



# NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Cyndi Henry, Special Education Administrator  
Office: 541-265-4404

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## "Summer Work Experience Education and Training" Program (S.W.E.E.T.)

Lincoln County School District is being given the opportunity for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year, to receive a grant from the Oregon Department of Education that will support the "Summer Work Experience Education and Training" program, aka S.W.E.E.T.

The program will offer Lincoln County students a **PAID** 6 week work experience at local businesses. There is no cost to the employer. The grant also funds a program coordinator and two job coaches, one in Lincoln City and one in Newport.

- Eligible students must be 16-21 years of age and have an identified disability (Individual Education Plan (IEP)) or have a disability under Section 504 of the Americans with Disabilities Act and have a barrier to employment, mild or significant.
- Students must be ready, willing and motivated to work from July 5<sup>th</sup> to August 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Students will be selected for work sites based on teacher recommendation, parent support, and availability.
- Students must have transportation to and from work sites.
- The students will be paid minimum wage, \$10.25 an hour, and work up to 20 hours each week.

Students will work with their teachers and parents to complete an Application and Letter of Recommendation. An informational meeting will be held for parents and selected students.

The week of July 5<sup>th</sup> will be a Work Readiness Training Week for students and staff. All training and work materials will be provided for students. Students will be hired as "Cadets" by LCSD under a temporary work agreement and will need to provide a current passport or two forms of ID and obtain a checking or savings account in their name.

We believe there is no classroom substitute for the real world experience of showing up for work and learning the skills necessary to succeed on the job. We are **VERY** excited for the opportunity for LCSD students to learn these essential work skills, and make a positive contribution to their community. We hope to maintain good local employment connections throughout the following school year.

Local businesses are welcome to contact us if interested in being a work site for the S.W.E.E.T. program. For more information, contact Cyndi Henry, Special Education Administrator at 541-265-4404.

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