

Administration Reports

September 2025

Sam Boardman Elementary

The 2025–2026 school year is off to an incredible start here at Sam Boardman Elementary! We kicked things off with a wonderful Open House, where our teachers and staff welcomed students and their families with smiles, handshakes, and plenty of excitement. It was a joy to see so many familiar faces returning and to meet our new families joining the SBE community.

One of the most exciting highlights this year is the growth of our kindergarten program! We are thrilled to welcome 100 kindergarten students—up from 75 last year. Our youngest learners bring an amazing energy to campus, and we can't wait to watch them learn, grow, and thrive in the months ahead.

We are also incredibly grateful for the generous donations from regional businesses that continue to invest in our students' success. These contributions provide resources and opportunities that make a real difference in the classroom, and we are thankful for the ongoing support of our community partners.

As the year begins, our students are engaging in beginning-of-year assessments. These tools help teachers understand each child's strengths and areas for growth, allowing us to personalize learning and provide the right support and challenges for every student. This is just one of the many ways we are working to ensure all students reach their full potential.

It's going to be a fantastic year at Sam Boardman Elementary—filled with learning, laughter, and growth. Thank you to our students, families, staff, and community for helping us start the year strong. Together, we are building something truly special.

Here's to a great year ahead!

Windy River Elementary

The first month of school at Windy River Elementary has been marked by a strong, positive start as our staff and students settled into the new year. During our August Inservice week, teachers engaged in purposeful professional learning centered on four key areas designed to elevate instruction and outcomes for our students:

1. Gradual Release Model of Direct Instruction:

Teachers are implementing lessons that intentionally move students from *I Do* (teacher modeling), to *We Do* (guided practice), and ultimately to *You Do* (independent work). Over the last two years, our staff has become highly effective at the *I Do* and *We Do* phases. This year, we are intentionally focusing on the *You Do* phase to ensure students build independence, apply their learning, and demonstrate mastery with confidence.

2. Students Reading Aloud:

We are prioritizing daily opportunities for students to read out loud in every classroom. Research continues to confirm that oral reading fluency is one of the strongest levers for improving comprehension and overall literacy growth. Thanks to the generous donation of PVC pipe from Elmer's Irrigation, our staff have been able to build *whisperphones*—a simple yet powerful tool that allows students to hear themselves as they read, further strengthening fluency and confidence.

3. Spiral Reviews:

To build long-term retention, our teachers are embedding spiral review into their instruction. This consistent revisiting of key concepts ensures students strengthen foundational skills while making connections across units of study.

4. Using Ready Math with Fidelity:

Teachers are committed to using the *Ready Math* program with fidelity, providing students with rigorous, standards-aligned instruction in mathematics. Early implementation has shown students are engaged in problem solving and developing stronger conceptual understanding.

Alongside these instructional priorities, students are gearing up for their first i-Ready Diagnostic of the year. There is a sense of excitement across the building as we prepare for our “i-Ready to Party” celebration during the week of September 8th, motivating students to put forth their best effort and take pride in their growth.

Overall, the tone across Windy River Elementary is one of excitement and focus. Staff have embraced our instructional priorities, and students are responding with energy and eagerness to learn. We look forward to continued growth as we keep building strong systems that give our students every advantage in school and in life.

Whisper Phones in USE!!



Riverside Jr/Sr High School

The school is off and running. As we kick off the new school year, our focus is making sure every student feels safe, supported, and ready to learn. We're working on updating our teaching programs, helping our teachers grow, keeping our school in great shape, and getting families and the community more involved. We're keeping an eye on enrollment and resources to make sure everyone has a fair shot. With everyone's teamwork, we're excited to tackle any challenges and make this a great year for our students.

Sports are underway in the fall, and we're proud to have over 190 athletes participating in soccer, football, volleyball, and cross country. It's great to see so many students getting involved and showing their school spirit!

We are looking forward to the school year, goals we will set and meet.

A.C. Houghton Elementary

We are excited to begin another wonderful year of learning and growth at A.C. Houghton Elementary. With each new school year comes a few staffing updates, and we are pleased to introduce some new faces and new roles within our school community.

