

## **Administration Reports**

### **November 2025**

#### **Sam Boardman Elementary**

Fall has been busy at Sam Boardman Elementary! As we continue to embrace the vibrant spirit of fall, we want to take a moment to express how grateful we are for the ongoing support and partnerships we share with our families and the community.

Our PTO hosted a fantastic Harvest Festival that brought our community together. With free games, a coloring station, face painting, and apple bobbing, it was a joyful event. A special thank you to Taylor Farms for providing pumpkins for our pumpkin painting station and to the volunteers from the Boardman PD and Fire Departments, as well as our high school volunteers, for their incredible support.

Red Ribbon Week was a success! Students participated by dressing up and learning about critical safety matters, including internet safety and Erin's Law. We wrapped up the week with well-attended harvest parties that fostered fun and family engagement.

For Veterans' Day, students will perform songs, and our 3rd graders will read about the history of Veterans Day. Each Veteran is personally thanked for their service. A meet & greet in the cafeteria will follow the assembly.

Our annual Community Feast will be on November 25th! We invite all families to join us for a delicious feast featuring drumsticks and mashed potatoes served to them by the Boardman Fire Department. It's a wonderful opportunity to come together and celebrate the season of gratitude.

As we approach the third month of school, we want to take a moment to reflect on all we have to celebrate and be grateful for. Time is flying by. We look forward to continuing this journey with our students, staff, families, and community. We can't wait for the exciting events ahead!

#### **Windy River Elementary**

I'd like to share a few highlights from Windy River Elementary:

##### **Sixth Grade Outdoor School**

Our 6th graders just returned from Outdoor School, and they had a fantastic experience. Students learned a lot about nature and team building, showed incredible bravery on the zip line, and represented Windy River with excellent behavior throughout the week. Every night ended with a campfire full of songs, s'mores, and memories our kids will carry with them for years to come. We are very proud of them!

##### **Parent-Teacher Conferences**

We also wrapped up our fall conferences. Our students are working hard and making strong progress. While we continue addressing some learning gaps, our teachers and students are focused and committed — and that hard work is paying off. We were thrilled to share lots of positive news with families. We truly have amazing kids and supportive parents!

##### **Art Night is Coming!**

We are gearing up for our annual Art Night on **November 20th from 4–6 PM** at Windy River Elementary. Students are painting, drawing, and sculpting to prepare, and the excitement is building across the school. We encourage everyone to stop by to celebrate our talented artists and see their creative work on display. Swing on by and see some ART!

##### **Scholastic Book Fair**

We just completed our week-long Scholastic Book Fair and sold a ton of books! That's a huge win because excited kids reading books means excited learners. It was wonderful to see students eager to pick out new stories and build their home libraries.



## Red Ribbon Week

We celebrated Red Ribbon Week, focused on making healthy choices. With the timing around Halloween, our dress-up days were especially “apropos,” and our students had a blast participating while also engaging in discussions about wellness and positive decision-making.

### Outdoor School Pictures:





---

---

# PIRATE NATION NEWSLETTER

(541) 481-2525

[RHS.MORROW.K12.OR.US](mailto:RHS.MORROW.K12.OR.US)

## Student Spotlight



### Yuridia Calvillo

Yuridia is a senior this year, she is a active member of Key Club and RHS athletics.

---

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**VS. Ione Charter**  
12/3/25



Girls Varsity home game @6pm



**At, Westside Christian-  
Winter Jam**  
12/4 - 12/6



Boys Varsity



**VS. Irrigon**  
12/4/25



Girls Varsity home game @6pm

## Athletic Spotlight

### America Garcia

America is a senior this year, and has been playing soccer since she was eight years old. It is her last year playing as a midfielder.

America Garcia - "My favorite memory from over the years was in my sophomore year scoring the game winning goal with my lefty against Echo, The score was 3-4."



## Christy's Corner

I would like to thank the following sponsors for the new gym floor:

**Boardman Chamber of Commerce**  
**Morrow County Unified Recreation District**  
**RHS Booster Club**



## Miss Simpson

Miss Simpson teaches a variety of math classes including Algebra 1, 2, 3, & Pre-calculus.

Miss Simpson advises Key Club, which is a club that teaches leadership through service to others. Key Club members build themselves as they build their schools and communities.

### —Miss Simpson



"My favorite part of teaching is that I get the opportunity to support students and help them realize their true potential. I also enjoy helping students come to the realization that they are all capable of doing hard things, like math."

