

Principal & Director Reports

November 2009

AC. Houghton Elementary

AC Houghton Site Council Guides School Improvement: The AC Houghton Site Council is a group of staff and parents that meet monthly to guide the school improvement process of our school. Our Site Council is composed of five teachers, two classified staff, two parent positions, and the building principal. The representatives above are appointed by their employee groups and/or our parent group leadership. Each year we set goals for academic or other improvements. We look at data from student achievement, data from our twice a year parent survey and other staff input sources. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month in our AC Houghton conference room. These are public meetings and parents are welcome. This year's goals are:

1. Each student will achieve annual RIT gains for math prescribed by Oregon state grade level standards.
2. Each student will achieve annual RIT gains for reading prescribed by Oregon state grade level standards.
3. Each student will achieve annual writing gains prescribed by Oregon state grade level standards.
4. Sensitize all students to the negative effects of drugs, alcohol, violence, and improve social awareness.
5. Individual student's physical condition will improve in the 2009-2010 school year.
6. Provide a developmentally appropriate educational experience for all incoming students by properly placing students in an all day pre-K. or kindergarten classroom.

Buck and Elizabeth to Return: Buck and Elizabeth, the Western husband and wife musical couple, were at AC Houghton in October, 19th-22nd. They spent a week at ACH working with grade levels, composing songs through teaching musical composition. They have been to our school twice and we have all been enriched by the experience. They did a school day concert on Thursday of the week listed here and they also gave an evening performance for the community on the same day.

Heppner Elementary School

It is a privilege to report the recent happenings of Heppner Elementary School. It is hard to believe that October has passed and that November is already here. With the end of the first quarter we are busy preparing for parent teacher conferences this week. Our enrollment as of today is 196 students and our attendance percentage for the month of October was 89.8%. Even though the recent illness outbreak has had a negative impact on attendance we will continue to promote the importance of regular attendance to the students and parents of Heppner Elementary School.

The Heppner Elementary Parent Teacher Club recently held the annual school carnival and earned over \$1250.00 to help support curriculum and projects at our school. HES students also raised over 1000 pounds of canned food recently to help the Heppner Neighborhood Center and families in need from our community.

The HES Student Council Members recently coordinated Red Ribbon Week activities at HES and I am proud to report that they did a wonderful job. Everyone at HES learned a lot about the negative impacts that alcohol and drugs have on living a healthy lifestyle.

I would like to end this report by thanking each of you for your support of Heppner Elementary School and your commitment to all students of the Morrow County School District.

Have a great month and a Happy Thanksgiving!

Heppner High School

Both our football and volleyball teams have made it to the state playoffs. Our girls are traveling to St. Maries in Medford and our boys will host a playoff game in two weeks. If the boys defeat Enterprise this Friday- it will be 75 conference games in a row that they have won consecutively- that is 10 years of being undefeated!

We took our senior class to a college fair at Columbia Basin Community College in the Tri-Cities this month. There were over 100 universities and colleges there recruiting and handing out information on their respective institutions.

Our fall drama program is taking shape as our student/actors are working very hard in preparing for It's a Wonderful Life. Their first performance will be on November 30th.

Forrest Service Career Camp came and went. It was a wonderful experience for our students to be part of. The grant has come to an end and we are in the process of looking at other opportunities to keep this exciting program alive. The Forrest Service is committed to continuing the program and our commitment as a school district has been much appreciated.

Our Booster Club Auction was successful once again. It is amazing to see how much support the community has for our youth.

Heppner High School and the Heppner Booster Club was awarded another \$9900 through the Needs and Issues grant process for a snack shack down at the football field. We are applying for a land use application with the county and working on all of the logistics to complete this project by the spring of 2010.

We held a staff training with Joe Buglione from the ESD on Illuminate Live. We have some staff starting to use this in the classroom. I will keep you posted on how and what we are doing with it.

Our FFA group came back from the National FFA Convention all jazzed of their experience. I have visited with Mrs. Dickenson about their time back east and made sure I mentioned that they need to give a board presentation on the trip☺.