- **Mrs. Clarissa Azurin** is our new music teacher; we share her musical teaching talent with SBE and are very excited to welcome her aboard.
- **Mrs. Anna Borms**, comes to us with experience in general education in Washington, but she is now our ERC SPED teacher. Her calm presence is great for our students!
- **Miss Rylee Richardson** is in her first year of teaching and is our new SPED Life Skills classroom teacher. She brings energy to a very busy classroom! We have also added an educational assistant, **Krystal Carroll**, newly hired in a supportive role in this classroom.

These staffing changes are strengthening collaboration and instruction across our teams, especially having a strong SPED department to support our students. Our year kicked off with our August Jumpstart classes for students who were invited, based on reading data. Those classes went from August 1st – August 15th and was a successful start to the new school year. Our final day concluded with ice cream and a run through sprinklers (see picture to right).



For the regular school year, we began teacher Inservice week with **Open House on Thursday, August 21st**. From 4:15-6:15pm we welcomed Pre-K through 3rd grade students and families. As a joint community event with IES and IHS, families were able to visit all schools where their children attend. Students met their teachers, dropped off supplies, and explored classrooms decorated with creative new bulletin boards. The energy and turnout made for a strong start to the year.

Students have also begun their **iReady** fall diagnostics and **Acadience** testing (see pic below) this week. Teachers are getting to know their students and enjoyed the first week of school that ended with the long four-day Labor Day weekend. This week we are back in action getting used to our new routines, learning and daily practices!

Other beginning-of-year highlights include:

- **STEAM activity visits** with our new Think Big Space teacher, Mr. Romero. He will visit all classes and preview field trip opportunities for later this year with 2nd & 3rd grade.
- **Dental screenings** for all ACH students today, provided by Advantage Dental, with follow-up support from our CARE Coordinator as needed.
- **School pictures** with Quality School Portraits—we look forward to seeing those big smiles on picture day next Tuesday, September 9th!

We are off to a great start, and we look forward to another year of growth, learning, and community together at A.C. Houghton Elementary.



Irrigon Elementary School



We are excited to begin the 2025–26 school year with strong momentum and positive energy. Our current enrollment is 158 students, and the year is off to a great start. We are thrilled to welcome our new counselor, Chrissy Langdon who brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to our school community. In addition, we have a new PE teacher, Mr. Rosenblum. Our students are very excited about the program he has brought to IES. We have also welcomed Morgan Wilson as our new ELD teacher. Mrs. Burright is back at IES on our 4th grade team, and from Windy River Elementary, we are sharing Mr. Azurin, the music teacher —ensuring our students have access to a well-rounded education.

This week we will begin planning for our October Outdoor School trip, which is always a highlight for students and families. We are also looking forward to the possibilities with our Think Big Space, which has a new teacher leader Jose Romero, bringing fresh ideas and innovation to that learning environment.

We are also pleased to share that our new boilers have been installed. The contractors have been excellent to work with, showing great attention to detail throughout the installation process, ensuring both quality and efficiency. This upgrade will serve our building well for many years to come.

Instructionally, our focus remains on strengthening teaching and learning. This year, we are emphasizing strategies from our explicit instruction training, with teachers intentionally using learning targets and success criteria. These tools give students a clear "GPS" of their learning journey—helping them understand where they are, where they are going, and how they will know they've arrived.

We are deeply grateful for the professional development opportunities you've supported, which continue to make a measurable impact on our collective teaching efficacy. With these strong foundations, we are confident the 2025–26 school year will be filled with growth, achievement, and exciting opportunities for our students. Thank you for your continued partnership and support.

Irrigon Jr/Sr High School

IJSHS welcomed three new teachers to the team. Throughout the past week and a half they have done a wonderful job.

Two different initiatives have been rolled out this year. First, at IJSHS all staff across all grade levels going to require students to write their answers using complete sentences and appropriate sentence structure. We hope that this will support our ELA teachers as they focus on essays using the RACE response.

In addition, to better support our ELL and ultimately all students at various levels of language acquisition, we are working hard to support staff with translating documents. So far, three different platforms that translate have been shared with more to come.

All Fall sports have new head coaches. We are excited to watch them this season and appreciate that they are coaching for the Irrigon Knights.

Heppner Elementary School

School is underway, and at HES teachers and students are working hard out of the gate to ensure that every student grows at least one year academically in the 25/26 school year.

