

SUPERINTENDENT'S BUDGET MESSAGE

2019–20 OPERATING BUDGET

Dear Springfield,

I present you with the 2019–2020 proposed budget for Springfield Public Schools. As I write this, the State of Oregon is continuing to struggle with the ongoing need to support a healthy economy, meet increasing expenditures and provide stable and appropriate K-12 education funding. It is my sincere belief that we are closer than ever to finding creative approaches to meet the needs of the Oregon education system. Until that point; however, we have the responsibility to provide responsible, fiscal management of the known resources available to our students and our District.

Throughout our budgeting process, I have shared with our system that Springfield Public Schools will remain under a current service level budget. Moving into the coming year, we are not anticipating a significant change to our funding streams. Therefore, any changes to current budget allocations would need to be approached thoughtfully, creatively and most importantly, in a way in which they could be sustained. Over the course of the year, I have been out in our District and have observed the thoughtful investments and their impact on teaching and learning. I have also heard a resounding need to continue to chip away at concerns around student behaviors. I would remind you that in recent years, we have made strides through targeted investments and key community partnerships and it is my desire to continue to build upon those moving forward.

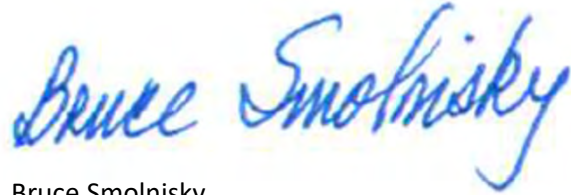
This year, I charged staff to look at our finite resources to ensure that funds are balanced between long term investments and the need to support today's instruction. While our current funding doesn't support sweeping investments, I am happy to say that I am recommending the addition of the equivalent of nearly seven full-time certified positions. These new additions are sustainable and our Instruction Department will be working with buildings to strategically deploy this resource to support our classrooms. Everyone recognizes that this is not a magic wand; however, I do believe that it is another thoughtful layer in a system of support for our students and staff.

Additionally, last year the District undertook a thorough assessment of our Human Resources Department and clearly identified the need for additional professional support. This year, the Human Resources Department has seen tremendous growth in its support of our system. To sustain the positive trajectory and increase our capacity to recruit, retain and support an exceptional and diverse staff, Springfield Public Schools will be adding an Assistant Director for Human Resources.

SUPERINTENDENT'S BUDGET MESSAGE (Continued)

Springfield Public Schools has become an example in strategic, responsible budgeting. Our process ensured investments are intentional, sustainable, goal oriented and student-focused. I wish to thank the Budget Committee, School Board and our community for their ongoing support.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bruce Smolnisky". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "S" in the last name.

Bruce Smolnisky
Superintendent, Springfield Public Schools