



Randy Schild, *Superintendent*
503/842-2558 • FAX 503/842-6854

July 20, 2009

To: Reviewers of NASA Global Climate Change Education Grant

It is with great pleasure that the Tillamook School District #9 writes this letter of support for our partners Pacific University and University of Oregon. Over the last five years our school district has been working closely with both of these universities in a variety of programs and teacher education initiatives. Our partnership has extended beyond our district to involve twelve other school districts in our state. The Oregon Department of Education has recognized our innovative work around working in teacher teams with the universities in a way that encourages existing teachers to look at their current teaching practices in a different way.

Our partnership is well positioned to take on the NASA Global Climate Change Grant and produce real change in delivering quality education to students throughout the state of Oregon. Our partnership just completed a two day institute training new teachers in science inquiry and natural resource education using teacher leaders and university staff. This institute was a capstone for an entire year of working with these new teachers in the classroom and then providing them an opportunity on how to set up field study work with their students. One of the key elements of our partnership has been the development of quality, in-depth training for teachers instead of the traditional one day workshop method. This in depth model of training has really changed how teachers approach science, math and technology education.

Oregon is rapidly becoming known for its "green technology" and the reduction of its overall carbon footprint. Just this week our state legislator passed a comprehensive set of bills that will make a significant difference to Oregon's future. These new laws provide our partnership an opportunity to work with educators state wide to better understand the need for quality knowledge and training in global issues such as climate change. I highly encourage your grant review committee to select our project as one that is worthy of funding.

Sincerely

Randy Schild, Supt. Tillamook School District #9