



101 S. Junction Ave. Cave Junction, OR 97523

Phone: 541-592-2163

Fax: 541-592-4851

Scott Polen, Principal

Sarah McNamara, Dean of Students / Athletics Director

Brenda Encinas, Office Manager

November 2014

Dear Board Members,

It seems like Lorna Byrne has been in a sprint for the last month, now that November is here and the quarter is over, it's a relief to have kids back in classes with their new or adjusted schedules. Now we can take a well-deserved breath and get ready for parent teacher conferences.

We have several grants working to our advantage lately. The **Studio-to-School grant** is providing us with an opportunity to integrate arts into our core classrooms. It is another way for teachers to provide different ways to reach our learners. Our guest artists in the classroom are effective, experienced and very helpful during this process.

The **Gear Up grant**, is a cooperative effort between the middle school and Illinois Valley High School to ready our students to become productive citizens in our communities and increase the rate of high school graduation. Principal Ongman and I, along with a committee of people are looking at different techniques to help this effort.

Furthermore, Lorna Byrne E/LA seventh and eighth grade teacher Christopher Jelderks has written and secured a grant from the Josephine County Foundation which has awarded Lorna Byrne Middle School with (30) new Google Chromebook computers. This will help our students move to the next level of technology.

Lorna Byrne Middle School is looking for additional ways to help our Food Service department increase the number of meals served here during the day. Currently we are experimenting with two lunches rather than one, hypothesizing that more meals will be served if the sixth graders have their own lunch. Current data suggests that having two lunches during the day creates an additional 20 lunches served on average.

Teachers will soon be able to decipher academic data and determine where each of the subject areas can bolster instruction to help Lorna Byrne students meet standards. A very powerful program, Galileo, will help our teachers attain this vital information. As a result students will be better prepared to take the Smarter Balance exam scheduled for later this year.

Lastly we are extremely proud to note that ODE congratulated us for our hard work and dedication to excellence. We formally received a letter that serves as notification that **Lorna Byrne Middle School in Three Rivers / Josephine County SD** has been identified as a **Model School** for 2014-15.

Recall that Model Schools are the Title I schools rated in the top 5% in the state of Oregon based on the accountability system per the ESEA Waiver. ODE would like to acknowledge our continued efforts to serve our students as well as our efforts in supporting Oregon's 40-40-20 vision.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Polen
Principal