

**Lourdes Public Charter School**

**Annual Report**

**2002-2003**

June 10,2003

A dream that began in the 19<sup>th</sup> century is still a reality in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Lourdes Public Charter School has now completed its fourth year but in reality its roots extend back one hundred five years. The community has maintained its beautiful rural setting for the school. As the school has developed into a high tech learning center the curriculum has kept its esteem for Oregon's agriculture and timber industries.

One cannot tell the Lourdes story without the discussion of funds. In the United States the average per-pupil cost in charter school is \$4,4700 while the traditional school is \$7,000. This year Lourdes received \$3600 per pupil while many schools received up to \$10,000 per student. We boast of an efficient system but this is obviously a challenge.

The following report outlines the steps we have taken to preserve the educational system that served our forefathers and hopefully will serve future generations. Test scores, students' projects and professional growth have been noted. Parent and community involvement and support has remained an integral component of the school.

Thank you for your continued support! If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions please feel free to contact me or a member of the staff.

Sincerely,

Linda Duman  
Administrator

## **School Goals 2002-03**

1. During the first week of school, classroom management and organization will be taught. The philosophy will be positive management and an emphasis on student responsibility. A reward system will be developed for positive behaviors.
2. Twice a month, during the lunch period, the certified staff will meet to discuss positive student behavior, communication with parents and library use.
3. The staff will focus on integrating library resources into the classroom curriculum. At the beginning of the year there will be a staff training/preview of the library.

## **Charter School Goals and Evaluation Guidelines**

1. Of the students who have attended Lourdes Public Charter School for two consecutive years or longer, 70% will score at or above the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile level on the California Test of Basic Skills or a similar test.
2. The Lourdes Public Charter School will participate in the required statewide assessment tests.

## Library Goal

*“Our school library is a community library so the students and families can participate in the ‘Information Age’ together. Modern media and technology are employed. This is of extreme importance since our community has no county library services.”*

The above is the sixth goal of the Lourdes Public School Charter. To date we have the following in place:

- A DSL network of twelve computers using the Sagebrush Spectrum library software,
- 162 volumes in the Reference section,
- Over 300 volumes in our community section,
- Over 400 volume circulation in the community section,
- Web Library Resources on card catalog,
- 6000 total volumes.

# Factual Information

## Staff

Linda Duman – Classroom teacher/Administrator, BA, MS, Oregon certified  
Diane Duda – 4-8 Classroom teacher, BA, Oregon certified  
DeAnne Sumpter – K-3 Classroom teacher, BS, Oregon certified  
Sue Gerding – K-3 Classroom teacher, BA, MAT, Oregon certified  
Katherine Kirsch – Librarian, BA, MA, Ph.D  
Darlene Joines – Teacher assistant  
Denise Silbernagel – Teacher assistant  
Chris Gries – Teacher assistant  
Tami McNabb – Bookkeeper  
Sheila McNabb – Janitor

## Enrollment

Grade	Students Enrolled
K/1	6
2	6
3	6
4	7
5	6
6	9
7	3
8	5

As of June 10, 2003 there are 49 students enrolled for the 2003-04 school year and a waiting list of 10 students.

## **Professional Development**

**Linda Duman** attended the 'Project Learning Tree Workshop' offered through the Oregon Forestry Education Program at Oregon State University.

**DeAnne Sumpter** attended the Oregon Coast Aquarium Teacher Inservice Day in October 2002.

**Sue Gerding** attended the 'Implementing Fine Arts into Your Curriculum' offered through Western Oregon University.

**Diane Duda and Chris Gries** attended the W.E.C.A.R.E Sports Staff Development Inservice. This program teaches life skills, bilateral movement and expression helpful in increasing reading comprehension, acceptance of others regardless of our differences, and winning attitudes in a non-competitive atmosphere.

**Chris Gries, Jane Bender, and Carole Sebens** attended a volunteer management seminar offered by Volunteer Pro. This provided training in recruiting, retaining, and rewarding volunteers.

**Diane Duda, Sue Gerding, Jeanne Howe, and Teresa Jarrett** attended the 2002 National Charter School Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

# Commendations

## Impressions of Lourdes Charter School

If I were to be raising children all over again, in this present state of confusion in the public schools, I would either be very serious about home schooling or try very hard to have my children attend Lourdes Charter School.

The first positive impression for a visitor to the school is the easy politeness of the children, a virtue that is worked on every day, by every teacher.

The next impression is of a small facility, in excellent condition, with a wonderful ambience for learning. The teachers are warm and welcoming and very helpful to visitors and part time teachers. The teachers are concerned for the students and the students return that concern with love for their teachers and a desire to please and to study.

