

May 19, 1970

To Thurston Parents, Teachers, Students,

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE STUDY OF THE NATURE CENTER IN RELATION TO
THE PREPARATION OF THE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL SITE:

Subsequent to requests from students and parents of the Thurston community, the superintendent and the board of education caused a halt to preparation of the junior high site until the advice of State and local conservationists could be obtained.

Yesterday, several school representatives and citizens of met with representatives of the State Department of Natural Resources to go over the building site plans and architectural drawings. The State people were of the opinion that plans were reasonable and did not present a threat to the pond, but actually, that roof run-off from the new school would provide a valuable source of relatively purewater to replenish the pond.

Today, several people met with Mr. Clark Ecker, local Soil Conservationist to obtain his opinion. I did not attend the meeting but it has been reported that he does agree that work can be resumed without endangering the quality of the Nature Center. If the play field is heavily mulched, soil erosion should be minimal and if the top soil is replaced in the Nature Center the regrowth should occur within a very few years.

ACCORDINGLY, CONSTRUCTION WILL BEGIN WEDNESDAY A.M.

Children and adults of the Thurston area should feel proud of the dedication to this nature area and the modifications their concerns have caused in the building plans. I hope the children will be impressed with the fact that working through properly designated channels often results in improved situations and in the future will use the more drastic means of protest action as a last rather than a first resort.

David Aberdeen
Principal