education-related community needs. This work and the data behind it identified Earl Boyles as one of those opportunity sites. And, today David Douglas is well on its way to fulfilling that opportunity.

We ask that you consider a small investment -- under $1 million -- to design and begin implementing an Early Learning through 20 prioritizing strategy that integrates the State's capital investment in education infrastructure and assures that we deploy existing resources in a more effective and efficient manner.

Let me turn to Ruth Scott, Executive Director of the Center for Innovative School Facilities to provide some the specifics we are calling for –

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Ruth Scott, Center for Innovative School Facilities –

As Lynn noted the Center and its Statewide Leaders Panel are proposing three initiatives that lay the base for an integrated, regionally based service delivery system. We ask that you --

1) **Commit to discussion and planning with a Governor-appointed Task Force** to examine Capital Investment in 21st Century Learning and recommend to the OEIB a structure, programs and funding tools that will allow Oregon education organizations to respond to the forthcoming design changes that are needed in 21st Century education delivery and capital investments and, that establish a more efficient, integrated P20 capital infrastructure system. We are estimating a cost of $50 – 125,000 depending on the final scope of work and joint staffing by the Department of Education and The Center for Innovative School Facilities.

2) **We call for the State to implement a PreK-20 Facility Information & Data System for prioritizing Safety, Health & Energy Savings** – This will enable local, regional and state-level leaders to set priorities, develop policy, plan and make decisions that integrate Early Learning K-12, community college, and university priorities to reflect the schools of the future and integrate facilities in an effective and efficient P20 system. The estimated cost to establish and program the Information Hub and provide ½ time staff for maintenance and response to decision-makers, education organizations and public information requests is estimated at $350,000 and dropping in subsequent biennium.

3) **Finally, we propose that the State join the Center in the short term to provide Regional Technical Assistance to public education organizations.** This two years of intensified technical assistance will not only take Oregon a good ways down the path to a new system that reflects the schools of the future and integrates facilities in an effective and efficient P20 system – but it will also buy the State two years to develop a strategy for ongoing technical assistance that does not rely primarily on the deeds of well-meaning volunteers. Projects like Earl Boyles are priorities that can be identified and assisted to fruition in the near term. The one-time cost is estimated at $375,000 for the biennium, to be matched with cash and in-kind services by the Center for Innovative School Facilities.

We believe this modest up front investment will pay huge dividends for Oregon. Together these initiatives lay the basis for making real change and beginning manage our capital investment in an efficient, effective and integrated manner. If you do nothing but commit to the Governor-appointed Task Force to start the dialogue about facilities in Oregon as you roll out the education reform agenda – this will be the important first step and will supply the missing piece of the education reform puzzle.