

Principal & Director Reports

May 2011

AC. Houghton Elementary

Kindergarten Screening: On May 5, we screened prospective kindergartners for the coming school year 11-12. We screen between 40 and 50 students, which is a good predictor of having a normal size kindergarten in the coming school year of approximately 70 students. This has been our stable size for several years. The screening process allows us to examine early learning skills of entering students, which in turn allows us to make up class sizes that are balanced using student current abilities, boy/ girl balance, ethnic balance, etc.

Bear Day/Night: On May 18 we will hold our annual Bear Day/Night. We have a reading program, Accelerated Reader, that functions all year with students working towards goals each quarter. The last goal that students are working toward is making the Bear Day activities for kindergarten and first and second graders and to make the nighttime activities, Bear Night, for third graders. This year we will balance the students between day and night. Second graders will change from activities right after school to activities that will take place between 6:30 PM and 9 PM. Only third graders will continue to stay overnight as we still feel that second graders are a little young to do that.

Oaks Testing: We have the last round of Oaks state assessment underway. We have worked very hard over the last three months, since the mid-year Oaks, to prepare our students to have as many as possible pass the Oaks state standards for math and reading.

Spring Concerts: The concert and program for kindergarten and first grade will be May 10 at 7 PM. The spring concert and program for grades second and third will be May 12 at 7 PM. Teachers have been working hard with Mrs. Marquardt, our music teacher, to prepare for these programs.

Anti-Bullying Effort: The day of May 9 will be a special anti-bullying focus day at ACH. We have a special speaker and special anti-bullying focus materials that we will be giving to each of our students.

Heppner Elementary School

It is a privilege to report the recent happenings of Heppner Elementary School. It is hard to believe that May has already arrived. Our current enrollment at HES is 187 students and our current attendance percentage for the year is 96.1%. We recently began the third round of OAKS testing at HES and I am happy to report that most of our students have met or exceeded the benchmarks for their grade. We will continue working hard to get the few remaining HES students over the benchmark hump during this third and final round of testing.

April was full of many exciting events which took place at HES, with the highlight being the "Honor Card Assembly" which was held on April 7th where 108 HES students received Honor Cards and Certificates for the third quarter. Honor Cards are given to students that maintain positive grades and behavior during each quarter of the school year. HES students also performed very well at the district sponsored math contest held at IJSHS on April 21st.

With the fourth quarter well under way we are rapidly approaching the end of the school year. Our 25 sixth grade students headed for the hills this week for Tupper Outdoor School. Other noteworthy events which will be taking place this month include; The HES/HHS Spring Concert on Wednesday May 18th at 6pm and Memorial Day Holiday on Monday, May 30th.

District Maintenance Update: In addition to the HES Report - I would also like to report that Apollo recently completed the spring check for the cooling side of all of our buildings HVAC systems. The 2011-2012 maintenance budget has been completed. Jan and I are working with head custodians to complete all remaining projects that were planned for the current school year.

Heppner High School

- Our first annual small school invite high school math contest went very well. Below are the individual and team results.