## This Month in Pictures



The school mascot cheering at the football game!



Seniors during spirit week doing the mannequin challenge.



The cheerleaders getting ready to crown homecoming king and queen!



Homecoming Queen and King: Alejandra Corona & Sergio Avalos



## Riverside Club Corner FFA

FFA is a club that prepares students for careers in agricultural and entrepreneurship through leadership development, educational programs, and competitive events.

The advisor for FFA is Mrs. Rodelo, and the President is Kaylee Christy, Vice president is Maddyn Morton and Secretary is Maycee Strebin.

### Upcoming Club Meetings

FBLA - High School 11/13, JR High 11/6 during advisory.

FFA - 11/12 at 7PM in the Ag classroom

NHS - 11/10, in Mrs. Myers' Room during advisory.

KEY CLUB - 11/6, in Ms. Simpson's Room during advisory.



### A.C. Houghton Elementary

This past week marked the close of October and the end of the first quarter. We enjoyed Harvest Parties, sent home report cards, hosted a successful Scholastic Book Fair (thanks to our amazing Parent Club), and wrapped up the week with two productive days of parent-teacher conferences. It was a full, busy and rewarding week for everyone!

As we enter this season of gratitude, we want to take a moment to recognize and thank one of our outstanding community partners, **Lamb Weston**. Each year, Lamb Weston continues to support MCSD students through generous donations. This year, their contribution helped purchase new books for our **book vending machine**. At ACH, students earn tokens by meeting reading goals and passing comprehension tests, allowing them to select a book to take home and keep — a meaningful reward that encourages a lifelong love of reading.

We also extend our sincere thanks to **Eastern Oregon University** for their continued partnership and generosity. During parent-teacher conferences, EOU provided literacy packets for all K–3 students across MCSD. These packets included age-appropriate, hands-on materials such as alphabet pop-its, sight word flashcards, and handwriting activities, along with helpful reading tips for families. Their continued support plays a vital role in promoting early literacy and fostering strong home-school connections.

We are truly grateful for the partnerships and community support that help make ACH such a special place to learn and grow. We are also grateful for the time our school board members invest in our students every month; your time and dedication are truly something we are **THANKFUL** for! Sending you all an early **Happy Thanksgiving!**



3<sup>rd</sup> grade students enjoying shopping      2<sup>ND</sup> grade students focusing on their writing skills at the ACH Scholastic Book fair.

### Irrigon Elementary School

October was a month full of engaging learning experiences for our students. Our **6th grade students attended Outdoor School**, and the trip was a resounding success. Students developed a deeper appreciation for outdoor education and hands-on learning, gaining valuable insights into nature and environmental science.



Within our building, staff continued working toward our **instructional goals**, with a focus on incorporating **learning targets and success criteria** into daily routines. These strategies help center lessons on the intended learning, creating clarity and focus for both teachers and students while supporting meaningful student engagement. Our instruction is the pivotal piece to student learning and success. As a building and district, the continued focus on how we evaluate our planning and lesson delivery and minimizing barriers to learning have taken a large role in the ongoing conversations in our staff discussions.



We are also anticipating a year of growth for our newly organized Parent Club. Conversations and planning are underway as our parent club is looking for ways to support IES students and staff. Most recently, they helped run and organize our “Boo Mail” fundraiser which brought in just over \$100 for our students. They also hosted one of our staff dinners during conferences this past week. We are so grateful for this additional support and look forward to the continued growth of our parent involvement as it gains momentum.

### **Looking Ahead – November**

In November, we are excited to host a **Family Night on November 20th**, providing an opportunity for grade levels to showcase student projects and classroom learning. This event will highlight the active role students play in their academic growth and allow families to celebrate their children’s successes firsthand. Staff and students alike are looking forward to this opportunity to share classroom achievements and foster stronger home-school connections.

### **Looking Ahead – November/December**

As we move toward the end of November and into December, our building will be hosting a **canned food drive** in partnership with the **Irrigon Fire Department**. Our goal is to fill the school halls with non-perishable food items, which will then be distributed to local families in need. This initiative not only supports our community but also teaches students the importance of giving back and helping others.

We are proud of the progress students and staff are making and look forward to the upcoming opportunities to celebrate and support learning and community engagement.