In alignment with the professional development provided to teachers over the past two years, Heppner Elementary is focused on providing explicit instruction with a focus on priority standards and pacing. As a staff we are dedicated to providing students with many opportunities to respond, clear learning objectives and behavior expectations, immediate and corrective feedback, and movement conducive to the task and student learning. Some of the strategies we are using include no-hands strategies for whole class engagement, written and spoken learning objectives with success criteria, teaching in a teaching arena then movement for assessment and feedback, and clear, displayed, explicitly taught behavior expectations based on CHAMPS.

A focus for our school culture is student leadership; with 41 students signed up to run for student council, we created alternate opportunities for students to serve their school as leaders. With a Recess Advisory Committee, Clean Campus Committee, and Kindness Committees in our school, students have the chance to learn about serving their community in a positive way and have a hand in creating a school that they feel connected with.

HES has a new PreK program! Mrs. Haguewood, along with her assistant Mrs. Kendrick, has made a welcoming space for our students to thrive. We are excited to see all of the growth and the impact this program has on our future kindergarten students.

I look forward to a fun, productive year at Heppner Elementary School!



MCSD Maintenance & Facilities Report – September 2025

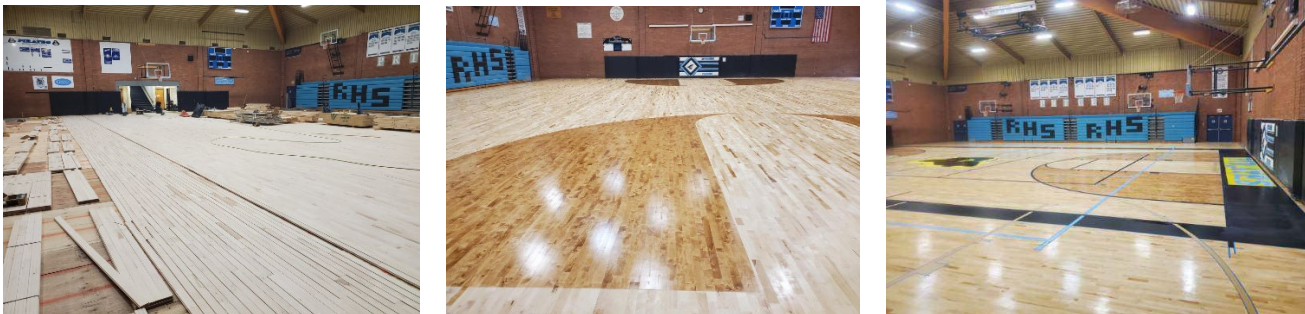
The school year is off to a great start! We accomplished many projects this summer and will continue to prioritize requests throughout the year.

Included in your board packet is the annual low impact pesticide list, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan and statement in both English and Spanish. These documents are required by the State of Oregon and will be posted on the district website after approval by the board.

McKinstry is nearing completion of the new boiler system which will go from one cast iron boiler to two energy efficient boilers, this will offer redundancy and cost savings over the lifetime of the unit. We appreciate the cooperation and patience of the staff during the installation. We will be using capital funds for this project.



Brandsen Floors is putting the final touches on the new gym floor at Riverside Jr Sr High. The lines and graphics are almost complete then the final coats will be applied. Again, we appreciate the patience of the staff and students! Morrow County Unified Recreation District, Boardman Community Development Association and the Riverside Booster Club are funding the project.



Wenaha and the District team meet regularly to stay on track with the bond! The architect request for proposal was posted, and we had over 40 firms attend the required zoom meeting! We hosted non-mandatory grounds and facility walk throughs at the Jr Sr High buildings last Friday with 23 firms attending! The bids are due on September 18 then will be reviewed and scored by a small committee with interviews at the end of September if needed. The board will receive the recommendation at the October meeting.

We completed the first of two bond sales with the help of our financial firm, Piper Sandler, on August 26! The District team enjoyed watching the live sale online and appreciated all the help from Piper Sandler's team! It was deemed a success and the funds will be received in September.

We will be working with Wenaha and InterMountain ESD on a communications plan which will include monthly communication with the community, social media posts and solicitation of members for the oversight committee. 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:

Date	School	Incident
6/9/25	IES	Employee stumbled when walking down the hall. She did seek medical attention, so an 801 claim was issued. No time loss.
8/7/25	SBE	Employee ripped toenail off while getting out of the district car during a bank deposit. No time loss, no medical attention.
9/2/25	IES	Employee was rammed in the chest by an aggressive student during a hold in place. She did not seek medical attention and no time was lost.