Our Outdoor Club took a camping trip to Northern Idaho for a weekend rendezvous spending an entire day of the trip at Silverwood. There were 22 students that attended and they had a great time.

Our Project Graduation project is in the third year. We held our first parent meeting the other night with over 40 parents in attendance. It was exciting to see the enthusiasm from the parents and this project starting to take hold in our community as a “good thing”.

HHS’ annual Veterans Day Celebration will be on November 12th. Veterans will visit classrooms in the morning and the recognition and program will start at 10:30am followed by our students serving them a free lunch.

We will be hosting a Senior Financial Aid/Scholarship night on November 18th at 6pm. We have Eastern Oregon University coming to give a clinic on some of the paperwork involved with college admission. Marsha Kemp will also be here to set up individual parent/student meetings on helping parents with their scholarship hunt. Mr. Norton will advise on the GOAL requirement that students have to pass as well.

Irrigon Elementary School

1. **OAKS-** We’ve finished our first test of the OAKS and we have set our marker and from there we will improve. This first test shows us what the children have retained from last year. It also shows us where children have the biggest academic need. With this the strands in the OAKS shows us where to focus on specific instruction in Math and Reading with the Oregon standards. The OAKS scores also show us who to replace in our after school program. My goal is to improve scores from last year and to continue to make AYP as a school.
2. **Tooth Taxi-** Together with ACH we had 25 of our students go to the Tooth Taxi to get free dental work done. These were children who needed serious dental care and it was done in the Tooth Taxi RV right in Irrigon. This saves parents money, children needles pain, and helps keep our attendance rate up with less tooth problems.
3. **\$3,000 Music Matters Grant-** Mrs. Marquart our music teacher won a grant of three thousand dollars to buy more things for our IES music program. She won the grant from the Musak Heart & Soul Foundation from South Carolina. We’re excited to have these funds and she is already purchasing music things to enhance our music program at IES.
4. **Whitman Mission 4th Grade Field Trip-** Our first field trip was a success. The fourth grade usually goes on a field trip to the Whitman Mission and it went very well. Six parents went as chaperones. The trip was educational and supportive to history around Eastern Oregon.

ESL Program

1. **ESL District Plan-** All ESL directors had a meeting at ODE to go over the program guide to adjust the District ELL Plan. I have spent much time going over this plan and it is now in administrative review, and ESL coordinators review before we move any further.
Focused Approach ELD- As a district, we are providing more training to all staff who want to be trained to teach their subject and the language that goes with it. About 25 teachers in our school district are attending the three day trainings

Irrigon High School

BOYS SOCCER

Congratulations to our boys soccer team! On October 24th they travelled to John Day and beat Grant Union by a score 4-0. With this victory, the team was able to secure a third place finish in league and will travel to the Portland area on Tuesday November 10th to begin their state bid. This is the first time for them to compete at this level.

CONFERENCES

In response to parent and faculty feedback, we are changing the way we are holding our conferences this year. A flyer was mailed home to parents asking that they schedule a specific time slot and identify those teachers with whom they would like to meet. Parents were able to schedule up to five teachers at ten minute intervals. The idea behind this approach is to help expedite conferences for everyone and to help avoid a line up in front of different teachers. Conferences will be held in the gymnasium as opposed to the cafeteria to provide more room and privacy during conferences. We continue to offer a meal as well as child care in the cafeteria to help parents. So far, we have scheduled over one hundred parents.

GEAR-UP

As part of our Gear-Up program, we are able to send each grade on a field trip to a different part of the northwest to visit an array of colleges. They will spend Friday November 13th touring college campuses, visiting classrooms, and learning what college is all about. Parents have also been invited to attend with their student.

