

# Principal & Director Reports

## May 2007

### A.C. Houghton Elementary

#### **Kindergarten Screening**

Our annual Kindergarten Screening will be 5/3. Parents can call in and talk to Mrs. Turner to schedule an appointment for any children whose fifth birthday occurs before September 1 of this year. Kindergarten screening allows us to look at students abilities and achievement levels which we use to build our classes and also prepare for students with special needs as they occur.

#### **State Superintendent coming to ACH**

State Superintendent of Schools, Susan Castillo, will be coming to ACH 5/24 to recognize our effort as an Exceptional School for the school year 0506. This award comes from the hard work of ACH students and staff improving educational opportunities and achievement over the last many years. She will be here at noon, have lunch with staff and students, and make an award during a 12:45 p.m. all school assembly. She will then travel to Heppner Elementary to make the same award for that school. We look forward to her visit and recognition of this great honor for school.

#### **ACH Receives Award for Best Youth Involvement For Project SOLV**

On June 5 several students, staff and parents will travel to State Capitol Salem for the presentation of this award from Governor Ted Kulongoski at a special luncheon. SOLV is the statewide organization promoting recycling and a clean environment. Our project was an Irrigon cleanup day last spring involving the entire student body and staff. We had a grant to help finance the supplies needed for the special project day. This spring's cleanup day will be 5/22 in the afternoon.

#### **Bear Day and Night Coming**

Bear Day and Night will be 5/17. Kindergarten-second grade will have special activities dinner and prizes after school until about 6 p.m. during fourth grades will have evening activities, and the movie and will be a night to use the on the gym floor for all those for her in this privilege through their reading efforts for fourth-quarter. We will have the special Running in the Halls during each Bear session. Parents can check with their students as to how they're doing in this reading program. We have great time and it's a wonderful celebration of all of the effort to improve reading during the year.

### Heppner Elementary School

- Once again the Hampstead players were wonderful. The kids enjoyed the play and did a good deal of laughing at the three kids that participated in the performance. I am always pleased with how professional these people are and their willingness to involve kids in drama.



- TUPPER TIME... the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are all geared up for Tupper outdoor school. Food is being purchased and preliminary work is to be done by the kids to get ready for a wonderful week. Tupper outdoor school will be the week of May 7<sup>th</sup>. I would encourage any board member to drive up and have lunch or dinner on Monday or Tuesday with the kids. Just call the office and let us know so we can have extra food ready for you.
- The latest update on the Elder St. extension is that there will be no extension. The City and I received a letter from ODOT and they have totally changed their tune on the safety concern of Stansbury entering the highway on a corner. They now say that the current set up is not a problem. So their willingness to help with Elder to alleviate the hazard is no longer viable. It was worth a shot and now the city will look at other options of helping to make Stansbury safer for kids crossing the road.
- HES music department is having a Spring Concert on May 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. Come one, come all and see the cutest kids around sing and play their instruments.
- HES will be hosting an all school BBQ on May 24<sup>th</sup>. Parents are welcome to come and have lunch with their children.
- Susan Castillo will be presenting HES with its EXCEPTIONAL flag on May 24<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM. A big thank you to John Sebastian or his work in getting Susan to come to Morrow County.
- The last Book Fair of the year will be May 17<sup>th</sup> – May 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is the best time to buy books. All books will be buy one and get one free.
- We have had 6 new additions to our 4<sup>th</sup> grade classroom. The mommy and daddy finches hatched 6 babies. This has been very educational for the kids. Seeing something so small and ugly and watching it grow to be a beautiful bird is amazing.

