

## Administration Reports March 2025

### Sam Boardman Elementary

As spring approaches, students are feeling the excitement of warmer weather and the promise of Spring Break. It's a time of renewal and joy, and our school has many fun activities lined up to celebrate this vibrant season.

In Kindergarten, teachers are preparing for the 100th day of school, which they plan to celebrate in big and exciting ways. This celebration will be filled with various math activities, allowing young learners to engage with numbers and have fun at the same time. It's a great opportunity for them to see how math is all around us, even in celebrations!

Additionally, our entire school will join in celebrating Read Across America during the first week of March. This event emphasizes the importance of reading and literacy in our lives. On March 6th, volunteer staff organized a Family Reading Night, where families are invited to come together and enjoy stories and literacy activities. Each student will receive a free copy of the beloved book *Hop on Pop*, which is highly regarded as one of the best first books for children learning to read independently. This initiative not only encourages reading but also strengthens family bonds through shared stories.

Third graders are set for an exciting adventure as they head to the Think Big Space for two days of STEAM activities. This hands-on experience will allow them to explore science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics in a fun and engaging environment. It's a wonderful chance for them to think creatively and work collaboratively on exciting projects.

With the completion of the iReady assessments behind us, teachers and students are ready to dive into the new WIN Groups, which stands for "What I Need." These groups will provide tailored instruction in both reading and math for 30 minutes each. This focused time will help address any learning gaps identified by the iReady diagnostic and Acadience Benchmark assessments, ensuring that every student receives the support they need to succeed.

Lastly, our English Language Development (ELD) students and their teachers have been diligently working to make progress as they prepare to complete the English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA) by the end of March. This assessment is crucial as it helps determine whether students are ready to graduate out of the ELD program, ensuring they have the reading, writing, listening and speaking skills needed for success in their academic journey.

As we embrace the spring season, let's celebrate the achievements and hard work of our students and staff. These upcoming events not only highlight the importance of learning but also foster a sense of community and joy throughout our school.

### Windy River Elementary

#### **Classified Employee Week:**

This week is classified employees week all across the State of Oregon (and maybe the world?). We are really leaning into celebrating our classified employees. There has been staffroom decorations, candy salad, gift bags, a cake thanks to the District Office, and even some "Super Star Badges." Really FUN! We have an amazing staff that works hard at WRE, and the Classified group is a big part of that!

#### **Red Ribbon week:**

We recently completed Read across America Week at WRE! There was flashlight reading and guest readers from The City of Boardman, Parks and Rec, and the Boardman Fire Department. The week's aim is to celebrate reading and literacy at WRE. As a personal highlight (my son is a Firefighter & Paramedic), Boardman Fire stayed to have lunch with the kids and even spent some time with the students at Recess! BIG WIN!

**Foundational Skills Reading Program:**

In order to address the needs of our struggling readers, WRE has built and implemented the ideas from last year’s Science of Reading training that MCSD put on (year long). This work, you will remember, was with Dr. Rhonda Fritz and happened during our Friday PD sessions. A team of amazing educators (Ms. Scanlan, Ms. Rowe, Ms. McMillian, Mrs. Locey, Dr. Herron, et al) used resources taken from those PD days (and also some resources from their college classes with Dr. Fritz) to put together a binder that takes kids from not understanding phonics to a full mastery of those foundational skills. I am proud to say: We have a lot more work to do, but WRE is well on its way to supporting and turning our competent and capable readers. It has been a ton of work, but our kids are benefiting from it.

**Employee of the Month:**

This month’s employee of the month is: Tina Crowell. MRs. Crowell is a phenomenal counselor. She always goes above and beyond to support kids and their SEL needs. We are lucky to have Mrs. Crowell!

**Spring Break!**

Spring Break was awesome. Kids and Teachers are ready for the sprint to finish the year! Lots of Learning STILL to get done! We are ready to do it!



