

To all who care about and have a stake in the quality of our CSD schools:

The purpose of this letter is to let everyone know how much Abby Manahan meant to both the teachers and the students at Boothbay Region High School and to express our extreme frustration, that by all accounts, Abby's departure was avoidable.

Abby's resignation from the high school is an enormous loss for both students and teachers. As the technology integrator, she is the only person in the high school that worked directly with every single student, and every single staff member in the building. Abby is a certified teacher who co-teaches our Digital Literacy class this year. Abby is a dedicated, engaging, and innovative classroom teacher; she inspires students to think critically and creatively in an ever evolving technological landscape. Additionally, she is the main person students go see to get help with their never-ending technology issues. She has put in the time and effort to build a rapport with nearly every single student in the building. Students feel comfortable asking her for help and trust that she will be able to fix their problems.

Abby is a technology specialist who delivers professional development to all staff and provides direct technology support for instruction. In some way, Abby has helped every single teacher in the building. She is a consummate professional, a fantastic problem solver, and someone who simply can be counted on.

Unfortunately, the population that will be most affected by Abby's loss will be the students. In this job market, it will be nearly impossible to find someone with Abby's skillset. There are some people who are adept with technology, some who are good at teaching kids, and some who are good at teaching adults, but being able to do all three at a high level is extremely rare. We are worried about being able to find a qualified candidate for this position next fall, let alone in April when she is set to leave. At this time her position has still not been posted despite her resignation happening three weeks ago. We often refer to ourselves as a STEAM school, but we're not sure how this will be possible without a qualified technology integrator for the high school and a technology director for the CSD. The best thing that could have been done for both students and staff was to address concerns that would have kept Abby in the CSD.

It is discouraging to learn that significant issues within the technology department were not addressed in a timely manner and are still unresolved to this day. We are a small school with an exceptional staff, but in the past two years alone we have lost two irreplaceable teachers. This is a trend that cannot continue; there is not an infinite supply of exceptional teachers willing to come to Boothbay. We need to do everything we can to keep our talented teachers here, teaching our kids.

Sincerely,  
The BRHS Staff

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*Catherine C. Hodgdon*  
*Martha E. Landry*  
*Janice Thibault*  
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*[Signature]*

*Norm J. ...*  
*Christina ...*  
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