### **Heppner High School**

- Spring sports are running towards the end of the season with district tourneys and state competitions around the corner.
- Baseball team has won the district crown out right with 3 games to go.
- Held our first HS track meet in many years on the 17<sup>th</sup> of April. Huge hit and involved over 100 participants.
- Held our first JH track meet last week with over 175 participants.
- Working on pre-registration of students for next year's classes.
- Working on the master schedule and classes offered next year.
- Mrs. Dickenson took a group of kids to OSU's CTE days experiencing careers in the agricultural field.
- Mr. Fowler and his kids are finishing up our track shed and it is all done with exception to a wall being built inside the structure.
- ZAP has been going well and our numbers have been reflecting the changes we have made to the program this year. Kudos to Tracie Bunch for her commitment in making this program grow wings.
- Our Site Council has been working on our school improvement plan and will have it finalized by our June meeting.
- Our safety meetings have been productive working on our emergency plans, flip charts, and lock down procedures.
- We held 6<sup>th</sup> grade orientation and brought next years 7<sup>th</sup> grade students up to the HS for an afternoon to give them some transition of what to expect next year. It went very well and they seemed to enjoy the program that we set up for them.
- I sent out graduation letters to parents this week with all of the particulars surrounding dates, expectations, and times for each family to prepare for this years graduating class.
- Our senior exit portfolio interviews are set for May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6-8pm and May 24<sup>th</sup> 5-7pm. If board members would like to be interested in being part of this- please contact me.
- Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade celebration will be on May 24<sup>th</sup> from 7-8:30pm with dinner- with a dance following the dinner celebration.

- Our AG/Horticulture plant sell is on May 9<sup>th</sup> from 9am till 12pm. Our Horticulture kids have done a great job producing items of interest to the community. Any plants left over, will be donated to the less fortunate.
- Our first annual “Mustang Mop Up” was one of the greatest days I have ever been involved with as an educator. We accomplished nearly 40 projects in both communities of Heppner and Lexington. Our students were INCREDIBLE and they worked hard across the board. Here are some examples of projects that we accomplished; painting the inside of the museum, taking down TV wire and poles, reworking the terraces at Gonde’s Island, leveling and building a rock wall at Hager park, and various types of yard work for both the elderly and handicapped. It was a great day and our community embraced the efforts of our kids. Learning was a big part of the day and many of our students were exposed to things they have never experienced. This is an excerpt of a story that Mr. Morgan shared with me. He had a group of 7<sup>th</sup> graders on litter pickup working on the path that links HES to the city library. A student approached Mr. Morgan with a piece of garbage- the student told Mr. Morgan that this is a piece of garbage that I had dropped last night on his way home after school. Mr. Morgan asked the student- what do think of having to pick it up today as part of the “Mop Up?” The student replied- This day has made me realize how much garbage my friends and I throw on the ground and that he was going to make a better effort in not allowing this to happen either by himself or his friends. This was an example of the learning and self reflection of responsibility that happened across projects and grade levels. When thinking of what this day was about. Words really don’t do justice to what it meant to many, but I did find a quote that helps with what I hope all of us get out of such an experience-

“When we commit to educating whole children within the context of whole communities and whole schools, we commit to designing learning environments that weave together the threads that connect not only math, science, the arts, and humanities, but also mind, heart, body, and spirit.”