Lourdes Charter School is in a rare setting of surrounding woods, green fields and nearby mountains. There are not football fields, baseball stadiums or cinder tracks, but the students are encouraged to run and walk and play games and even dance or skip rope and be involved with drama and music. They are encouraged to think for themselves and discover an enthusiasm for life and all that is to be learned.

I look forward to my six-week sessions teaching creative movement, which has been shown to improve concentration through patterned, rhythmic, dance-like combinations. There are always hugs from some and always thank yous. Every time I return, I find new growth and more enthusiasm. It's a good place to be.

Robin Humelbaugh

June 18, 2003

During the summer of 2002, we became aware of the possibility of enrolling our youngest daughter, Julie Wallace, in the first grade at Lourdes Charter School, in Scio. After making application, she was accepted. At that time, we found that there was also a vacancy in the fourth grade class for our oldest daughter, Jessie.

After a rock start, at least for Jessie, this year at Lourdes has been the best academic experience that we have observed for any of our children. Jessie was very acclimated to her surroundings at Stayton Elementary School and consequently, had a difficult time transitioning into Lourdes. She was unused to the higher level of performance routinely expected of the students there. The staff at Lourdes was very understanding and supportive during this period, without however, lessening their expectations. After about two months, Jessie began to blossom and now absolutely loves the school! We have noticed tremendous positive changes in her personality, behavior, and academic performance and attribute them to her experience at the school.

Because Julie started her school career at Lourdes, the higher expectations quickly became routine. She constantly amazes us with her level of learning. As an example, before the end of the school year, as a first grader, Julie had progressed into the multiplication tables in her math class. The pride that she exhibited when coming home and announcing that she was now “into her fives” was evident and heartwarming.

If we could describe our feelings about why this has occurred with our children, the explanation would center around those higher expectations. It is our feeling that the public schools have evolved to the point that they are teaching to the lowest common denominator. At Lourdes, the staff encourages the students to continue to learn, to progress at their own rate, rather than wait on the slowest of the class.

In closing, we have nothing but positive things to say about the charter school experience, thus far. Our children are benefiting academically and socially beyond any of our original expectations at the beginning the school year.

The Lourdes staff are to be commended for their commitment and dedication to their students and to the school

John Wallace

Sydney Wallace

(P.S.) Just yesterday, barely two weeks into summer vacation, Jessie remarked that she missed her school and was looking forward to returning. Amazing!!

# Student Survey

## What subject did you like the least that will probably help you the most?

“I didn’t like math the most but it will probably help me the most.”

“I didn’t like it when we had to do 5x’s each in spelling but it helped me learn the words.”

“When we dissected the fetal pig it smelled but I think it will help in my dream job.” (*Student wants to be a surgeon.*)

## What subject did you like the most that will help you in the future?

“Math, it was always challenging but it was fun.”

“The Lego Robotics Competition, I loved designing and building the robot.”

“I liked science the most.”

## What event or project did you like the most?

“I really liked being a Senate Page.”

“I liked the play at Linn Benton Community College.”

“I liked making the wooden boxes for Mother’s Day.”

## What was the most difficult task?

“Daily Oral Science”

“Getting the information on the underground tunnels in Germany.”

“Making my history travel brochure.”

“The most difficult task was definitely the biography of a relative. The difficult part was getting the information.”

## School Accomplishments

- Symphony:** Students attended the Oregon Symphony Youth Concerts held at Willamette University: “Upbeat, Downbeats!” and “The Thick and Thin of It.” A comprehensive review of the programs was presented to the students prior to attendance.
- Jump Rope:** Students from Mount Angel grade school presented an assembly and workshop on jump rope skills, tricks, and routines. Students practiced for months after this fun presentation.
- Senate Pages:** The seventh and eight grade students were Senate Pages on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Senator Roger Beyer sponsored the students. They were privileged to post the colors and participate in the activities that honored the anniversary of Oregon’s statehood.
- Manners:** Suzie Kanewski visited the school on three separate occasions to discuss the importance of manners in all aspects of the students’ lives. On her last visit, to illustrate the importance of table manners, parents served a three course meal for students to practice the fine art of dining.
- Geology:** Carl Joines, a member of the local community, spent days sharing his knowledge of rocks. Students were able to explore his rock collection and obtain first hand information on rock identification.
- Robotics:** 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students participated in the Oregon Robotics Tournament. Students designed, built, and programmed robots to accomplish assigned tasks. Parent volunteers held the work sessions after school and on Saturdays.



