



## **LRSP Status Report – June 2012**

### **3.05 SPT Funding Awareness SR 2012**

#### **Strategic Objective (SO):**

3.05 Elevate public awareness regarding the funding for Bozeman Public Schools and the associated linkages to achieve high quality educational programs.

#### **Topic of Strategic Objective (SO):**

**Department/School:** Superintendent

**Leader:** Kirk Miller

**Team Members:**

Trustees, Steve Johnson, Executive Council

#### **In a year, we hope to see the following progress on this strategic objective:**

Understanding of various audiences about the value of investing in the education of our children.

### **PROGRESS SUMMARY**

1. Determined current state funding apportionment for BSD7.

-Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations, Steve Johnson worked with Superintendent Miller to review the actions of the 2011 legislature to determine funding apportionment for BSD7. General fund increase scenarios of 1.6% and 2.43% were drafted in order to communicate with stakeholders and provide information to the state on the status of the BSD7 budget.

-BSD7 worked with leadership of the MQEC (Montana Quality Education Coalition) as they negotiated a settlement agreement with the state to follow the law by providing a 2.43% inflationary increase to the state funding formula (left undecided by the veto of HB 316 in the 2011 legislative session). Settlement agreement finalized in April 2012.

-Set the school election levy amounts in order to maximize the funding provided by the state funding formula.

2. Projected BSD7 budget needs for the 2013 and 2015 bienniums.

-Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations, Steve Johnson worked with Superintendent Miller to project the budget needs for the next two bienniums considering the growth of the Bozeman School District 7.

-Superintendent Miller and Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Marilyn King, assisted all AA school districts in providing a cost analysis for implementing the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) as requested by the Legislative Fiscal Division. This information is under consideration by the Education and Local Government Interim Committee.

3. Effectively communicate BSD7 needs with stakeholders (AA Caucus, MQEC, Regional Optimization and local grass roots advocacy groups) to determine common needs of schools and state level funding to support the needs.

- The Bozeman School District 7 are leaders in each of these areas in promoting communication for common needs and state level funding.

- BSD7 Trustees and leadership teams were key participants in all AA Caucus meetings. Chair Denise Hayman was the vice chair of the AA Caucus. She also represented the district in the K-12 Vision Group, a statewide group of stakeholders who crafted recommendations for the consideration of education groups to promote in the 2013 legislative session. Vice Chair Bruce Grubbs, Municipal Director for the Bozeman MTSBA region, was elected as Vice President of the MTSBA Board of Directors. Superintendent Miller coordinated the AA Superintendent meetings held throughout the year. Assistant Superintendent King coordinated the AA Assistant Superintendent and Curriculum meetings throughout the year.

- Regional Optimization Group actively promoted legislation in the 2011 session that resulted in SB 329 allowing the formation of Multidistrict Agreements to form cooperatives to be efficient and effective in improving student learning. The Trustees of BSD7 led the way to the formation of Regional IV Education Service Agency (RESA4U) involving up to 70 school districts in the greater Gallatin area. Trustee Gary Lusin was a leader and promoter of this effort through the legislative session and formation of the new RESA4U. Incentive funds from SB 329 and HB 2 were collected in order to form RESA4U and prepare to offer services to member school district including professional development, bulk supply purchasing, and technology related strategies and equipment to improve student learning.

- Lincolns for Levies group was instrumental in promoting the School Election issues in the community resulting in both Operating Levy and Bond passing with 68% yes vote. The group has also established a firm understanding of state level funding and are poised to assist the district during the 2013 legislative session.

4. Promoted a long term strategy to develop a sustainable, self-initiating strategy for supporting adequate resources for BSD7.

- BSD7 continues its active participation in the MQEC and its work to establish sustainable adequate resources for our schools.

- Trustee Denise Hayman represented the district in the K-12 Vision Group, a statewide group of stakeholders who crafted recommendations for the consideration of education groups to promote in the 2013-17 legislative sessions.

- The school election communications plan in the spring sought to bring clarity for our community in understanding the annual election levies are the local property tax dollar match to reach the maximum potential of the school funding formula. This is how Montana law and our constitutional forefathers intended for schools to be funded. The understanding by our community continues to increase paving the path to greater understanding in the future.