**READ ACROSS AMERICA**

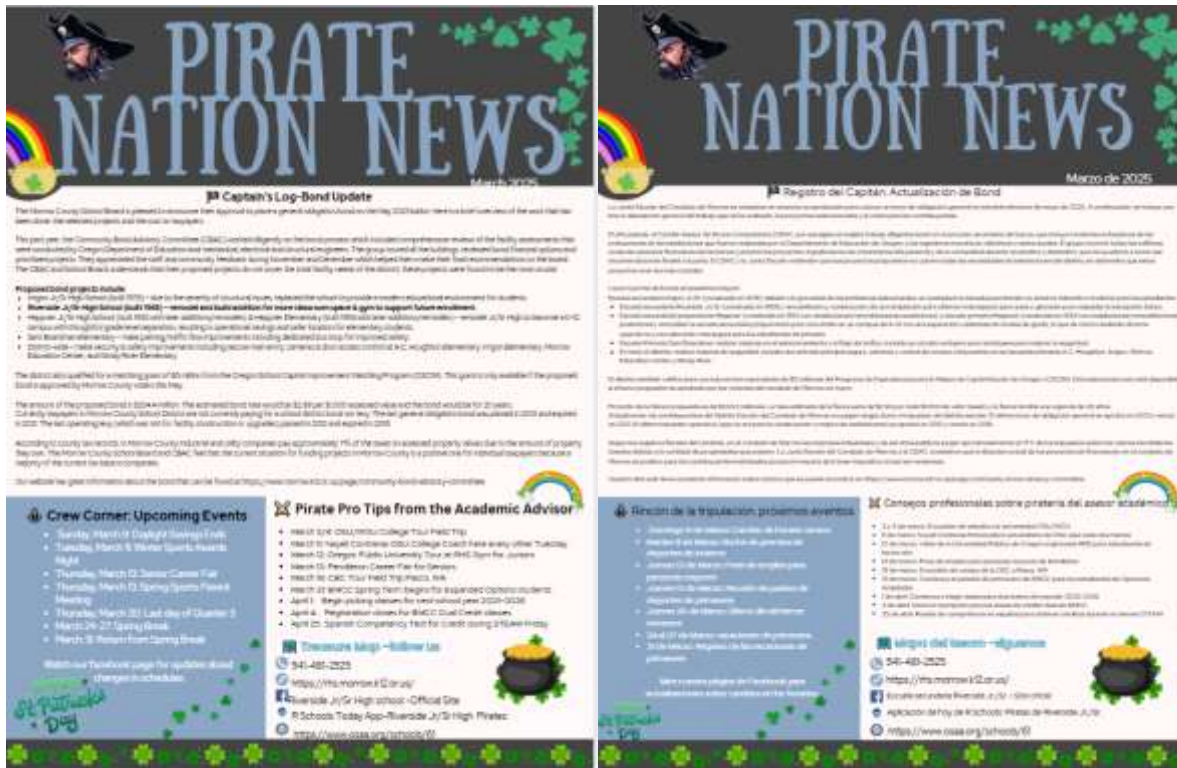


## Riverside Jr/Sr High School

Winter sports have wrapped up and we had some positive highlights for the year. Boys basketball won league and districts this year. We had the player of the year in Cooper Cemore and coach of the year in Cole Ashby. For FFA we have several students going to compete at state the end of the month. Our Drama club hosted our annual play- Beauty and the Beast- there was over 400 spectators this year!

Link to Newsletter

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## A.C. Houghton Elementary

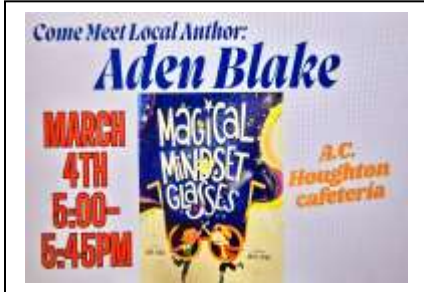
March is here, the days are getting longer and we have lots of exciting things going on at ACH. The end of the year is rapidly approaching so we are soaking up the time with our students, and the opportunities to teach them to round out the third quarter this month. Finally, we'll finish the month of March with a much needed spring break week.

Today at 2:00pm we were fortunate to have the Traveling Lantern visit our school to present the play *Peter Pan* to our students. Two first grade students got to participate in the play and did a great job—see picture to the right! All classes, and adults, seemed to really enjoy this presentation. The opportunity to see a live play for young children is an experience that not all have had the chance to enjoy. We are very grateful for the North Morrow Community Board for sponsoring this for our students.





