

Principal & Director Reports

May 2006

A.C. Houghton Elementary

- We have begun our last Tesa testing. Most subject areas look to be in good shape except for third-grade math. We are looking strongly at making some math curriculum changes in the second grade to build better support for third grade curriculum.
- ACH and the Irrigon Marina Park Board are sponsoring a bus to a fishing derby put on this coming Saturday, May 6, at Cutsforth Park. The Derby is sponsored by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and other Hepner area businesses. A free lunch is going to be provided and there will be prizes for big fish, etc.. There are competition categories from birth to 14 years old. The Department is also planting over 600 fish with a few trophy size clunkers. I'm taking the school camera for I'm sure some precious pictures.
- The national protest day for migrant students resulted in a 22% absence rate for ACH. 52% of our Hispanic students were absent.

Heppner Elementary School

Tupper: Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Dowdy, and Mrs. Smith-Griffith are busy preparing for a hectic week at Tupper Outdoor School. Students are excited about spending a week in the outdoors studying weather, forestry, survival, and wildlife. The student's favorite activities include archery, fishing, campfire, and hiking. It is a great learning adventure for students and teachers.

Alice: Students from Heppner Elementary School, Headstart, and Heppner Daycare experienced Alice's dreams in the production of "Alice In Wonderland." Students were invited to participate in "The Mad Tea Party" and "The Queens' Croquet-Ground."

Motorcycle: Mrs. Osmin's third grade class learned motorcycle safety from Mr. Thompson. He was dressed in his leather riding gear and explained riding techniques and safety.

Field trips: Students are not only having fun, but are learning from their travels. Fourth graders went on an Oregon Trail tour where they walked the same trails as the pioneers. They also attended a symphony in Echo filled with local musicians including our own Mr. Rice.

Fifth grade students will be participating in Watershed Field Days and will also be traveling to The Dalles to visit the Oregon Trail Museum.

The kindergarten class will be visiting the Grieb Farm. They will ride horses, see different farm animals, sit on a combine and tractor, and learn about wheat production.

TESA: Students at HES have finished the second round of TESA testing. Students began the testing with much enthusiasm and willingness to either reach their personal goal or meet the benchmark. A high percent of our students have reached the benchmark in both reading and math from third grade through sixth. We will be catching those “few” next week to give them a third opportunity.

Spring Fling: The annual Spring Fling was held on May 5th providing parents and community members the opportunity to participate in a country store, raffle, book fair, and to enjoy a free bar-b-que.

Other: Sonnets in Spring and the math contest were held in April.

Heppner High School

- Have offered a contract to Beth Dickenson for VoAG and she has accepted.
- We have ATLAS track here in town and the track will be finished within 10 days.
- Budget process is going well.
- Third testing window is going well and we are looking forward to our results.
- Both the 7th and 8th grade math scores have more kids exceeding than failing on our assessments- VERY EXCITING!
- Preparing for Prom on the 8th.
- Will be working on setting up an advisory committee for the AG program.
- Still working on Bullying committee with Mark Thompson.
- Preparing for Cycle Oregon and setting up groups for help.
- Spring sports are heading towards the end and they have been good with recent good weather.
- Working on academic awards assembly for end of year.
- ASB officers are in place and we are planning for next year.
- ZAP is going well and we are making adjustments that need to be put in place.
- We are working on Senior exit portfolios.
- We have set up interviews for our math position and will be working on music interviews as well.
- We have several students taking AP exams this month.
- Graduation stuff is fast approaching and we are planning for all that goes with it.

Irrigon Elementary School

‘GONG’ Day: To celebrate second round TESA testing student success, we held the first ever ‘GONG’ Day at IES. We assembled all students on the grass slope in front of the building and as student success stories were shared, students were given the privilege of striking the ‘GONG’ (borrowed from IHS, thanks!) according to the number of

benchmarks achieved and/or RIT point gain. The weather was wonderful, several parents joined us, and the kids had a blast announcing to the community the success they had on the TESA test.

TESA Testing: We started our third and final round of TESA testing. The teachers and students are aware of who still needs to make benchmark and/or a six RIT point gain. Students have been reminded daily to get extra sleep, eat well balanced meals, and exercise in preparation for doing their best on the test.