Anonymous







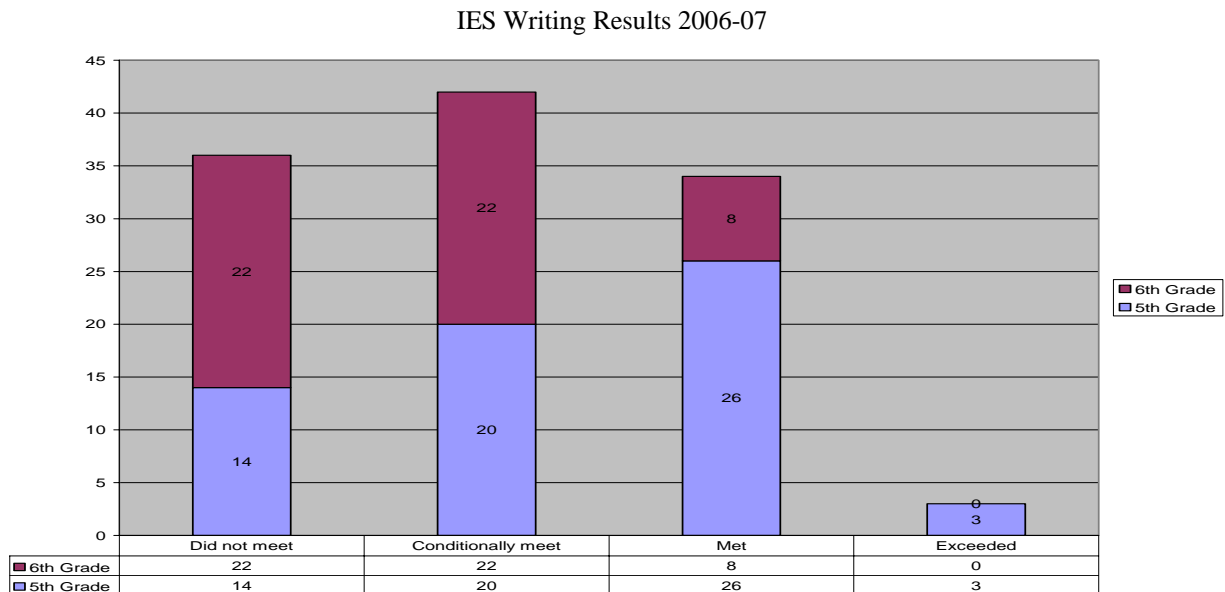


## Irrigon Elementary School

**Math Contest:** We are very proud of our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders who qualified to compete in the math contest. The following students placed in the contest: 5<sup>th</sup> Graders: Jordan Connell 2<sup>nd</sup>, Bryson Boyd 4<sup>th</sup>, Preston Tarpley 5<sup>th</sup>, Zach Burnett 7<sup>th</sup>, and Isaac Alonso, Kaitlynn Linnell, Jessica Working tied for 9<sup>th</sup>. 6<sup>th</sup> Graders: Lane Numerick 3<sup>rd</sup>, Samantha Tompkins 7<sup>th</sup>, Marissa Stanger 8<sup>th</sup>, and Brittany Foster, Emily McKenney tied for 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Teacher Appreciation Week:** This year we proclaimed *Teacher Appreciation Week* a week early because ½ our school will be at Outdoor School during the usual week. The Student Council conducted an assembly to recognize and thank all the teachers at IES. They wrote and read a poem to each teacher and presented them with a crystal apple. Teachers were also treated to a myriad of tasty apple treats during the week thanks to the classified employees. The teachers at IES are the BEST and the students and I appreciate them soooo much!

**Writing Results:** The State Writing test results are in. Teachers will be using these results to determine what we have done and what we need to do to support our students' writing improvement.



**Student Body Assembly:** Our monthly Student Body assembly was held Thursday, April 19th. The following students were recognized by their classroom teacher:

### Responsible

Celina Munoz, Andy Aguilera, Ernesto Aguilera, Eric Sommerville, Rafael Salas-Garcia, Marcus Shelton,  
Wyatt Mills

### Respectful

Pedro Afanador, Monica Leon, Alex Shaver, Brittany Lesperance, David Resendiz, Edgar Mendez, Osvaldo Macias, Jordan Connell

### Reliable

Cheyenne Hackett, Melina Gomez, Bryson Boyd, James Creason, Mario Garcilazo, Leroy Boudier, Jose Romero, Andy Zavala, Sandra Vera

## Irrigon High School

May 2007 School Board Notes from IJSHS

On April 11th our HS Band attended a festival at Riverside HS.

On April 12th our HS put on a two act Play. It was terrific! Special thanks to teachers Heather Miller and Aaron Byers and the wonderful cast.

On April 16th and 17th our first seniors participated in the first "Irrigon Culminating Experience" presentations. The four who did not present will do so May 11. Special thanks to all who sat on committees and Johanna and Chris Davis for setting it up.

On April 23<sup>rd</sup> we held the Best of IHS where we honored Art, Drama, Spanish, Technology, and Music students. The cafeteria was full. Thanks to the Booster Club for providing desserts. Thanks to all staff and student that made this such a great event.