### **Irrigon Jr/Sr High School**

Conferences at IJSHS were a success. On the first night we held a Honors Diploma/Dual Credit Info/How to read a transcript meeting for parents and students in the 9th grade. The second night the school Mariachi Band played for staff, parents and students. This was their first public performance since establishing the class last school year.

November 24, we will be taking a bus of Juniors and Seniors to Apprenticeship Week in the Tri Cities. The students will visit with representatives from electrical, carpenter and pipefitters unions to learn about apprenticeship opportunities.

All of our past coaches are returning for Winter Sports. Not new to IJSHS but new to Head Boys BBall will be Fredy Vera.

### **Heppner Elementary School**

October was an eventful and productive month at Heppner Elementary, with several initiatives and events contributing to a positive and engaging school climate.

The Mentorship Program officially launched this month, pairing upper elementary students with younger students to promote leadership, responsibility, and cross-grade relationships. Mentors meet weekly with their mentees during non-instructional time to participate in structured activities designed to foster connection, empathy, and a sense of belonging. The program has been well received by both mentors and mentees, and early feedback indicates that students are building meaningful and supportive relationships.

In addition, the Kindness Committee and Recess Committee began their work in October. These student-led groups play an important role in shaping the school's culture by identifying ways to improve peer interactions, promote inclusion, and ensure positive recess experiences. Student participation and ownership have been high, demonstrating the strong leadership skills and civic engagement developing within our student body.

Parent-teacher conferences were also held in October and were very well attended. These meetings provided valuable opportunities for teachers and families to discuss student progress, celebrate successes, and establish goals for continued growth. We appreciate the high level of family engagement and support for our school community.

To conclude the month, Halloween celebrations were held throughout the school. Classroom parties were well organized and enjoyed by students and families alike. This year's celebration included a new costume contest, judged by several former teachers who returned to participate in the event. Their involvement added a special touch of tradition and community connection. The contest and festivities were highly successful, fostering excitement and positive school spirit.

Overall, October was marked by strong student engagement, family involvement, and the continued development of programs that support leadership, kindness, and community at Heppner Elementary.



## Heppner Jr/Sr High School

### **1. Staffing & Instruction**

- **Professional Learning Communities (PLCs):**

The next staff and PLC Day is scheduled for November 14. HJSHS will focus on student engagement strategies and will incorporate insights from the beginning-of-year IXL diagnostics.

### **2. School Culture & Student Engagement**

- **Red Ribbon Week:**

Students participated in multiple engagement events promoting healthy choices and school spirit throughout the week.

- **Annual Food Can Drive:**

Our School Can Food Drive in partnership with the local Food bank brought in over 1,300 pounds of canned goods, demonstrating strong student and community involvement.

- **Parent/Teacher Conferences:**

The Thursday evening session had a very positive turnout, reflecting strong family engagement. During conferences, we also had a Senior Parent Night, a Red Ribbon Fun Activity Event, and Drama Screening which brought in more parents than normal.

- **Veteran's Day Event:**

Our annual community Veteran's Day celebration will take place on November 10, an important and meaningful event for Heppner and an opportunity for our students to give back to the community. Event starts at 10am in the gymnasium. All are invited.

### **3. Academic Focus Areas 2025–26:**

- **Attendance Matters:**

Our proactive attendance efforts continue, with families contacted promptly when issues arise. We continue to see Average Daily Attendance (ADA) rates exceeding 90% through the first quarter.

- **College & Career Readiness:**

Mrs. Miller is taking a group of students to Walla Walla Community College this week for a career development opportunity. Additionally, Eastern Oregon University will be on campus on November 12 to enroll students interested in continuing their education locally.

### **MCSD Maintenance & Facilities Report – November 2025**

Winter is just around the corner and inclement weather may arrive before we know it. We are preparing for the weather by putting snow tires on vehicles, ordering ice melt and installing snow blades on our equipment.

Lead in water testing will be conducted in the buildings in November and December. This is an ODE requirement for all schools in the state, and we are required to conduct them every six years. All fixtures that may be used for drinking will be tested and reports posted within 10 days. All mitigation will be done promptly and follow the ODE guidelines. In October, we tested Morrow Education Center so we could use it as an example for the other buildings. The descriptions and codes were verified by ODE prior to testing. This way, we could ensure reimbursement for testing fees. All fixtures were clear; results were emailed to students and staff and are posted on the website.

The State Fire Marshal inspected the buildings in October and November. Overall, the violations were minor, and each building is working through the report. We have thirty days to be compliant, but we can request more time if necessary.