Student Body Assembly: Our monthly Student Body assembly was held Thursday, April 27th. A.C. Houghton's fourth grade students joined us for this assembly so that the IES student council could welcome them to our school. Mr. Searle's sixth grade band performed for the students. Following the assembly, all fourth grade students were taken on a tour of the building by our Student Council leaders.

Good Behavior Movie: 114 students enjoyed the movie, "Narnia" because they had received no office referrals during the third nine weeks of school. The Student Council transforms our school cafeteria into the IES movie theater for this event and offers a fully menu of concessions for our well behaved students to enjoy.

Outdoor School: Sixth grade staff and students from IES and WRE are preparing for the annual four day trip to Camp Meadowood. Twenty two high school counselors (10 from RHS and 12 from IHS) will join us for the week along with multiple staff members from both schools. This project requires multiple fund raising efforts and a committed staff to make it happen. We will leave for camp on May 15th and return May 18th.

Irrigon High School

Irrigon Jr. Sr. High School has several things coming up this month as we wrap up the school year. The last round of TESA found many of our students meeting not only their personal goal but also the District's RIT growth goal as well. We are very proud of our students and their efforts. We will top this year off with a Knight of Excellence on June 1st at 6pm to showcase academic excellence here at Irrigon. That is where we honor the top students in each of the disciplines as well as have our Honor Society tap in ceremony. Our Booster Club does a great job organizing the dinner and desserts and our band always is entertaining!

Our students also began registering for next year's classes by using our portable lap tops. This has made it so convenient for those students who do not have internet access at home to register for both the classes that they need as well as the classes they want. This was done using proposed classes so that we can build a master schedule around the student's requests.

Spring Sports are going great! We have a full roster for baseball, softball, track and even tennis. The baseball, tennis and softball teams are growing in skills and in performance. The track teams are doing well, building on last year's groups as well as new students

that have come in. We are looking forward to districts for all sports and seeing how our teams will do. The year will end with a Sports Awards banquet on May 25th at 6pm.

One of the most apparent changes here at IHS is the painting of our school name and mascot on the new shop building. It took several days but now when visitors come down Wyoming they won't have to guess which building is the one they want. Students have remarked how proud they are to see their school's name on the building. Now the only thing left is some landscaping and we will be set.

Our High School students have been very active in the elementary schools as of late, with STARS (Students Aren't Ready for Sex) presentations at IES and 10 students being selected for Outdoor School and Watershed Field Days, we have been very proud of our students stepping up and being role models for our future students. We hope this is just the beginning of great things to come for our school.

As we prepare for summer we will begin registering students for Summer School, another first for IHS. Three staff members will share the responsibilities for 20 students attending school from June 12-30th. Students will attend from 8am to 3pm and will be provided lunch through services at ACH. We look forward to seeing some of these students get some necessary credits as well as get some remediation if needed. We will also continue to look for new staff in our ever expanding school. With the addition of seniors next year we know we will need to fill these gaps with energetic people to see them off into the real world.

Riverside High School

LA DEPARTMENT ATTENDS NATIONAL READING CONFERENCE

On March 6th, Riverside Jr-Sr High School's Language Arts teachers attended the OTCE/NCTE (Oregon Council of Teacher's of English/National Council of Teachers of English) National Reading Conference in Portland, Oregon. During the three day conference, each teacher had the opportunity to attend nine seminars. The also heard several keynote speakers, including nationally recognized author, Sherman Alexie, reading research expert Dr. P. David Pearson, NPR correspondent and author, Bob Edwards, Oregon's own writing expert, Kim Stafford, and Dr. Beverly Ann Chinn, University of Montana expert on building bridges through multicultural literature. Two seminars focused on meeting the needs of the ELL student and our teachers walked away believing we are definitely on the right track. With next year being the adoption year for LA textbooks, after this conference the Language Arts department at Riverside is ready to contribute in any way possible.

BMCC SKILLS CONTEST

Twenty-two students from Riverside High School attended the "Exploring Pathways and Skills Challenge" event at Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton on April 25. Three RHS students took home prizes: Suzi Sherman received first place and a \$700 BMCC scholarship for the mock interview contest; Candido Cornejo earned third place in acting; and Charlene Houweling received the student choice award for the art show. RHS students also participated in photography, poetry, and music competitions and workshops. Attendees also chose to attend informational sessions on careers in four areas: arts and communication, human services, natural resources, and health sciences.