Algebra 1

Team Winners

1st Irrigon

2nd Riverside

3rd Sherman

Placers

1st Kyle Fazendin from Irrigon

2nd Jon from Dufur

3rd Joe Schmidt from Heppner

Geometry

Team Winners

1st Heppner

2nd Sherman

3rd Echo

Placers

1st Micha Hintz from Heppner

2nd Blake Evans from Sherman

3rd Gus Perterson from Ione

Algebra 2

Team Winners

1st Heppner

2nd Dufur

3rd Ione

Placers

1st Romana Paftkova from Heppner

2nd Felicia Lara from Echo

3rd Riley Brown from Sherman

Pre-Calculus

Team Winners

1st Heppner

2nd Echo

3rd Dufur

Placers

1st Kirsten McCallum from Echo

2nd Maroucha Veerman from Heppner

3rd Mic Dabulskis from Sherman

Calculus

Team Winners

1st Riverside

2nd Sherman

3rd Heppner

Placers

1st Brigham Hansen from Riverside

2nd Bryce from places unknown

3rd Austin Evans from Sherman

- Mark Thompson spent a whole day in the building meeting with students in grades 7-10 about cyber bullying and harassment law. With our newly adopted policies- he shared the law that supports our policy and discussed some vignettes that apply to the real world. This went very well and for most students, it was a review of past opportunities that our students have had concerning harassment and bullying law. Students also developed a school Bill of Rights against Bullying that our ASB will post around the school on posters.
- District FFA Shop Skills and TSA competitions were held and went well at BMCC. Codie Blondell and Kellie Nelson each placed 1st in a TSA event that earned them both a \$500.00 scholarship at BMCC.
- GOAL portfolio assessments were held and our seniors did very well with them with only one make-up that will be done this week.
- Teacher Appreciation Week was the week of May 2nd and our classified staff spoiled our certified folks with food, gifts, and notes. Our Booster Club ordered us lunch one day and we had many folks from our community bring treats to our staff for the job they do. It was a fun week, and one that all enjoyed!
- A group of community volunteers are trying to start a Kiwanis club here in Heppner. There will be an Open House scheduled in the near future to garner some members so Key Club can get started at the high school. If you would like information about the clubs direction- please let me know.
- Our annual awards day is on the 5th. We will have a daytime awards assembly followed by the Night of Excellence at the HES gym at 6pm which will encompass both academic and athletic awards. The Booster Club will provide dessert for all participants and their families.
- 8th Grade Celebration is on the 13th at 6pm. It will include a nice dinner for the class, dessert for the parents, followed by a 7th and 8th grade dance.
- Mustang Mop Up will be held on the 19th and we are currently garnering projects for our students. This is a great service learning opportunity for our students and one that our entire community appreciates.
- HHS ASB speeches will be on the 24th for next years offices. We will be on a PM assembly schedule that day. Speeches will start at 2:50pm and the public is invited to attend.
- The National Honor Society induction breakfast will be on the 25th at 7am in the HHS cafeteria.

- Seniors last day is the 26th of this month.

Irrigon Elementary School

1. Parent Conferences at IES: On March 31 and April 1 we held our second conferences this year. The average attendance was 89% through out the entire school. We still get strong parent support for our total school programs.
2. April 7-8 IES took 6 teachers to learn the structure of doing Professional Learning Communities (PLC's) at the DuFour Conference at Janzen Beach in Portland. We learned very valuable parts to doing PLC's. This year more than before, IES is totally on board and understands the important aspects that a teacher PLC creates to increase student achievement.
3. The Science Guy, Mick Davis from the G-12 Science program stayed two weeks at IES working with the 6th grade classes doing hands-on science. They did Pulleys and Levers. This program culminated the six week program where Mr. Davis spent two weeks with each grade doing hands-on science with our students at IES.
4. Tree Planting Day at IES: on April 30th people from the community of Irrigon, students, parents, and staff got together on Saturday to plant more than 50 trees. The Bank of Eastern Oregon donated time, water and cookies and pitched it to help. It was a nice event. We planted trees around half of the perimeter of the IES property. It was a nice way to celebrate Arbor Day which was on the 29th of April.

ESL/ Migrant Education

1. Migrant Education Oregon Department of Education Audit: Last month the ODE conducted an audit of our Migrant Education program in Morrow County. We came out with such accolades about our supports given to our Migrant students that it made me very proud to be a part of our ESD Migrant consortium and to have the Migrant programs in place that we have in Morrow County.

Irrigon High School

I.C.E.

Our seniors have been working hard to put their finishing touches on their ICE projects and will be presenting to their panels on Tuesday May 10th and Wednesday May 11th. Once again I would like to thank all of the community and staff members who have volunteered to sit on these panels as the seniors share what they have accomplished thus far in their lives both in and out of school as well as how these decisions have prepared them for their future careers and educational choices

End of the Year Awards

This year we are trying a new format for our awards. During the afternoon of May 23rd we will be recognizing outstanding students in each of the academic areas. Later that evening, we will be hosting our Knight of Excellence. This will be a semi-formal banquet honoring the 'best of the best' both academically and athletically at IJSHS. By presenting the awards in a more refined atmosphere we hope to impart a true sense of excellence achieved by the students.

Mock Interviews

We also completed our first afternoon of Mock Interviews for our 10th grade class. We were able to bring in 8 members of the community to interview each of our sophomores and give them the opportunity to practice interviewing and receive feedback before they venture out into the work of work this summer.

GEAR-UP

Our GEAR-UP team returned from our annual SUCCESS planning and training retreat in Bend excited about what we have been doing and what we would like to offer our students next year as part of our GEAR-UP program. We had the pleasure of hearing from John O'Neil the former principal of Forest Grove High School which has been recognized as a National Model School, about the turnaround success they experienced between 2001 and 2008. His presentation was exciting for us, because as one team member commented after hearing his presentation, "Those are the things we're starting to do!"

We used the time and training at the retreat to build the framework for our year 4 plan. We plan to continue the college visitations, career presentations, and transitions camps. We also plan to expand our current financial aid nights to a monthly "College 101" series for the parents of students of every age attending our school. We also plan to expand use of the Path to Scholarships curriculum from a pilot in a single 9th grade advisory to full use in the 9th and 10th grade advisories.