### **Bond Project Update:**

The Wenaha and the District team have weekly meetings to stay on track.

The Bond Oversight Committee will have the first meeting on November 17 at 6:00 at Irrigon Jr Sr High. The committee will meet quarterly from November 2025 through the entire bond process ending in the fall of 2029. The BOC's core purpose will be to carefully monitor the delivery of the proposed bond program to ensure accountability, fiscal transparency, and community trust. The meetings will be facilitated by Wenaha along with Matt, Gabe and Brandi. Up to three board members are allowed to attend the meetings.

The BOC members include Brett Harrison, Meghan Golden, Don Alleman, Justin Nelson, Tia McNamee, Zac Acock, Debbie Radie, Phyllis Danielson, Torrie Griggs, Frances Glenn, George Shimer and Karen Pettigrew.

SAJ Architects is on board and off and running on design! We have created the Design Advisory Committees (DAC) for Irrigon, Boardman and Heppner. This diverse group will help shape the design and vision of the schools and help communicate the work with the staff, community and stakeholders. DAC members will be active participants who will develop and prioritize cost framework, craft the design goals and refine the design to shape the future of our schools. Our architect firm, SAJ will facilitate the workshop meetings with open discussion and hands-on activities!

The DACs are composed of school staff, a community member, parents, students and city representatives along with the SAJ team, the Wenaha team and District Core Team. Up to three board members may attend the meetings.

The first four meetings will be combined with the DACs for Boardman, Heppner and Irrigon. They will be once per month for three hours. They are set for November 18, December 16, January 20 and February 24, time to be set soon. In March, Irrigon will meet for the next seven months separately. Boardman's group will meet from July 2025 – January 2027. Heppner's meetings are September 2026 – March 2027. During those meetings, the DACs will create unique, individual spaces for their buildings.

Irrigon's DAC members are Rose Palmer, Marie Shimer, Addie Cole, Dan Locey, James Durfee, Brenda Shockman, Heidi Horn and daughter Jade, Nubia Loera and daughter Nathaly and Aaron Palmquist.



Boardman's DAC members are John Christy, Marie Shimer, David Boor, Stephanie Simpson, Claude Birt, Smokey Joe Wightman, Veronica Nunez Lezama and daughter Ariana, Richard Rockwell and daughter Kaia, and Luis Campos.

Heppner's DAC members are Ryan Gerry, Laura Winters, Marie Shimer, Petra Payne, Jason Palmer, Ashley Beard, Sarah Matheny and son Payton, Linsey Hanna and son Jasper, Jennifer Wilson, John Doherty, and Linda Kenny.

The SAJ Architect design schedule includes opportunities for all building staff, students and community members to provide input and feedback. As we move through the process, we will provide more details and communicate with stakeholders.

The Irrigon new build and safety security request for proposal for the Construction Manager/General Contractor was released on October 31. There is a mandatory zoom meeting on November 10 followed by a non-mandatory site visit on November 12 with proposals due on December 9. The evaluation committee will review and interview by January 6 and make a recommendation at the January 12 school board meeting. The Boardman and Heppner CM/GC request for proposals will be available in 2026.

Hazardous Materials, topographic and utility surveys are in progress with reports due in November and December. Geotech surveys are next on the list and proposals are due this month. These surveys help the architects and general contractors with design and build.

The Pacific Northwest Communications package was approved and we will begin in November. This includes weekly check-ins, monthly meetings and a variety of communication avenues for our stakeholders.

The District team is excited to work collaboratively with the school board, staff, students and the community to create facilities for the next generations.

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

**Staff Incident/Accidents Report: None**

Date	School	Incident
10/8/2025	RHS	Employee tripped over student and strained lower back.
10/9/2025	RHS	Employee slipped on wet floor, hurt right ankle and lower back.
10/15/2025	IJSHS	Employee was hit on the head with a basketball. SAIF 801 filed and is currently on a time loss claim.
10/16/2025	SBE	Employee tried redirecting a student and stepped in front of a door, injured left ankle. SAIF 801 filed.
10/27/2025	HES	Employee was head butted by student when trying to get him to go inside.
10/27/2025	HES	Employee was attempting to keep student who was running from unsafe area.
10/27/2025	ACH	Employee was hit in the back of the head with a ball, glasses were knocked off and broke.
10/30/2025	ACH	Employee slipped on wet waxed tile floor, hit wrist and fell on knee.