

Homedale Elementary School Memo



To: Homedale Board of Trustees, Superintendent Rob Sauer
 From: Tate B. Castleton, Principal
 Date: September 7, 2021
 Re: Report to Board of Trustees

RECENT COVERAGE IN OWYHEE AVALANCHE: Homedale Elementary School has recently been featured twice in the Owyhee Avalanche. We are grateful to Jon Brown and the positive coverage we have received as we roll out a brand-new school year.

The Owyhee Avalanche
 Established 1865
 VOL. 36, NO. 34 51
 HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO
 WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2021

Marsing Fire stalwart to step down
 Longtime chief making way for full-timer soon

When Marsing Rural Fire District commissioners decided that a paid, full-time fire chief would be needed, it means that Mike Showalter would be without a job. With the district, as any fire chief, Showalter will keep plenty busy.

County budget Growth part of sharp rise in revenue
 Owyhee County's tax levy will show a 6.7 percent more revenue in Fiscal Year 2021 than it did for the current fiscal year.

Gleeful start to HES year
 Teachers rushed through to the other side Thursday to christen the new Homedale Elementary School addition.

The Owyhee Avalanche
 The battle for safe transfer of schoolchildren at Homedale Elementary has been re-joined.

New safety protocol creates one drop-off lane at Homedale E.S.
 Officials remind parents of procedures

Further away from the sidewalk creating a pedestrian hazard. Orange cones and signs are in place to help direct parents where to go, and the protocol handout asks them not to enter the line from the sidewalk.

Ancient atlantid sport
 Competitors at top of their game

Points are awarded for accuracy, and any score followed by an "S" means the competitor hit a bullseye in competition.

From page 1A
✓ HES: New construction opens door to district's plan for all-day kindergarten

Castleton took the opportunity to create a team-building exercise for the HES teaching staff which helped bridge the gap between the old classrooms and the new classrooms.

He handed out sticky-notes and encouraged teachers to go into their colleagues' rooms, look around and jot down an inspiring message about the new decorations other teachers have brought for the new school year.

"What you love about you about their room and leave it on their desk," he said.

For once, passing notes in class was allowed.

The school's open house followed the ribbon cutting.

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TEACHERS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES: Several of our teacher have had opportunities to attend trainings focused on literacy within the first two weeks of school. Both training opportunities, Southwest Literacy Cooperative and SMART, will be ongoing trainings for our teachers throughout the year. We are very excited to have them participate in these cohorts and we're excited what they will bring back and share with our school community!



CURRENT STUDENT ENROLLMENT: Here are our current enrollment numbers two weeks into the new school year:

Kindergarten: 105
1st Grade: 97
2nd Grade: 99
3rd Grade: 104
4th Grade: 99
Total: 504

COVID-19 UPDATE AT HES: While we are taking every precaution to ensure the safety of all students and staff during this pandemic, we have not been immune to its effects so far. Last week we had one third and one fourth grade student test positive for COVID-19. We also currently have one staff member out who tested positive for the virus.

During the week of August 30 – September 2 (week two of school) we averaged more than 65 student absences per day, including 98 absences last Wednesday, largely due to a variety of illnesses. The number of daily absences is concerning, but we appreciate parents who are keeping kids' home who do not feel well and we strongly encourage them to continue doing so.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

September 10	Staff In-Service
October 1	Student Support & Enrichment / Staff In-Service
October 14	End of 1 st Quarter
October 27-28	Parent-Teacher Conferences
November 5	Staff In-Service