

Memorandum

To: Washington County Commissioners
From: Dylan Hydes
Date: September 17, 2009
Re: *Results of Nominating Convention; Reasons for Seeking Office*

I. Results of the Nominating Convention

The Democratic Party has presented the commissioners with three outstanding candidates to replace Rep. Galizio. Each would do a fine job representing Oregon's 35th District in the Oregon House—which leaves the Washington and Multnomah County Commissioners with a difficult decision. These difficult decisions are typically assisted by the party's nominating convention, but this nominating convention provides little help to the commissioners as no clear front runner emerged. The results of the convention were as follows:

- 1st Place: Margaret Doherty 43%
- 2nd Place: Dylan Hydes 42%
- 3rd Place: Steve Dunne 15%

No candidate left the convention with a majority of the votes and the top two candidates were separated by approximately ½ of one PCP's votes. Such a situation would certainly seem to warrant a runoff, but the convention rules do not provide for such a procedure.

I understand that the Commissions most often choose the candidate that emerges from the convention with a plurality of the votes, but I would ask the Commissioners to refrain from this practice for three reasons. First, the party was unable to provide a consensus candidate to the Commission. Second, I believe that despite receiving 1% less of the vote than my nearest opponent, I am the best person for this job. And third, and most important, the amount of support I have built over a 27-day period is nothing short of amazing.

I first learned of Rep. Galizio's retirement while I was getting ready for work. I had the radio on that morning while I heard that not only was Rep. Galizio retiring, but he had already endorsed his successor. Rep. Galizio's seat is one that I had been eyeing for some time, but I respected Rep. Galizio and liked the job he was doing in Salem so I decided years ago that I would wait to make a run until the seat became open. So when I heard that Rep. Galizio was retiring and that I had 27 days to mount a campaign against a challenger who had already received the outgoing candidate's endorsement was, to be honest, I was more than a little

disappointed. However, instead of giving up I became informed and quickly organized. In those 27 days I learned that this extremely brief campaign would not be about raising money or knocking on doors, but getting to know the 35 PCP's whom I had never met before and who my opponent had already been in contact with and created relationships. I sent every PCP a letter; I placed at least one phone call to every PCP; and I sent every PCP at least two emails. Every PCP who responded to my communications or returned my phone calls received a rapid response from me and offers to meet in person and discuss the issues important to them, the district and the state of Oregon. I then began forging critical relationships with the approximately one-half of the PCP's that gave me the opportunity to meet them and the results speak for themselves. I, Dylan Hydes, a person who 27 days prior was a complete unknown to the PCPs, won the support of, if not every PCP I met with, very nearly every PCP I met with.

My closest opponent for this office has an amazing record. She has taught public school for 10 years, worked for the OEA for 20 years, served on the Tigard planning commission and won the endorsement of the outgoing, and very popular holder of this seat. Despite this impressive record and the institutional advantages at her disposal, I was able to, in my short 27-day campaign, garner nearly as much support as my chief opponent. Had this campaign been any longer, say 2 months, or I was notified in some way of Rep. Galizio's retirement prior to that morning on the radio, I believe it would indeed be my opponents would be arguing today for the Commission to put aside the results of the nominating convention.

II. Reasons for Seeking the Appointment to HD-35

I have been passionate about politics, public policy and the legislative process my entire life. I grew up in John Day, Oregon. In that town, a lot of kids wanted to be loggers or truck drivers or professional athletes, but I wanted to serve in government. The reason for my passionate commitment to this career at such a tender age is that I am an Idealist. I firmly believe there is no greater way to improve the lives of Oregonians and Americans than through government action, and in some circumstances, government *inaction*.

One reason why I am strong candidate for state legislature is that I am a student of public policy and a bit of a policy wonk. However, I am still able to talk about complex issues in a way that most anyone can understand. This is a skill I learned teaching 7th and 8th Grade Social Studies for four years. I further honed this skill talking to juries while working in Multnomah County District Attorney's Office. Further, my knowledge goes beyond just my professions—education and the practice of law—and that is what every legislator needs to be, a jack of all trades and hopefully a master of some. It does little good to have a legislator who is an expert in one area, but knows little else. I have a broad and deep understanding of many of the issues facing Oregon and the 35th District. To those issues in which I am not expert, I have the curiosity, drive and ability to learn about them.