The event was open to all high school students in the Umatilla-Morrow Education Service District.

SENIOR INTERVIEW PROJECT

Riverside Seniors just passed their senior interviews as a culmination of their **Riverside Student Academic/Career Achievement Plan**. The following areas of the Riverside Student Academic Achievement plans were met:

- **Plan Development:** Students presented a portfolio with artifacts that demonstrated their own personal educational 6 year plan, career search, job shadow summary, secondary school/training search, and plans after graduation: short term goals (one year after graduation), long term goals (5 years after graduation).
- **Educational Profile Development:** Each senior presented educational profile documents which showed progress and achievement toward the student's goals. These include: transcripts, benchmark scores, and work samples.
- **Extended Application Standards:** Students presented evidence that they have the appropriate skills and are ready for their personal path post high school. Their **Senior Project Portfolio** includes: current resume, attendance records, disciplinary records, testing records, benchmark scores, 20 hours community service, job applications, job shadow summaries, official transcripts, employee evaluations, awards, and the Career Cruising Portfolio.
- **Career Related Standards:** The Career Education credit was awarded to each senior who passed their exit interview as the culmination of training/education for students in grades 7-12. The credit comes from a combination of the final Senior Project, the Advisor/Advisee Program, and the utilization of the *Career Cruising* program to build their portfolio and plan for their future careers. Students demonstrated career-related knowledge and skills in the following state required career development areas: **personal management, problem solving, communication, teamwork, employment foundations, and career development.**

Windy River Elementary

The month began with Parent-Teacher conferences; we were pleased with our parent turn-out. We had 65% of our parents come to our conference which was a 20% increase over last year's spring conferences. Along with that we held our nine week award movie and AR award party. Over 80% of our students were able to attend the behavior movie and we had 80 students meet their AR goal and attend that celebration. We ended the month with our student of the month assembly and paw power drawings. Good things are happening at WRE

We have also now finished the second round of TESA and are into the third round. Below you will see the results after the second testing period:

School Windy River Elementary School
Level 5th Grade

Selected Criteria:
[Grade=5th Grade]

Student Count 79

Math Overall Subject Achievement

5	7%	Exceeds	High Score	237
45	62%	Meets	Average Score	218
22	31%	Does Not Meet	Low Score	199
7		No Recorded Score		

Skill	Exceeds	Meets	Does Not Meet
Calculations & Estimations	0/ 0%	16/ 53%	14/ 47%
Measurement	3/ 10%	13/ 43%	14/ 47%
Statistics & Probability	2/ 7%	13/ 43%	15/ 50%
Algebraic Relationships	1/ 3%	14/ 47%	15/ 50%
Geometry	4/ 13%	15/ 50%	11/ 37%

Reading & Literature Overall Subject Achievement

5	7%	Exceeds	High Score	237
40	55%	Meets	Average Score	217
28	38%	Does Not Meet	Low Score	202
6		No Recorded Score		

Skill	Exceeds	Meets	Does Not Meet
SRC 1	6/ 17%	14/ 40%	15/ 43%
SRC 2	4/ 11%	19/ 54%	12/ 34%
SRC 3	5/ 14%	21/ 60%	9/ 26%
SRC 4	2/ 6%	16/ 46%	17/ 49%
SRC 5	5/ 14%	16/ 46%	14/ 40%
SRC 6	3/ 9%	16/ 46%	16/ 46%
Lexile	73/ 100%	0/ 0%	0/ 0%

Science Overall Subject Achievement

1	1%	Exceeds	High Score	239
30	41%	Meets	Average Score	221
42	58%	Does Not Meet	Low Score	206
6		No Recorded Score		

Skill	Exceeds	Meets	Does Not Meet
Physical Science	6/ 8%	33/ 45%	34/ 47%
Life Science	5/ 7%	27/ 37%	41/ 56%
Earth & Space Science	0/ 0%	29/ 40%	44/ 60%

School Windy River Elementary School

Level 6th Grade

Selected Criteria:

[Grade=6th Grade]

Student Count 72

Math Overall Subject Achievement

10 15% Exceeds

39 58% Meets

18 27% Does Not Meet

5 No Recorded Score

High Score 247

Average Score 224

Low Score 202

Skill	Exceeds	Meets	Does Not Meet
Calculations & Estimations	1/ 4%	8/ 35%	14/ 61%
Measurement	0/ 0%	13/ 57%	10/ 43%
Statistics & Probability	2/ 9%	8/ 35%	13/ 57%
Algebraic Relationships	1/ 4%	13/ 57%	9/ 39%
Geometry	4/ 17%	12/ 52%	7/ 30%

Reading & Literature Overall Subject Achievement

7 10% Exceeds

40 60% Meets

20 30% Does Not Meet

5 No Recorded Score

High Score 245

Average Score 222

Low Score 210

Skill	Exceeds	Meets	Does Not Meet
SRC 1	1/ 4%	13/ 50%	12/ 46%
SRC 2	4/ 15%	7/ 27%	15/ 58%
SRC 3	2/ 8%	6/ 23%	18/ 69%
SRC 4	1/ 4%	12/ 46%	13/ 50%
SRC 5	2/ 8%	9/ 35%	15/ 58%
SRC 6	1/ 4%	7/ 27%	18/ 69%
Lexile	67/ 100%	0/ 0%	0/ 0%

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We have some great activities coming in May:

5th graders will attend a water shed workshop

6th graders will be off to Outdoor School on the 15th or May

We will have an all school swim day at the Hermiston Swim Center

There is much more to tell and I will share that in my next report.

Sam Boardman Elementary

May is a very busy and exciting month. We have a full slate of field trips with classes going from Pendleton to The Dalles and everywhere in between. We are also planning our last big community even. The 3rd annual SBE BBQ is scheduled for the 18th. We will start serving at 11:00 but I'll be flipping burgers long before that! We are planning on 700+ people attending.

I would like to congratulate Mrs. Carmen Diaz, ELL assistant for being chosen to receive a Crystal Apple Award from the ESD. Mrs. Diaz is a more than qualified winner. She was a teacher in Mexico before coming to the US. Those skills have been a great benefit to SBE. Staff, students and parents have a lot of respect for Mrs. Diaz and she is a great member of the Boardman community.

Finally, I would like to announce the April students of the month.

April Students of the Month

Respect	Academics	Responsibility	Safety	
Ruben Lopez	Noel Lopez	Perla Gutierrez	Marino Pena	1-Harrison
Francisco Gutierrez	Donovan Carmack	Emily Sepulveda	Yessica Gonzalez	1-Harjo
Janet Lomas	Lizbeth Gaytan	Luis Claustro	Bianca Ramirez	3-Bankston
Gecela Avila	Larissa Steinlicht	Lorena Montes	Dalton Neal	4-Lemmon
Lisa Finley	Jose Luis Perez	Abigail Hernandez	Tarin Troxell	K-1 Files
Manuel Perez	Consuelo Llamas	Carmen Puerta	Sergio Navarro	2-McClenahen
Savannah Turner	Courtney Trowbridge	R.Isaias Cervantes	Alicia Calvillo	K C/G
Daniel Rodriguez	Kevin Madrigal	Phillip McDonough	Zuleyma Medel	K-1 Wilson
Shellie Munoz	Antonio Muniz	Sandra Flores	Claudia Arias	3-Jeppeson
Cora Johnson	Gabrielle Ganvoa	Miguel Ascencio-R	Santion Leon	3-Smith
Chance Frederickson	Emily Taylor	Yuriel Sosa	Alfredo Alvarez	K-Lalande
Angel Murguia	Arik Corpus	Evette Calvillo	Gustavo Alejandro	4-Dixon
Marisol Alvarez	Catie Groce	Gavino Barrera	Jesus Zuniga	4-Nead
Mirna Daltoso	Ethan Akers	Vizta Murray	Edgar Guzman	1-Ogden
Luis Gonzalez	Noe Sanchez	Angel Martinez	Carlos Olguin	K-Flores
Adolfo Bedolla	Ricardo Rosales	Alyx Edens	Harley Turner	1-Milton
Brianna Snyder	Maria Morales	Colton Neal	Jennifer Flores	3-Raible
Eric Ramos	Sami Hernandez	Anna Garcia	Andres Mendoza	4-McClenahen
Neira Rodriguez	Aramis Corpus	Jesse Hibbitts	Sterling Bither	K-Prindle
Rene Morales	Edgar Rodriguez	Markus Smith	Humberto Lopez	2-Kennedy
Ivan Torres	Jose Jimenez	Naty Garcia	Mayra Hernandez	2-Campbell
Elizet Sanchez	Tanner Collier	Henry Torres	Valerie Colin	2-Kellison