### **Lourdes Public Charter School**

Students at Lourdes Public Charter School are joining an international network of young people taking scientific measurements of Earth systems and sharing their observations with other students and scientists around the world using state-of-the-art technology systems.

Lourdes Public Charter School is joining the Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) Program, an International environmental science and education partnership. GLOBE students are contributing to a better understanding of the planet by making regular environmental observations at thousands of locations around the world and sharing their information via the Internet.

Linda Duman attended a workshop with GLOBE scientists and educators for instruction on the measurement procedures and the GLOBE computer technology system.

Students will select a study site near the school where they will take regular measurements of various atmospheric, hydrological, biological, and geological features. The students will then send their findings via the Internet to a GLOBE data processing facility. Their data will be combined with input from other GLOBE schools around the world and with other science sources, such as satellite imagery, to create dynamic, online images of the Earth. The GLOBE student data is available to the general public on the World Wide Web at <http://www.globe.gov>.

The GLOBE Program is jointly funded and coordinated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Science Foundation, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Departments of State and Education.

For more information, contact Linda Duman at (503) 394-3340.

# THE GLOBE PROGRAM

1800 G Street, NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20006-4403

April 21, 2003

Linda Duman  
Lourdes Public Charter School  
43166 Thomas Drive  
Scio, OR 97374

Dear GLOBE Team:

Congratulations! Lourdes Public Charter School has now reported data from a total of 690 student measurements, and therefore, your school has now moved to the 500 measurements rung of GLOBE's ladder of schools reporting many measurements. Your school has reported data at a rate of 147 measurements per month. At this pace, your school is a good reporter of GLOBE data.

Data reporting is a key element of GLOBE; thank you for your contributions. Today the GLOBE archive includes data from more than 9 million student measurements. These data are made available to all. They give students information to use in their studies, provide scientists critical input for their research, and indicate to all the continuing success of the GLOBE Program.

During the past four years, it has been my privilege and pleasure to acknowledge the contributions of GLOBE schools such as yours with these letters. While this letter is my last to you, my successor as Chief Scientist has indicated that she will be continuing this practice. I hope she will have many occasions to write to you as Lourdes Public Charter School extends its contributions to GLOBE.

Sincerely,

Dixon M. Butler  
Chief Scientist

## **September 11<sup>th</sup> Observance**

In commemoration of 9/11 the students of Lourdes Charter School conducted a flag ceremony and memorial service. The students, parents, extended family members and community took part in the ceremony.

## **Veteran's Day Observance**

*Heroes We Never Name*

*Back of the men we honor  
Enrolled on the scroll of fame,  
Are the millions who go unmentioned-  
The heroes we never name!*

*Those who have won us the victories,  
And conquered along the way;  
Those who have made us a nation-  
A tribute to them we would like to pay.*

*Lourdes Public Charter School*

In November 2002, the students designed cards and wrote the above inscription in each card. They were then mailed to family, friends, and alumni of Lourdes that had served or are currently serving in the military. The staff and students were amazed at the response. The recipients replied with cards and letters of appreciation. One alumnus, who is currently serving in the air force, flew a flag over Iraq in the name of Lourdes School. The flag and a copy of the Air Force Certificate are on display at the school.

To the Students and Staff at Lourdes School:

Thank you for your support and for the Veteran's Day card. It meant a great deal to me to receive such a thoughtful gesture. It seems like yesterday that I was running back and forth between the school and the hall for recess, but actually I attended Lourdes from 1985-1988. Now I am in the Air Force flying C-17s supporting the war effort. When we received the card I had just left on a 60 day deployment to Doha, Qatar in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. This is where I spent the holidays this year. It is tough to spend months at a time away from family and friends, but support from home helps more than you could imagine. It is people like you that have spent much of my time in and around Europe and recently Iraq. While in Iraq, I flew an American Flag in the back of our aircraft for your school. I have included some pictures of the C-17 along with the flag.

Scott Heuberger

# Career Day

On June 5, 2003, members of the community conducted a career day for the students at Lourdes. Students chose five careers of interest and in groups of three to four students they were able to attend a 20 minutes session with experts from that particular field. Volunteers for the day were:

Steve Nusom	Building Construction
Vanessa Riley	Real Estate
Dr. Tim Burns	Dentist
Tony VanCauteren	Electrician
Noreen Mikolas	Nurse
Rich Sebens	Law Enforcement
Chad Butler	Cobbler
Kris McCready	Dispatcher
Don McCready	Electrical Engineer
Kelly Alley	Physical Therapist
Katie Robins	Midwifery
Dr. Smiley	Veterinarian
Katie Duman	College Student
Cindy Lackner	Artist
Col. Ben Gerding	Military