The 35th District is divided very closely between Democrats and Republicans. I believe my experience and biography make me an ideal candidate to serve such a district for four reasons. First, while I am a proud Democrat, I am not an ideologue. If I disagree with my party I

will say so—just as I would if I disagreed with the Republican Party. My pragmatism is well demonstrated by career choices. While I believe in protecting the rights of the accused, I very much enjoyed my time prosecuting criminals in the district attorneys’ office. And while I strongly believe in one’s right to bring a lawsuit if they are injured, my current career is spent defending businesses and insurance companies from lawsuits. Second, I am not beholden to any special interests group. For example, while I strongly support the teachers’ union, I believe they are wrong to categorically oppose merit pay. Third, there are issues in which my beliefs are not entirely consistent with my party and which conservatives are able to identify with, such as gun control and illegal immigration. And fourth reason I am a good fit for my district is that I grew up in John Day, Oregon, the center of the most conservative county in the entire state. Growing up there made me appreciate the value of diverse thinking and it taught me how to communicate, respect and work with those with whom I disagree.

My commitment to public service and political involvement cannot be questioned. Since the age of 21 I have been active in politics either professionally or as a volunteer, as my resume indicates. My first job out of college was in the office of Congressman David Wu. As a teacher I did my best to inspire my students to become active citizens (as demonstrated in the newspaper article I submitted with my materials). As an attorney and family man my life is very full, but I continue to make time for political involvement.

As a representative to HD-35 I would fight for those issues that I am passionate about and that very much impact the district and our state. Those things include: funding education and public safety without slashing services to the neediest among us; finding ways to fuel economic growth and attract businesses to the area without harming the environment or destroying what makes Oregon and Washington County so appealing and livable; and working with local communities and the federal government to find ways of improving traffic congestion.

III. Conclusion

The Commissioners have a choice between three tremendous candidates to replace the outgoing representative of House District 35. I simply ask that the commissioners select the candidate they believe will best serve the district and not rely solely on the results of a nominating convention that was unable to put forth a consensus candidate. I believe that I am the best candidate to represent the diverse district that is HD-35 and I respectfully request your support on September 21.

Dylan Hydes

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EDUCATION

Lewis and Clark Law School, Portland, OR

J.D., May 2008

- Environmental Law Review – Associate Editor
- President/Founder, American Constitution Society

University of Oregon, Eugene, OR

Masters of Education, August 2002

Linfield College, McMinnville, OR

B.A., History and B.A., Political Science, May 2000

EXPERIENCE

Smith Freed & Eberhard, Portland, OR

Attorney, November 2008 – present

Specializing in insurance defense litigation in the areas of premises liability and personal injury; managing full load of cases from filing of complaint to settlement.

Multnomah County District Attorney's Office, Portland, OR

Legal Intern, August 2007 – April 2008

Prepared and tried approximately 25 bench and jury trials; argued motions; conducted pre-trial conferences; wrote offers; represented the state in civil commitments and probation violation hearings.

Castillero Middle School, San Jose, CA

Teacher, August 2002 – June 2005

Instructed 7th and 8th graders in the fields of Social Studies and computers; Chair of History Dept.; nominated Teacher of the Year; student council advisor; and Management Committee.

Santa Clara County Democratic Party, San Jose, CA

Director of County Speakers Bureau, March 2004 – November 2004

Created and managed speakers' bureau; engaged in public debates; gave speeches; strategic planner.

David Wu for Congress, Portland, OR

Deputy Finance Director, February 2000 – June 2001

Managed a \$1.5 million budget; filed FEC reports; supervised interns; and staffed Congressman.

Office of U.S. Senator Ron Wyden, Washington, D.C.

Intern, June 1999 – August 1999

CAMPAIGNS WORKED ON/VOLUNTEERED FOR

- John Kroger for Attorney General – Volunteer (2008): Canvassed; phonebanked; hosted house party
- Nick Kahl for Oregon House (HD-49) – Volunteer (2008): Canvassed; phonebanked
- Barack Obama for President – Volunteer (2008): Canvassed
- Rob Brading for Oregon House (HD-49) – Volunteer (2006): Canvassed; phonebanked
- John Kerry for President – Volunteer (2004): Managed speaker's bureau; gave speeches; strategic planner
- David Wu for Congress – Deputy Finance Director (2000): Canvassed, fundraised, phonebanked

INTERESTS

- Running marathons, politics, baseball, basketball, softball, golf, bowling, and camping.

September 13, 2009

Dear Precinct Committee Person:

Thank you for your activism and for volunteering this Sunday afternoon to help make the important decision of who will replace Representative Galizio in Oregon's 35th House District. As you know, I deeply respect the activists that run the Democratic Party in Oregon – the work you do makes our state a better place to live.

I write to you today in support of Dylan Hydes candidacy for House District 35.