Knight Klean-Up Day

We will be holding our annual Knight Klean-Up day on May 5th. In all, we will have seventeen advisory groups out in the community doing a variety of jobs assisting the elderly, parks and recreation, ACH, and the city of Irrigon. This provides students the opportunity to give something back to their community. During the second half of the day the Oregon National Guard will be bringing in their rock wall and inflatable obstacle course. We will also have CO2 car races in the gymnasium courtesy of Mr. Hunt as well as a variety of outdoor activities. This is always been a huge hit with students. A special thanks to Mrs. Luna and our Key Club for coordinating all of the activities that day.

Senior Career Visitation

Before the year runs out, we will be taking our senior class to Intel and St. Vincent Providence Medical Center. Intel and Providence are two of Oregon's largest employers, and each tour will present our senior class members with information and strategies for making smart, informed choices within their post secondary careers. For instance, what classes and experiences should they seek while in college, what fields should they pursue within the military, or what kinds of initiatives should they take on in an entry-level job? Providence will also provide our seniors with a Mock Interview and feedback opportunity as well.

Looking forward to next year, we are working with staff members to improve our existing programs and scale up our successful pilot programs to school-wide efforts beginning next year. Our JH intervention program is showing a lot of promise, as are our extension classes and several of our college and career readiness programs.

Morrow Education Center

With four weeks until graduation, we are entering the cram phase of the school year. This not only applies to the potential graduates, but also to the other students attempting to make up credits to return to their resident school. We are pleased this year with the progress which has been made with accountability with the students, demonstrated by their continued pursuit of increased attendance.

As stated earlier in the year, the plateau in the number of students has happened and we are hovering just above 100 students enrolled. Due to the time of year, we have cut off new referrals for the year, as a student would not be able to gain any academic skills/credits with the time remaining. Additionally, with the higher numbers, our Special Education Teacher has fully immersed herself into creating a program for the students on IEP's. The students, staff and parents alike have been extremely pleased with her ability to come mid-year and help with these students. Lastly, I would like to say that we have had a great year at Morrow Education Center and we are looking forward to helping students finish the year on a high note.

Riverside High School

RIVERSIDE WELCOMES MRS. SHIMER

My name is Marie Shimer and I am excited to be coming to Riverside this fall as the new Vice Principal! I have worked as a social studies teacher for nine years, all in the Nyssa School District. I received my Bachelor's degree from Eastern Oregon University, teacher certification from Boise State University, and my Masters in Education in Content Literacy from Walden University. I am currently working on my Doctorate in Educational Leadership.

My husband, George is also a teacher and works as a high school and college official for volleyball, basketball, and baseball. We have three great children that are also looking forward to coming to Riverside this next school year. Sean will be a senior this fall, Gregg a sophomore, and Jenna will be going into the eighth grade. When I am not tagging along to sporting events or working on class work I love to read, quilt, and paint ceramics.

I am looking forward to meeting everyone so please do not hesitate to stop in and visit with me!

ASB & CLASS ELECTIONS

Riverside Jr/Sr High School students are currently running for ASB Offices for the 2011-2012 school year. Students running for ASB office will turn in petitions the week of April 25th and give speeches at an assembly May 5th. After ASB offices are filled, students will be running for class offices for each grade level.

SPANISH EXAM CHALLENGE

Any high school student interested is being given the opportunity to take the Spanish Challenge Exam for 1 high school credit. The test is being given Friday, April 29, 2011, at 9:00am. Preference will be given to juniors and seniors, there are 30 openings available.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Riverside Jr/Sr High School students will be volunteering at the Sam Boardman Carnival to be held May 5, 2011. Riverside students are involved in many community service projects; Tillicum Club Annual Easter Egg Hunt, serving breakfast monthly at the Boardman Senior Center, Boardman Little League, Columbia Youth Basketball, just to name a few.

UP COMING EVENTS

As the end of the school year fast approaches there are many upcoming events at Riverside:

- Thursday, May 12, 2011 – National Honor Society Induction
- Tuesday, May 17, 2011 – Night of Excellence
- Tuesday, May 24, 2011 – Senior Finals
- Thursday, May 26, 2011 – Senior Check-out
- Thursday, June 2, 2011 – Junior High Spring Night of Celebration
- Saturday, June 4, 2011 – Graduation
- Thursday, June 9, 2011 – Finals – Last day of school for students

Sam Boardman Elementary School

Students of the Month for April:

	Academics	Respect	Responsibility	Safety	Attendance
K Team	Emilia Gutierrez Natalie Lomelie Lucas Szasz Ivy Baltazar	Gustavo Zuniga Nataly Martir Armando Ibarra Caden Szasz	Yitsel Mendoza Emmanuel Mendoza Quin McClenahen Jose Morales	Eloy Ramos Faith Acheson Osvaldo Chopin Monica Herrera	Ms. Smith 92%
Team 1	Rigo Martinez Sayda Meras Zuriel Martinez Nikolas Fuerstenburg	Makaila Lantis Alexis Sanchez Mariela Mendoza Juan Rodriguez	Giovanni Salas Nathan Ellis Bernardo Marquez Daisy Torres	Carlos Magana Heidi Gomez Jasmin Jimenez Lorena Lopez	Mrs. Fletcher 97%
Team 2	Hunter Dyer Luz Frausto Gunnar Livingston Alexis Zapata	Nathan Baltazar America Pacheco Vicente Zuniga Jaylene Altamirano	Myles Harper Yazeli Lomas Jose Ruiz Eneida Meraz	Belen Ponce Miriam Coria Marco Barrera Eros Figueroa	Mrs. Files 98%
Team 3	Dvita Sharma Abraham Silva J.J. Madrigal	Stephanie Chavez Vanessa Sanchez Antonio Rivera	Ulyses Lopez Fed Ortega Jose Rodriguez	Lisette Sanchez Destiny Aldrich Destanee Battaglia	Mr. Jeppeson 95%



Enrollment: 319 **Attendance:** Average attendance for February was 93.41%
Second grade students have been learning to read and perform rhythm patterns using whole notes, quarter notes, eighth notes and rests on a variety of instruments. Thomas Brandon Stewart, student teacher from EOU, led this talented group in a **rhythm performance** at our Student of the Month Assembly. They sounded awesome! Never missed a beat! What a performance!

Third grade students have been learning science first hand from **Science Fellow, Eric Shamay**, from the University of Oregon. Mr. Shamay is here as a Scientist in Residence to demonstrate the inquiry approach to science and the fun lessons associated with the FOSS Kits. Kits are available to us via the ESD.

Our classified staff is being celebrated this week to the theme of Indiana Jones. They do incredible feats and rise to the adventure! **Sam Boardman appreciates our classified staff!** They are the best group of people to work with, so dedicated!

We took a S.B.E. team to the **Northwest PBIS Conference** in Eugene to learn more about Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports. At this regional conference we learned much about a system approach to creating a social climate where students can achieve and where parents enjoy being in the school. We came back with research based best practices in supporting all students in school, on the playground, and on the bus; as well as, strategies and interventions for those students needing additional support.

Parents and students enjoyed another PTO Family Movie Night. The parents are gearing up for carnival. Mark your calendars! **Carnival will be on May 5th** to the theme of Cinco de Mayo. Our second round of 3rd grade OAKS in math is complete and SBE shows growth! **SBE's average OAKs Math RIT is 208**, three points higher than the state average, and four points higher than last year at this time! Congratulations students and teaching staff, your hard work is showing! OAKS Reading and ELPA are still underway. We look forward to sharing all results with Site Council, Child Study Team and parents at spring conferences.

Windy River Elementary

April Students of the Month

APRIL	Academics	Academics	Theme - Fairness
Beagle	Ricardo Rosales	Marvin Calvillo	Ivan Escobedo
Boor	Emily Taylor	Kevin Madrigal	Anthony Ramirez
Browne	Victoria Landeros	Cody McCullough	Ricardo Navarro
Cornelius	Clarissa Salamanca	Jassiel Carmona	Natasha Lester
Gaede	Debora Ruiz	Christian Reyes	David Araiza
Keefer	Miseal Madrigal	Luis Olvera	Jessica Calvillo
LaFramboise	Lizbet madrigal		Gisselle Rodriguez
Prindle	Maria Gonzalez	Anthony Rodelo	Karrizima Luna
Strebin	Kassidy McCullough	Caleb Thomas	Veronica Rodriguez

Artist in Resident – Bill Lewis

Bill taught watercolor painting to WRE students. He has been a professional artist for over 30 years. He has a Bachelors Degree in Art from Eastern Oregon University. He has an Oregon teaching license with a HQ endorsement for K-8. He just retired from teaching art at Grant Union High School. In the 20 years that he taught in John Day he taught workshops for elementary teachers, local art groups and children’s enrichment programs.

Parent Parties

Fifth Grade: The parents were invited to join us in our “Defying the Laws of Gravity” experiment. The students each brought in a contraption that they thought would keep a fresh egg from breaking. We all gathered in the cafeteria and each teacher dropped their students’ container and egg from 10 feet off the ground. About 8 parents showed up to cheer the students on. Surprisingly many of the students’ contraptions worked and they found their eggs unbroken.

OAKS

WRE has started our third round of OAKS. The sixth grade just finished and the next two weeks fourth and fifth will test.