Morrow Education Center

Once again, it is a privilege to report the recent happenings of the Morrow Education Center. Mr. Mckinnis and I continue to recruit students who haven't been attending as regularly as they should. We also continue to promote the importance of

regular attendance to the students at the Morrow Education Center. We have seen several new faces during the past month and our current enrollment figure is 86 students enrolled at MEC. As a result of the warmer weather the students are anxiously awaiting the end of the school year. We will be having our graduation ceremony at the Irrigon High School cafeteria on June 1st 2006 at 7:00pm, and hope that you are all able to attend. We are anticipating 12 to 14 graduates from the MEC program this year.

Forrest and I have enjoyed the past month in the classroom here at the Morrow Education Center, and have welcomed the daily challenges that go along with serving this population of students. Our goal continues to be, serving the students of the Morrow Education Center and providing a safe and effective learning environment for all to thrive in. We appreciate your support of this program, and your commitment to all students of the Morrow County School District.

Special Education

At the job fair that was held at the Port of Morrow, we were fortunate to interview one very promising candidate with sixteen years of experience. I have had further contact with her and am crossing my fingers that we get her.

I received our report from ODE on our Systems Performance Review. As I told you in my last report, I didn't think we would be marked down in many areas. It turns out that the corrections we will have to make will be minimal.

The state is changing the way that students are identified for special education. They are looking at a Response to Intervention program (RTI). This process would have all students tested for possible learning problems when they entered school, and have regular classroom teachers try different interventions before they were referred to special education. Pendleton and Tigard are currently test sites the state has chosen to try this process. I think schools would benefit from this process. Presently students have to have a severe discrepancy between ability and achievement to qualify for special education, and too many of our young students that need help don't meet that qualification. There is a conference next month on that process in Eugene. I believe we will have a grant that will allow me to take several teachers to this at no cost to the district.

Another challenge facing school districts is special education students that are enrolled in virtual charter schools online. Although that online district receives the basic school report for that student, we are still responsible for their special education program. We have had one student in that situation presently. I was able to offer some services and complete his IEP through a conference call. I received a call from ODE about it, asking if I would take calls from other districts about the process we went through, so Morrow County Schools proves again that we are in step or perhaps one step ahead.

ELL Program

ELPA Testing

This month we started the new ELPA state testing with half of our ELL student population. We discovered some difficulties, but we were able to test half of our students

and hopefully we will have that data by the beginning of the new school year. The other half of our students was tested with the LAS test and so this month our ELL students have been submerged in ELPA testing, LAS testing and TESA testing.

ELL Teacher Recruitment

This month has also been one for recruiting ELL teachers for some of our schools. This recruitment has taken me to the Portland Job Fair, the Spokane Teacher Fair, and to our own Morrow County Teacher Fair. Many wonderful teachers were interviewed, and we have selected qualified persons to fill our ELL teacher positions.

Getting Ready to Close the Year

May is a month of closings. As teachers will finish all the testing, they will have to make lists of students exiting the ELL program. These will either be students who have been in the ELL program for 7 years or students who have reached a proficient level of English and are now able to function in a regular English academic class. Our ELL teachers also have to prepare for the program for next year school year.

90% Challenge

The challenge I have set to myself is to hold the 90% percent of ELL third graders or what ever percentage who have reached the State Reading benchmarks, to hold that same percentage for the fourth grade as well. This trickle effect is also applied to the next grade each year following. We cannot accept that students progress downward in State test achievement. This challenge is a goal, that I believe we must work toward and keep as many kids functioning high is English academic achievement.