

Building new schools is cheaper than seismic upgrades

SAL 9:57 p.m. PDT August 23, 2014



(Photo: DANIELLE PETERSON / Statesman Journal, DANIELLE PETERSON / Statesman Journal)

Peter Courtney announced seismic upgrades costing millions of dollars for an undetermined number of the more than 1,000 schools found to have high risks of collapse during a major earthquake.

Again, Peter seems to be detached from reality.

Spending millions (aka billions) on aging buildings has a likelihood of producing a result for taxpayers somewhat equivalent to their chances of winning the lottery. Slim or none.

We should use limited tax resources to enhance current educational programs. This has an immediate payback for taxpayers, parents and students.

It would make more sense and be less costly to replace aging buildings as they become obsolete with new, earthquake-resistant buildings.

Just another bad idea, Peter.

James D. Vick

Salem

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