On April 26<sup>th</sup> we sent six HS students to the Pathways Conference at BMCC for hands on career activities. We also sent 10 HS students to Ag Skills day also at BMCC on the same day—the two groups shared a bus!

On April 25th we held a Middle School Band Festival. This all day event included over 100 students and culminated with a concert that evening. Special thanks to Jeff Searles, our band director.

On April 28th we had our first Prom at McNary Golf Course. It was a great evening. Special thanks to Advisors Marv House, Paul Gessel, Heather Miller and Chris and Johanna Davis.

On May 1st we had our first Community Work day. The schedule is attached. It was extremely successful! Special thanks to all students and staff for all their hard work and to Johanna and Chris Davis and Colleen Grigg for organizing the day.

May 7-11<sup>th</sup> is Teacher Appreciation Week!

#### Upcoming Events

May 12 District Track and Softball

May 15 Senior Trip to Salem

May 16 All coaches Mtg 6:00

May 18 FFA Banquet 6:30

May 21 Sports Awards 6:00

May 22 Night of Excellence 5:30

May 24 JH Swim Trip

May 30 Baccalaureate 6:00

Jun 1 Graduation 7:00

Jun 1 Graduated senior Drug and alcohol free trip to Portland for a river cruise. Special thanks to Phyllis Danielson for all her effort to make this trip happen.

Who said school was almost over?????

### **Riverside High School**

#### **TRI-COUNTY BAND FESTIVALS**

The 2007 High School Tri-County Band Festival was held at Riverside this year on April 11<sup>th</sup>. It was an opportunity to see directors and students working together. The day began with each band playing for the guest conductor Patrick Winters from Eastern Washington University. It was exciting for Riverside students and band director to work with a conductor of such experience and expertise. The event ended with all schools playing an evening concert at Riverside.

The 2007 Junior High Tri-County Band Festival was held at Irrigon this year on April 25<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 270 band students attended the festival. Riverside band instructor, Rick Drake, was impressed with the behavior, attentiveness and desire to learn demonstrated by his junior high students. Jeff Searles and the Irrigon staff did a great job putting on this annual event.

#### **NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION CEREMONY**

The first annual National Honor Society Dessert will be held on Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at the Port of Morrow. At that time eight new high school members and two National Junior Honor Society members will be inducted. Officers for the 2007-2008 school year were elected and will be installed in a joint candlelight ceremony.

##### **New NHS Officers for 2007-2008:**

President – Tamra Tovey

Vice-president – Leticia Rodríguez

Secretary – Amanda Kennedy

Treasurer – Yvonne Torres

Secretary – Emily Doherty

Treasurer – Cristy Martinez

##### **New NHS members:**

Alfredo Álvarez

Jessica Donovan

Paul J. Keefer

Brittney McCullough

Bianka Muñoz

##### **New NJHS Officers for 2007-2008:**

President – Cody Frederickson

Vice-President – Cindy McLaughlin

Justine Parker  
Kenna Purcell

New NJHS members:  
Trevor Graff  
Nuvia Ramirez-Romero



The parents of the chapter members and Riverside staff were invited to attend. Former Riverside High School principal, Dan Daltoso, will be the guest speaker. Key Club members will assist in serving and cleanup. Advisors for the honor societies are Shane Fritz (NHS) and Betsy Shane (NJHS).

### **KNOWLEDGE MASTER & NIGHT OF EXCELLENCE**

Riverside junior and senior high school students recently competed in the Spring Knowledge Master under the direction of TAG Coordinator, Jay Rogers. Students were selected from the Riverside TAG population and students that were high achievers on the state exams. The students enjoyed themselves and are looking forward to next year.

Riverside Night of Excellence will be held on May 15<sup>th</sup>. This night is dedicated to academic excellences. Students will receive awards in a variety of academic categories. Teachers and staff are currently submitting recommendations to Mr. Rogers.

