

The Oregonian

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To the Editor,

In its 40-plus years of existence, the Beaverton School District has earned a reputation as one of the nation's finest public school systems. But budget cuts imposed in recent years as a result of tax measures in Oregon have seriously challenged the district's overall capacity. Administrators have been forced to reduce or eliminate millions of dollars of programs – even while the district's student population has continued to grow rapidly.

When it comes our school funding crisis, we citizens don't have to fiddle while Rome burns.

During the week of December 9-12, the nonprofit Beaverton Education Foundation will conduct its annual Phone-a-Thon to raise money for worthy school programs. BEF cannot hope to replace all of the money lost through budget cuts, but it can make a difference in some critical areas – with your help.

During December 9-12, BEF will conduct its annual phone-a-thon. Most of the money raised will support after-school and summer school programs specially designed by teachers. BEF has done this the last two years, with excellent results. Many worthwhile programs have been funded and hundreds of students have benefited.

High-quality public schools can be a source of pride for all of us in the Beaverton area. But they need more than just basic funding. When your phone rings Dec. 9-12, please give generously to Beaverton students.

Janet Hogue, Executive Director
Beaverton Education Foundation

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