7 th Grade	Columbia Gorge Community College / Columbia Gorge Discovery Center
8 th Grade	Washington State University Tri-Cities Columbia Basin Community College
9 th Grade	Walla Walla Community College / Walla Walla University
10 th Grade	Eastern Washington University / Spokane Falls Community College
11 th Grade	Mt. Hood Community College / Portland State University Portland Culinary Institute
12 th Grade	Perry Technical Institute / Central Washington State University

Several of these field trips are long and require staff to go above and beyond their regularly scheduled days. I would like to express my appreciation for their willingness to go the extra mile for students.

On Tuesday November 3rd, we were able to host a production of the play *Power to the Eighth*, a 45 minute play put on by a group of college students out of Minnesota as part of the state wide GEAR-UP program. *Power to the Eighth* is a musical for eighth graders that encourages students to overcome the thinking that prevents them from doing well in school and believing that college is desirable and attainable. After viewing the play, the actors went back to the classroom with students for follow-up discussions regarding goal setting, the importance of their academic work now, and what they will need to be doing in high school in order to be college-ready.

FINANCIAL AID NIGHTS

We held two financial aid nights last month. The first night we had representatives from both Washington State University Tri-Cities and Blue Mountain Community College while the second night we had a representative from Eastern Oregon University. The college folks provided a lot of useful information on how to apply for admissions, scholarships, and financial aid. On the second evening we had time to get parents on computers to start the financial aid process. Both nights were well attended.

Riverside High School

COLLEGE INFORMATION NIGHT

Don't miss the event of the Season! Riverside Jr/Sr High School will be hosting a College Information Night. This valuable event is scheduled for November 5, 2009 from 5 pm to 8:30

pm. This event is geared toward all of our juniors and seniors and their parents; however, all students are welcomed to attend. Over 12 schools from Oregon, Washington, and Idaho have already confirmed their participation. There will be a College Fair where students and their parents can walk around to each booth to speak with the school representative. In addition, there will be breakout sessions on a variety of college information topics. These topics include Scholarships, Financial Aid, The College Acceptance Process, Parent to Parent, and College Life. All sessions will be available in Spanish and English. Refreshments will be provided as well as a raffle for some great prizes.

RIVERSIDE CHEERLEADERS CONNECT WITH SBE/WRE

On Friday October 23, 2009 the Riverside High School track was invaded with mini-cheerleaders for an amazing half-time performance during the Boys Varsity Football game against Umatilla. The RHS cheerleaders hosted a mini-cheer camp October 21-23 as a fundraiser. 20 plus students from SBE and WRE participated; they learned 4 cheers and one dance. They played games and had a lot of fun.

CAREER DAY

Boardman and other local businesses opened their doors to our seniors on Wednesday, October 21, 2009 for the 2009 Career Day. Every senior was placed at a local business in order to learn more about everyday functioning of a business. They were to ask their supervisors questions regarding their career and what kind of preparation is needed in order to go into that particular field. We worked very closely with the Chamber of Commerce, Diane Wolfe, in particular to make this event successful. After the morning job shadows, students and supervisors met at the Port of Morrow for a luncheon where students were able to talk about their experience at the local business and what they learned. Then the business supervisors were able to share their experience.

OSAA / DAIRY FARMERS OF OREGON

Riverside Jr/Sr High School wishes to congratulate the varsity football team for their 9th place finish in the Oregon Dairy Farmers competition. This program, sponsored by the Dairy Farmers of Oregon, recognizes outstanding achievement in the classroom. Members of top ten schools in each activity at each classification are recognized with a commemorative lapel pin by the Dairy Farmers of Oregon and the OSAA.

BOARDMAN KIWANIS

The Boardman Kiwanis thanks all RHS homerooms who participated in decorating doors for the Community Halloween Party held at RHS. Approximately 650 children had a safe and healthy Halloween. Winners in the door decorating contest were Ms. Barton (junior high) and Mr. Birt (senior high) homeroom classes. RHS Key Club members helped in the organization and served hot dogs at this annual event that was once again a great success.