### **SENIOR PORTFOLIOS AND INTERVIEWS**

Riverside seniors recently completed their senior interviews, a culmination of four years of planning and career exploration activities. Riverside teachers willingly gave up prep time in order to take part in the evaluation process. The results were exceptional with 16% receiving a "C" grade, 40% receiving a "B" and 27% receiving an "A". Four students who did not pass on their first attempt were given the chance to interview a second time. With some adjustment in either attitude, attire or work on their portfolio, they were able to pass on their next try. Riverside seniors will leave school with a plan for their future careers and the ability to set long and short term goals on the path to becoming productive members of society.

### **CSEPP DRILL CONSIDERED A SUCCESS**

On April 12<sup>th</sup>, Riverside participated in the annual CSEPP drill. It took just over 16 minutes from the time the first announcement was made for all students and staff to load buses. The only problem noted by the evaluator was that the CSEPP personnel had failed to change the batteries in the tone alert radios. Someone was sent that same day to change out the batteries.

### **MARCH STUDENTS OF THE MONTH CITIZEN**

7<sup>th</sup> Grade—Fabiola Lopez  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade—Nuvia Ramirez  
Frosh—Salvador Garcia-Hernandez  
Soph—Berenice Chavez  
Jr—Jessica Calderon  
Sr—Andrew McKee

### **ACADEMIC**

7<sup>th</sup> Grade—Karina Lopez  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade—Juana Gaytan  
Frosh—Amanda McKnight  
Soph—Cassie Rogelstad  
Jr—Yvonne Torres  
Sr—Alfonso Colin

### **Windy River Elementary**

Windy River is going to be a busy place during the month of May. Below you will find a list of most of the activities we have already completed or are looking forward to:

**May 1** Paco Padilla Concert Assembly at SBE; WRE will go to SBE at 10:00

**May 2** 4<sup>th</sup> grade field trip to Pendleton to tour Tamastslit Cultural Center / 5<sup>th</sup> grade field trip: Watershed Day

**May 3** Jog-a-thon—times to be announced later. (Activities morning & afternoon)

**May 7-10** Testing Week / Teacher Appreciation Week

**May 10** Parent BBQ lunch/ Spring Concert evening 7-8 pm

**May 14-17** Outdoor school for 6<sup>th</sup> graders.

**May 23** Migrant Summer School registration in our foyer 10-8 pm

**May 23** RHS registration meeting with 6<sup>th</sup> graders afternoon- still go to PE/Music

**May 24** Aquatic Day in Pendleton grades 4-6

**May 30** SOM assembly 10:15 a.m.

**May 31-June 1** 5<sup>th</sup> graders are going on an overnight field trip to the John Day Fossil Beds

Here are a few Highlights:

The evening of May 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 we will honor our students that have shown academic excellence and good citizenship by inducting them into the Presidential Honor Society.

Parents have been invited; it should be a nice evening as we come together to recognize these young people for their good works. Mr. Beagle is the advisor to this group.

We are excited about our upcoming Outdoor School; we have a great group of councilors from RJHS from the junior and senior classes. Mrs. Cox and I are holding training sessions with them so that they are ready to work with our students when we are at camp. It would be nearly impossible to have our school without the HS student's participation.

The week of May 7 is also testing week. We have been working hard with our students so that they can do well on the paper/pencil test that we are taking. Mrs. Cox our DART coordinator has done an excellent job keeping us up to date on all the changes that came with the new testing format.

We held a jog-a-thon on May 3<sup>rd</sup> as a part of National Health day. Teachers taught special lessons in the classroom as part of the theme for the day. Students collected sponsors to raise money for our Student Body Account. The day was a success for everyone.

June will soon be here and we are seeing the end of the year approaching fast. Our students and staff have had a super year and are looking forward to a very active May.

### **Sam Boardman Elementary**

As school comes quickly to a close we at SBE are trying to get in all the fun things that accompany the end of the year. Several classes are taking field trips to places like the fish hatchery, The Dalles' discovery center and the Boardman marina. We are also looking forward to taking our annual trips to the aquatic center and all students who have met 3 of the 4 AR quarter goals will be skating in Pendleton.