This week in celebrating Read Across America, an ACH committee, made up of certified and classified staff, has planned an eventful evening with reading activities for our students and families to enjoy March 4th. Our ACH Literacy Night will provide families dinner from 5:00-5:30pm followed by activities revolving around literacy. This includes, read aloud for all levels, a book walk for students to 'win' a free book, literacy games to learn and take home, memory games, and door prizes for being present! We will also have a local author from Hermiston, Aden Blake, present to sell and autograph his book "*Magical Mindset Glasses*". This will be a highlight for our students, as they will



get to meet a real published author! We will also have community outreach set up by our CARE Coordinator and we'll have representatives here from: Blue Mountain Kids (for our Little Bobcats PreK and ECSE), CAPECO, the Department of Human Services/Foster Oregon, Irrigon Fire Station, the Loop Transit, the Oregon Trail Library and Morrow County Health Department. The raffle prizes are two baskets full of books for families to enjoy and read together from The Next Chapter Bookstore in Hermiston. This is a great local bookstore and we appreciate their support by giving us a discount on these books for our give-away. Must be present to win! This is an exciting event that we hope will become a tradition as we just love promoting reading for our students and families!

### **Irrigon Elementary School**

I am excited to share the wonderful progress and activities taking place at IES this month.

#### **Enrichment Club – Pinewood Derby Project**

Our Enrichment Club, under the leadership of Mr. Temple and Mr. Cole, has been actively participating in a Pinewood Derby project that has sparked enthusiasm and creativity among our students. What began at the drawing board has now evolved into students meticulously painting their custom-designed kit cars. As they complete the exterior designs, they will move into the next phase, where they will apply the real science behind speed. Students will experiment with weight and balance to ensure their cars are optimized for the fastest possible run. This hands-on project is not only fostering teamwork and creativity but also providing students with valuable lessons in engineering and physics.



## Math & Reading Growth – iReady Diagnostic

I am thrilled to report that our students have made significant strides in both math and reading, as evidenced by the most recent iReady diagnostic results. Across all three grade levels (4th, 5th, and 6th), we have seen an increase in the number of students who are now performing "at or above grade level" when compared to our fall diagnostic. This growth is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our teachers, who continue to go above and beyond to provide the best learning experience for our students. It is truly a celebration for our school, and we are excited to continue this upward trajectory.

## Family Math and Reading Night

We are also looking forward to our upcoming Family Math and Reading Night, which will be held this month. The purpose of this event is to further bridge our partnership with IES families while offering fun and engaging math and reading games that families can take home and enjoy together. Our staff has come up with creative and exciting ideas to make this event memorable. Additionally, we will be offering free hot dogs and chips that evening. We are also grateful to receive a generous donation of over 185 sets of playing cards from Wildhorse Casino, which will be used for math games introduced during the event. This promises to be a fun-filled evening that brings our community closer together while promoting literacy and numeracy skills.



As always, we are proud of the incredible work being done at IES and the strong partnership we continue to build with our families and community. Thank you for your ongoing support as we create a positive, engaging learning environment for all of our students.

## Irrigon Jr/Sr High School

IJSHS has finished ELPA testing. We will begin state testing after Spring Break.

Several wrestling students earned their way to state with three placing at state. We also have a group of students headed to Portland in April to compete at the state FBLA competition. And there are three FFA students who will receive their state degrees at the State FFA convention in Redmond this month.

Our new CCS Counselor, Kathleen Madore, has filled a much needed deficiency in our building. She has been visible and present and made many connections in the month she has been with us.

Baseball and softball home openers kick off in a couple of weeks and track will host a home meet on May 8.

The FFA Banquet will be May 20 and will be brought back on site to IJSHS.

## Heppner Elementary School

At HES we are busy wrapping up the last few weeks of quarter 3 before spring break; after break the days fly by with warm weather, testing, baseball, Tupper Outdoor School, and all of the fun end-of-year activities that come in the spring.

This month, before spring break, is prime time for teachers with instruction. It is a solid chunk of time with little disruption from sports or winter weather. This time is utilized by teachers to make big strides in student learning, capitalizing on the focus and time we are given with students.