Windy River Elementary

Reading Day

Students will be joined with their families on WRE's 2ed annual Reading Day, November 5th. Students, along with their families, will enjoy a variety of reading activities, a read-aloud by our own Morrow County Administrators, Mr. Burrows, and Mrs. Danielson and Mr. Jones, as they share their favorite childhood book, and a visit to the Safari book fair in the library. We appreciate how several businesses have donated materials for students to earn reading awards and free books throughout the day. Flyers have been distributed to local business to try to increase parent participation and awareness. Reading is a necessity to have and we hope at WRE

to instill in our students the value and pleasure that can come with successful readers. The day will conclude with a special assembly to recognize the efforts of students who went above and beyond during the day with their reading achievement. Parents, trek on down to WRE to join your child for the day and “hang out and read!”

Book Fair

The Safari book fair will be November 3rd – 12th. New features added to this WRE’s book fair that have not been done before include a classroom wish list for donations to be made for teacher’s classroom libraries, change collected to be donated to a scholastic organization such as Toys for tots, daily specials, family reading day, flyers in local business, our own website with hours and specials for parents and students to view, and a teacher’s choice board. Students partook in a coloring contest to win a free book from the book fair, students also heard from various others promoted during the fair. The goal of the book fair is \$1800.00. Lastly, there has been tremendous effort from the staff to add excitement through bulletin boards, decorations, displays and various activities to try to receive a grant from scholastic. The amounts range from \$2,000 to \$500 scholarships were items can be purchased in forms of books or other teacher’s resources for the school’s library. It has been a lot of hard work, and the efforts of all the staff have really helped boast the excitement of WRE students.

Red Ribbon Week

The week of October 26-30th, Windy River Elementary students participated in Red Ribbon Week. The theme for the week was, “I elect to be drug free,” with a theme around election events and voting to be drug free. The purpose of this week is to teach about drug prevention and promote healthy living activities. There were classroom lessons about the negative effects of drugs. Students participated in daily dress up contests to initiate class and school spirit about being drug free. Dress up days included; wear red day, pajama day, twin day and backwards day. On Thursday, the entire school participated in a soccer contest to represent our school wide commitment to healthy living activities and things students can choose to do instead of drugs. All in all, the week was a success with lots of student and staff participation.

OAKS Testing

Most of last month was dedicated to testing with one week off for Red Ribbon Week. WRE should finish the week of November 5th.

Team Meetings

WRE PLCs are up and running and they meet every Wednesday morning.

Student of the Month Assembly

OCTOBER	Academics	Academics	Theme - Perseverance
Beagle	Elizet Sanchez	Joran Mashos	Cesar Agripino
Boor	Giovanni Hernandez	Tania Mendoza	Bryan Altamirano
Browne	Sadie Weatherford	Kirsten Taylor	Rosy Olvera
Foster	Sonia Medina	Luis Olvera	Zuleyma Medel
Wainwright	Briselda Navarro	Jeny Mendoza	Manuel Perez
Dames	Alicia Calvillo	Samantha Zapata	Emily Kirby
Keefer	Xenia Velasco	Marino Pena	Ruby Swatman
Prindle	Durga Chapagai	Daniel Eubanks	Abigail Bozarth
Strebin	Marcelo Rea	Gema Juarez	Kelly McLaughlin

Fourth Grade Parent Party

On Thursday, October 22, the fourth graders welcomed parents into the classrooms for yet another PARENT PARTY! This month's focus was on MATH. This party allowed the parents and students to make some math flash cards together. These cards went home with the students, with the reminder to practice them each day for only five-to-ten minutes. If they do that, we feel they will soon know these basic facts. As our time for the party did not allow all for math operations to be addressed, additional flash cards materials will be sent home in the next few weeks. This will ensure that all students have a complete set for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division at their homes. The teachers also gave parents and students a few ideas about doing math activities at home...making arrays with egg cartons, using dice for different operations, using recipes to help with fractions, etc. Different snacks were offered, such as popcorn, apple cider, juice, etc.