I know Dylan from my time as a law professor at Lewis & Clark Law School. Dylan was in two of my classes and during that time, I found Dylan to be studious, engaged and a quick legal mind. I encouraged him to use me as a reference as I felt I could speak credibly to his mind and character.

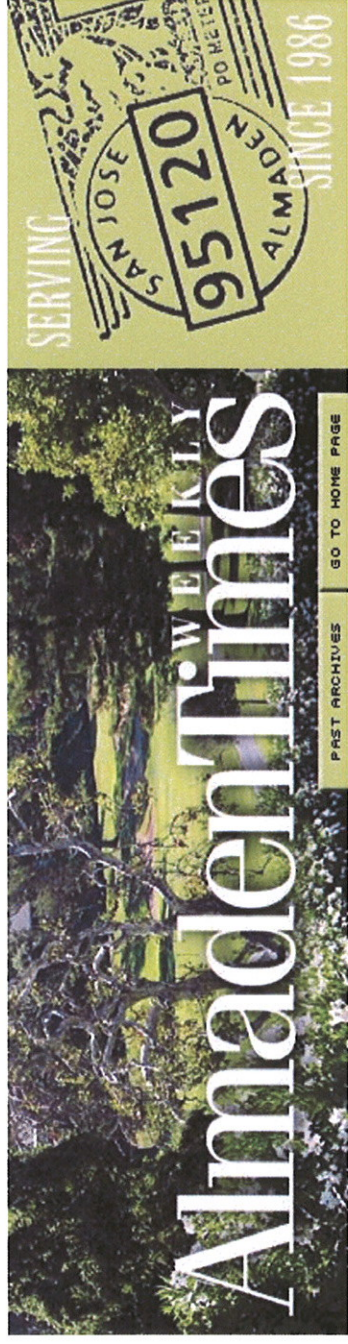
I also know Dylan through his hard work with the Lewis & Clark Law School Democrats and I saw first-hand Dylan's dedication to Oregon and his activism in working to elect Democratic candidates. I believe strongly in grassroots activism, and I believe we need more activists representing Oregon in state government.

My goal for HD-35 is that it stays in Democratic hands and I believe Dylan's drive, determination and talents make him qualified for that task. I strongly encourage you to cast your vote for Dylan in his race to succeed Rep. Larry Galizio. Thank you again for your commitment to Oregon and your work on this issue today.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Kroger". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Kroger".

John Kroger



September 17, 2009

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September 23, 2004

SCHOOL SCENE in Almaden Valley

Teacher offers eighth graders a hands-on approach to politics

Castillero students volunteer and learn about the political process at the same time

By Jeanne C. Lewis
Staff Writer

Dylan Hydes' eighth grade social study classes at Castillero Middle School are learning all about the political process in America. And not just from books and lectures. Hydes' innovative program has them volunteering for the party of their choice.

"I knew three years ago when I started teaching that in 2004 my students in some way would be involved in the election," Hydes, a self-proclaimed political junkie, commented about the curriculum. "That is an essential theme in my classroom. Our society and political system can only sustain itself with informed and active citizens. Voting is important, but we should be asking much more of all people than simply voting, as I am asking more of my students."

Hydes' innovative program presented students with volunteering for the Democratic, Republican or a party of their choice. Before they decided, the class examined the philosophical differences between the two main parties and dissected their platforms. As a stimulus to volunteer, Hydes offered 20 points of extra credit to his five classrooms of 156 eighth grade pupils. A total of 69 attended the first event at the Santa Clara Democratic Headquarters on Almaden Road. Their activities for the two-hour volunteer effort included writing letters to swing states, preparing voter registration forms, making campaign posters, writing notes to remind people to vote and preparing giveaway bags for precinct walkers. Parents were encouraged to watch or participate.

"This is a great way for the kids to learn the whole political process," Almaden resident Mary Loveless remarked as she watched her daughter, Patricia, stuffing bags with Democratic campaign items with her school friends. "It is a great opportunity for her to learn the contrasts between the two parties."

"Our children are lucky to have teachers such as Mr. Hydes to teach them the democratic process and to listen to all sides prior to making decisions," Marjorie Stiles, mother of Jessie Newman said. "It's nice to be able to talk to my daughter about issues and candidates and she has actually advised me on a few things that have changed my mind."

The 13 and 14 year olds were just as energized as the parents.



Creating campaign posters is fun. Front row, Sarah Anderson, Georgia Hussein, Molly Fensterwald, Nilda Nejah, Amanda Fickett, Megan Schott, Lauren Gunatileka. Back Row, Aaron Lefeber, Deanna Tran, Nikki Hydes, and teacher Dylan Hydes. Photo by Jeanne C. Lewis

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"It's a good way for kids to get involved," Sarah Anderson said while cutting paper for posters to be distributed to retail outlets. "And it makes you feel good to help."