We are also hosting some fun academic events as well. We had our Reading/Math night in April where students and parents have fun reading and playing Math games. I'd like to thank Mrs. Bishop and Mrs. Diaz for being our guest readers for the event. We also had the student of the month assembly and our winners are:

<b>ACADEMICS</b>	<b>RESPECT</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<b>SAFETY</b>	<b>Teacher</b>
Kaleb Cuadron	Eric Pacheco	Dustin Maddox	Luis Gonzalez	1-Harjo
Humberto Lopez	Ryan Ibarra	Eloy Hernandez	Stephen Groce	3-Prindle
Samantha Zapata	Maydi Barrera	Malysa Smith	Ana Barajas	1-Milton
			Joshua Matthews-	
Kevin Madrigal	Chance Frederickson	Serafin Rogue	Mc	1-Wilson
Dylan Gosvener	Gisselle Rodriguez	Juan Fraustro/Castaneda	Gerry Ruiz	K-Creaseon
Vanessa Calvillo	Ethan Ellison	Jose Agripino	Carmen Puerta	3-Bankston
Dylan Shaw	Ashton Gosvener	Maria Gonzalez-Reyes	Zulema Gayton	K-Christy
Nahomy Claustro	Andy Melendez	Kirsten Edison	Martin Chavez	1-Harrison
Alexis Cambero	Fatima Diaz	Mikayla Jeppeson	Isaias Cervantes	K/1 Files
Anthony Carrillo	Janet Landeros	Karen Cambero	Aurora Garcia	K-Bigham

Tyler Hancock	Derek Bingaman	Maria Virelas	Stephanie Madrigal	3-Jeppeson
Jared Miller	Alexis Aguilar	Lilliana Davila	Brian Franco	K-Ogden
Alyxandra Edens	Katelyn Bass	Franciso Gutierrez	Marino Pena	2-Kennedy
Cruz Jim	Mathilda Goodeve	Mirna Daltoso	Kelly Martin	2-Campbell
Gavin Baker	Jose Avila	Ricardo Rosales	Jennifer Rodriguez	2-Hernandez
Valerie Colin	Yessenia Gonzales	Zoey Gomez	Ivan Torres	3-Raible
Tania Mendoza	Ruben Villa	Gavin Harper	Noah Shorter	2-McClennahan

Here are some of the pictures from Family Math and Reading night.















### **ELL Program**

The ELL program continues on the course it was set to reach at the beginning of the year. This month we started doing our ELPA testing with the State, and now every ELL child in the district has been tested with the State mandated test. Next year we will have for the first time the same test measured against itself to see the English growth each student in our ELL program has achieved.

April has also seen the continuation of other things. April has completed the process of the Family Education Nights in both Irrigon and Boardman. We ended with a celebration of our success, with a pot-luck with parents, teachers, and children. There were about 75 people in attendance at the two meetings combined.

Also we had our PAC meetings in both Irrigon at the last meeting above in Irrigon, and one at the end of the month in Boardman. They will be waiting for the new directors of the district ESL program, and the leadership of the ESD to communicate with parents and set new direction for parent education and the Spanish PAC meetings for next year.



## **Morrow Education Center**

Once again, it is a privilege to report the recent happenings of the Morrow Education Center. Mr. Mckinnis and I continue our recruitment efforts for students who haven't been attending as regularly as they should. We also continue to promote the importance of regular attendance to students at the Morrow Education Center. We have seen several new faces during the past couple of months and our current enrollment figure is holding steady at about 90 students enrolled at MEC. As a result of the warmer weather the students are anxiously anticipating the end of the school year. We will be having our graduation ceremony at the Irrigon Elementary School on May 31<sup>st</sup> 2007 at 7:00pm, and hope that you are all able to attend. We are anticipating 12 to 14 graduates from the MEC program this year.

Forrest and I have enjoyed the past month in the classroom here at the Morrow Education Center, and have welcomed the daily challenges that go along with serving this population of students. Our goal continues to be, serving the students of the Morrow Education Center and providing a safe and effective learning environment for all to thrive in. We appreciate your support of this program, and your commitment to all students of the Morrow County School District.