Honor Choir

Congratulations! All of the students that Wendy Appleton recommended for All State honor choir were accepted: Hannah Mossman, Stephanie Madrigal, Yolanda Lopez, Emily Sepulvida and Yaniva Garcia.

Sam Boardman Elementary

Students of the Month for October:

	Academics	Respect	Responsibility	Safety	Attendance
Kinder	Leonardo Rodriguez Kayley Sampson Jonathan Araiza Marisol Pacheco Thomas Bonser	Alyna Garcia Jakob Harris Miranda Landeros Nathan Ellis Rigo Martinez	Allisa Kennedy Valery Guitierrez Dulce Frausto Matthew Gowen Erick Zavala	Martha Calvillo Siloe Barragan Suzie Newton Ivan Rodriguez Gabriela Avila	Mrs. Creason 91%
1st Grade	Wyatt Duke Angela Barragan Edgar Murguia James Tiboni	Marco Barrera Gabriel Morales Omar Castillo Francisco Barajas	Vicente Zuniga Juan Reyna Lucero Medel Delia Hernandez	Dative Harerimana Moises Carrillo Heidi Chavez	Mrs. Fletcher 95%
2nd Grade	Davi Sharma LilyAnn Rockwell Angel Torres	Jasen Lester Jesus Carmona Zenía Pena	Luz Lopez Destiny Aldrich Lisette Sanchez	Aaliyah Calderon Esteban Herrera Jordy Mendoza	Mrs. Kennedy 94%
3rd Grade	Brandon Harris Chance Frederickson Blas Zapata Emmanuel Barrera	Dakota Durfey Zulema Gaytan Daisy Sanchez Veronica Alvarez	Rose Jurcich Christian Murguia Oscar Lopez Brandon Cabrera	Ashley Price Sabreena Metcalf Alondra Caldera Alexis Hart	Mrs. Bankston 93%

Enrollment: 320 **Attendance:** The average attendance for October was 90.85%
Red Ribbon Week, Student of the Month Assembly and Harvest Parties! These were great ways to celebrate drug and alcohol free choice making and mark the end of the first quarter of instruction. Each day SBE students wore something different: "Show Support for Drug Free Choices"—Wear Red, "Follow Your Dreams and Don't Do Drugs"—Pajama Day, "Team Up Against Drugs"—Sports Day, and "Show Your School Spirit with Drug Free"—Wear SBE Gear. Many parents joined us for our Student of the Month Assembly followed by individual classroom Harvest Parties. This year our **Site Council's** focus will be on parent involvement. We updated our parent survey with current topics in preparation for parent conferences. Parents will be asked to elect another site council representative. General information and resources

will be available for parents in the foyer during conferences along with a brief description of our Title Programs.



Third Grade Students were presented with personal dictionaries compliments of the Boardman Kiwanis Club. Jane Pope, Joe and Cheryl Taylor introduced the Kiwanis Club, presented dictionaries, and helped students find words and explore resources. Thank you Kiwanis!

Hearing and vision screenings are under way. **PLC/Data Teams** are reviewing assessments to determine the best classroom strategies and

interventions to meet student needs. These weekly PLC/Data Team meetings give teachers time to focus on Power Standards and review their Common Formative Assessments. With the first round of OAKs and MAPs completed, we have another way to assess student needs.

Professional Development: SBE teachers along with teachers from ACH, WRE and Umatilla SD are participating in a three-day institute, Systematic English Language Development. This focused approach clarifies the difference between English Language instruction and good instruction for English learners. It teaches a framework for how to plan, teach and monitor ELD instruction at each level of English proficiency. The Institute builds a repertoire of instructional routines for teaching and ways to provide oral and written language practice.

Mark your calendar! We would like to invite you to our **Veterans' Day Assembly** on Tuesday, November 10th at 2:30 p.m. in the SBE gymnasium. Our **Harvest Feast** will be on Thursday, November 19th from 1:00-3:00. Let us know if you would like to help serve; it's a great way to mingle with the families in Boardman! And you won't want to miss our **Winter Concert** on Tuesday night, December 8th.