"We heard about this in Mr. Hydes' class," David Hoyt remarked, taking a break from writing letters about environment concerns to voters. "We also set up an election with campaign managers and groups of the different parties. It's all very interesting."

And they have political preferences.

"Bush is not doing enough for the country," Mike McCormick answered to why he volunteered. "We're \$7 billion in debt. He said he'd do all these things and we're still waiting. It outrages me."

"We should look for what we believe in," Eric Beutler chimed in. "And influence other people to vote."

"I believe in most of the stuff that Democrats believe in," Greg Edwards said solemnly.

"That's why I'm here."

When Jessie Newman was asked why she got involved in the Democratic volunteering effort, she immediately said,

"Because of Bush and Mr. Hydes—he's an awesome teacher."

Hydes' enthusiasm for politics began early in his life. He served as a delegate to the 1999 College Democratic Convention in Washington, D. C. This year, he was chosen as a first-time delegate at the Democratic National Convention in Boston, Mass. He hopes that the volunteer effort of his eight graders will build a foundation for a lifetime of volunteerism, informed choices, and keeping the government accountable.

"All students were given the opportunity to volunteer for either the Republican or Democratic parties," said the 26-year-old Hydes. "It is our civic responsibility to make informed decisions based on the issues and positions of the candidates and not be swayed by glitzy ad campaigns or the mood of the day."

Ron Naymark, a member of the speaker's bureau for the Democratic Headquarters, spoke to the students about the importance of voting.

"Why is it important to vote?" Naymark asked the interested group.

"Because one vote could change who is president," one of the teenagers answered.

"That's right," Naymark continued. "You're going to learn how to run a political campaign here and I know there is at least one person here, probably more who has the capability of becoming a governor, senator or even president one day."

Nancy Pyle, candidate for Council Member, District 10, made a special visit to the volunteer effort offering a personal approach to the political race for the enthusiastic crowd.

"One of the best things I ever did was teach school," said Pyle, who at one time taught at Castillero. "You are part of the reason I'm running. We have to get serious about helping our schools. We need to ask our government to form a partnership in San Jose Unified School District and the corporate world. There's a lot they can do to help and there's no time like now."

The excited volunteers continue their work generating campaign tools as they chat and laugh among themselves.

The program has been a success and the students have a better understanding of the political process due to a motivated educator.

Hydes is in negotiations to arrange space at the Santa Clara Republican Headquarters for a volunteer effort with interested students but as of yet, no date has been set.

Family Fun Night benefits Los Alamitos Robotics

In an ongoing effort to further advance and improve their Robotics program, Los Alamitos and the SMART Foundation held their second annual Family Fun Night Sept. 15. Thanks to Barnes & Noble and Chevys, book sales and dining receipts generated more than \$1,458 in funds that will directly benefit their fourth and fifth grade robot builders and programmers.

"From the look of things, it was a zoo," exclaimed principal Dr. Gonzales. "Chevy's was packed and I'd say 80 percent of the

tables were from our school. Everyone had a wonderful time."

Leland High School receives National Blue Ribbon award

Leland High School will finally be able to fill the one remaining spot on its wall reserved for the sole award that would complete their ongoing quest for excellence—one that had eluded them for years.

The wait finally ended on Sept. 16, when Secretary of Education Rod Paige notified principal Bob Setterland that Leland had been selected as the recipient of a 2004 No Child Left Behind-Blue Ribbon School award.

"The students, staff and parents are thrilled," says Setterland. "We've always believed we were a blue ribbon school and now we know it for real. It speaks of the quality of our staff, the hard work of our students, and the commit of our parents and community. The work that has gotten us this award comes from years of building and not immediate past achievements."

Setterland will travel Washington, D.C. with calculus teacher Sarkis Kel-Artinian to receive the award during a Nov. 4-5 ceremony.

In addition to the accomplishment, Leland High School will be featured in the October issue of the U.S.

Department of Education newsletter, The Achiever, which will be distributed to 200,000 schools across the nation.

"Ours was selected over all the Blue Ribbon schools for this feature," adds Setterland. "It's an added bonus."

—By Kymberli W. Brad

Cleanup time at Simonds

Schools have traditionally relied on parents for help in a myriad of ways. Simonds has taken this to a new level, however. Monday, a group of parents gathered to wash the instruments that are used in the Simonds band.

"Obviously they had a good time helping out!" said Simonds Principal Linda Kakes.

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