February was filled with fun activities from our Quarter 2 Head of the Herd to our Mystery night at the Book Fair! I love working with two wonderful groups, our student council and the HES PTC, to create engaging events for our students and the Heppner community. We celebrated Kindness Week by recognizing kind acts throughout our school, and posting them on our bulletin board. I loved the smiles from students as they dropped off their hearts at the office, knowing they had done something worth acknowledging. Students at HES are kind, compassionate, and willing to help out when needed!

Leadership and mentorship are two important aspects of education and core values at Heppner Elementary. We take advantage of opportunities to bring older and younger students together creating bonds that enhance learning and create a strong school community. This month, 5th graders helped 1st graders build bridges from found materials in STEAM. The laughter, smiles, and connections being made during this class were contagious!

Basketball Reading, a fun tradition for our 5th and 6th graders, has begun! You will find students reading during lunch, recess, basketball games, in the car, and every spare second to rack up the minutes for their team and personal goals. Students can earn prizes and enjoy the 4 weeks of competition in the upstairs hallway.

I look forward to the next few weeks of March as we work towards the busy spring.



## Heppner Jr/Sr High School

1. As we approach the end of the third quarter on March 20th, it's hard to believe how quickly the school year is progressing. In light of this, we are diligently mapping out our end-of-school events on the building calendar. Please mark the following dates on your calendars:

- April 3/4<sup>th</sup>-Teacher/Parent Conferences
- May 15<sup>th</sup> -Mustang Mop-up
- May 21<sup>st</sup>-Spring Concert @ HES
- May 27<sup>th</sup>-Senior Decision Day
- May 28<sup>th</sup>-Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation Day @ HJSHS
- May 29<sup>th</sup>-Senior Last Day
- June 2<sup>nd</sup>-Daytime Awards/Nigh of Excellence
- June 5<sup>th</sup>-HES Grad Walk
- June 7<sup>th</sup>-Graduation 2:00 pm
- June 10<sup>th</sup>-Freshman Orientation Night
- June 11<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation
- June 12<sup>th</sup>-Last Day of School

2. We are nearing the completion of our baseball field fence project at HHS. This initiative was made possible through grant funding from WCVED and Parks and Rec. The field has received a much needed fencing update and an extension of the existing backstop, which now spans from dugout to dugout, providing coverage for our spectators attending the games and allowing for a safer environment.
  
3. In our ongoing effort to improve, HJSHS is currently reviewing our grading practices to boost efficiency and maintain consistency within our educational framework. We are dedicated to a proficiency-based approach that truly supports our students' learning and accomplishments. By refining our grading methods, we aim to align more closely with our educational objectives and create clearer pathways for student success. On March 7th, we have set aside time during our district-wide in-service day to further this important work.

**MCS D Maintenance & Facilities Report – March 2025**

Administrators, Head Custodians and Lead Maintenance presented their needs during our budget meetings last week. We will review and decide which projects to move forward with based on safety, extending useful life and efficiencies/cost savings. We will keep in mind the possibility of a successful passing of the 2025 Bond. Through generous grants from the Morrow County Unified Recreation District (M CURD), each high school is receiving much needed improvements this spring and summer. At Heppner Jr Sr High, we are finishing up the replacement of the baseball field perimeter fence that includes an extension of the backstop for the safety of the spectators. We opened the request for proposal process to replace the gym floor at Riverside Jr Sr High School with the project to be completed this summer. We are working with Beynon Sports on estimates for two full sized tennis courts to be built at Irrigon Jr Sr High for their growing program. We thank M CURD for their grant funding, without it, these improvements would not be possible.

Respectfully Submitted By,  
 Matt Combe, Gabe Hansen and Brandi Sweeney

**Staff Incident/Accidents Report: None**

<b>Date</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Incident</b>
2/11/25	SBE	Employee tripped in parking lot on her way into the building. She hit her head and went to Urgent Care. A SAIF claim was issued but no time loss.
2/26/25	IJSHS	Employee got hit in the head with a basketball in PE class. She did not seek medical attention
3/4/25	RJSHS	Assistant coach was hit in the face with a softball. She went to Morrow County Health Clinic and got stitches. SAIF claim was issued but no time loss.