

PRINCIPAL REPORT

- DION FLAMING**, *HHS Principal* **DEBBIE FLAMING**, *Student Services Specialist*
 MATT HOLTRY, *Athletic Director* **GLORIA LEJARDI**, *Registrar*
 SHAUNA BEEBE, *Secretary/Bookkeeper* **Other**

To: Board of Trustees, and Rob Sauer, Superintendent

Date: 6-09-2014

Re: Board Report

Looking Backwards:

May 19, 2014

Homedale High School Graduation: Homedale High School graduated 72 seniors and two exchange students.

Clearinghouse Data by Percentage		
Post Secondary Enrollment: Fall Immediately Following Graduation		
Year	HHS	Idaho High School Seniors
2012	49%	49%
2013	55%	46%

For the class of 2014 all of Homedale High School Graduating Seniors were surveyed, and the surveyed showed that 90% of our seniors were going on to pursue some form of Post Secondary Education.

Homedale High School Graduates				
Post Secondary Education Plan				
Year	4 Year Degree	2 year Degree/Technical Training	Military	No Post Secondary Plan
2014	46%	40%	4%	10%

I believe that having all of our seniors participate in a seniors project class played an important role in the percentage of seniors planning to pursue post-secondary education.

The Senior Project Class:

The goal of the Senior Project class is to provide the time and support students need to help them develop and complete an independent study project of their own design. They must secure a mentor to provide accountability. The project demonstrates a senior's ability to write, speak, problem-solve, apply knowledge and skills and to practice the life skills of time management, organization and risk-taking. There are four phases of the Senior Project: **Portfolio, Project, Paper, and Presentation**. The **Portfolio** is a compilation of materials created and utilized by the student, documenting the individual's educational journey. The **Project** requires a student to apply the knowledge gained during research in the thinking, design, and/or actual production of project. The **Paper** is on a topic of the student's choice and involves all the researching skills necessary to develop a deeper understanding and knowledge about the student's chosen topic. The **Presentation** is the final phase which requires the student to present their project in a public setting and is scored using specific criteria.

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Senior Project of Homedale High School is to provide an opportunity for each student to demonstrate his/her readiness to become a productive citizen of the world community.

Vision Statement:

Homedale High School values the Senior Project and has a clear vision of what the project will accomplish. Students will become:

- Self-directed achievers
- Involved in community
- Collaborative workers
- Critical thinkers with-
 - A strong work ethic
 - Strong research skills
- Expert presentation skills

The seniors in these classes do much more than just complete a senior project, they spend time on the Career Information System. They are able to use this system to determine their strengths and weaknesses for career choices. The seniors also fill out college applications and college scholarships. Many seniors have never taken the time to discuss or think about the possibility of an education after graduation. The senior project class opens up the door for many of these students to see that they are not limited in their future employment opportunities and that they do have educational opportunities available to them.

A **Senior Project** is a state mandated graduation requirement from the Idaho Department of Education. Due to the generosity of the Albertsons Foundation and the Go On grant, Homedale High School has offered all seniors a Senior Project Class to provide help, time and support for students to meet this requirement. The class has been available during the 2012-13 and 2013-14 school years. The Go On grant has paid for an instructor for two periods a day for each semester. The Go On grant ended this year and will no longer be funding the Senior Project class. Some schools do their senior project in their Senior English classes, but this would take away from the time spent in those classes pursuing senior English curriculum. Also, the senior English teacher would not be able to spend time discussing career choices, filling out college applications, and college scholarships. I believe funding this class for two periods a day for the 2014-15 school year is a high priority, how this will be funded is yet to be determined.

Looking Forward:

Homedale High School is writing a grant proposal for the Idaho State Department of Education Idaho Technology Pilot Grant. This grant would provide a Chromebook for every student 9th-12th grade, instructional support, and training for teachers and staff. The 1:1 Chromebook Pilot hinges on three key learning practices:

1. Blended Learning
2. The Google Experience
3. Student Involvement

Our motivation in pursuing the Idaho Department technology pilot is for us to accomplish our vision to foster an exceptional learning environment that engages, challenges, and supports all students. Our aim is for students to

reach their full academic potential, and to prepare them with important 21st Century Skills such as Critical Thinking, Creativity, Collaboration and Communication. The 1:1 Chromebook is safe, affordable, sustainable and dynamic tool which engages students in a greater way in their educational experience. It provides a much needed educational resource for teachers to make differentiated instruction possible and measurable.

This grant must be submitted by June 11, 2014. The State Department of Education will inform those schools chosen to pilot this grant in July 2014. As information comes to us about the grant, we will inform the school board.