

May 2005 Reports from Principals & Directors

Board Report May 2nd, 2005
Programs Director

The district was represented by 21 of our students in Portland on April 29th for the annual state writing contest. The students were selected by the Talented and Gifted teachers in each school building. All students were given a certificate of participation for their efforts. It is important that we recognize academics in our district. A special thanks for teachers Jannie Allen, Anna Browne, Kresimir Waite and parent volunteer Patrice Rouska for going to Portland to chaperone the event.

On April 21st we were given another chance to celebrate academics through the district sponsored math contest. This year the contest was held at Heppner Elementary School and was hosted by Jannie Allen. Almost 100 students participated through a challenging math test that lasted for 90 minutes. After the contest, awards were given in the new gym. 1st place winners will be awarded engraved plaques. The event lasted a little longer than planned because the test was difficult, but our students did very well.

We will be given another chance to celebrate academics on May 16th. The Morrow/Umatilla spelling contest will be held on Monday, May 16th. It will begin at 7:00 at the Blue Mountain Community College Theater. Plaques will be awarded to winners in each division from Morrow County. After this contest, winners will be participating in the State Spelling Contest that will be held on September 3rd during the state fair in Salem. All of these activities are helping our district meet the school board's goal of providing programs that enhance and develop the talents and individual needs of students.

I am still in the process of completing a required plan of reflection for our special education program. There are specific guidelines we need to follow. If there are areas that need improvement, we will write our plan and then submit it to the state.

The special education directors in the area are meeting on the 16th at the ESD. We hope to finalize the program we will be using to track our special education students next year.

Over 40 staff members gave up free time to attend a workshop at Riverside High School on April 22nd. Dr. Mickey Garrison spoke to staff members about students that are difficult to handle at school. Ideas were presented to increase positive attitudes in the school and those that attended often broke down into small groups to "solve" student problems or difficult situations in a school setting. I am attempting to schedule another training with Dr. Garrison in the fall. Thank You,

Jack Johns
Special Programs Director

**Joel Chavez, ELL Director's Report to:
Morrow County School District Board**

May 9, 2005

The month of April has been one of ELL LAS testing, getting the 2005-06 ESL budgets and helping the flow of the ESL programs continue as planned.

This month in April all the ESL site coordinators and their assistants have been testing our 700 ESL students through out the district. By the second week of May I will be sending this data to the Oregon Department of Education for next years weighted ESL funding. Our goal is to have every child accounted for whom we served under the ESL district program and to have all our information complete and accounted for.

In special communications with the district we have made two Community Focus Group meetings at Riverside High School and Irrigon High School and Irrigon Elementary School. We met with parents and patrons and the superintendent and I met with parents on casual conversation about concerns and issues. Both Hispanic and Anglo parents came. At Irrigon we had very good conversations about concerns that we satisfying to our constituency.

According to our ELL District Plan, we set out to recruit the best teachers possible for our open teaching positions. At Spokane we met aspiring teachers and counselors with excellent credentials and Spanish abilities. We have still yet to determine how that day's work will result in the end with good teachers hired to instruct our students.

State reports about the AMAO's Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives and our achievement of ELL students in our district report cards are still a concern to all of our administration. As we received our AMAO report from the state about the achievement of the district's ELL students in Language Arts and Math, we have concern about the three criterions for passing each section.

For the first criterion no data was available for comment at this time.

For the second criterion, we did not meet the standard because we did not have enough of a percentage of students exiting the ESL program last year. Due to my error we exited the students two weeks after the date they were counted by the state. That means this year we will get the date of exiting right, and we will also count last year's 8% that we exited last year for this year. We should then have about 15 to 20% of our ESL students exiting plus last year's 8% too.

For the third criterion, we did not meet because a major percentage of our ELL students did not pass the AYP in English Language Arts. They passed the AYP Math, and they passed the Participation AYP in Language Arts, and they passed the Participation Math, but if they don't pass one they are determined as NOT MET. This is reason that they are ESL. It is because their goal is to acquire English, and in the near future no longer being considered as ESL.

MORROW EDUCATION CENTER

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May 2, 2005

Greetings Board Members,

Once again, it is a privilege to report the recent happenings of the Morrow Education Center. Mr. McKinnis and I continue to recruit students who haven't been attending as regularly as they should. We also continue to promote the importance of regular attendance to the students at the Morrow Education Center. We have seen several new faces during the past month, and are regularly seeing approximately 60 students per day in attendance. As a result of the warmer weather the students are anxiously awaiting the end of the school year. We will be having our graduation ceremony at the Irrigon High School cafeteria on June 3rd 2005 at 7:00pm, and hope that you are all able to attend. We are anticipating 10 to 12 graduates from the 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.

Sincerely,

Matt Combe

Alternative Education Center

May Board Report from ACH

-Spring concert for grades kindergarten and first grade will be May 16.

-Spring concert for grades 2-4 will be May 17.

-We are about two thirds of the way through our Spring State assessment. Students in third and fourth grade are showing some good gains from the first of the year testing until now.

-Bear Day and Night-On May 19 we will be celebrating student reading achievement that has occurred during the year. Kindergarten through second graders will have activities after school including prizes and awards. We will finish the night with dinner. Third and fourth graders will begin the night with dinner, have games and craft activities, watch a video, stay overnight in the gymnasium with yours truly and other staff and parents, and finish with breakfast the next day. A great time will be had by all.

-Please join us on June 7 for our annual Barbecue/Track Meet. We will feed nearly 600 people on that day including students, staff and parents.

IHS/IES Principal Report

Activities at IHS and IES:

- Jr. High Tri County Music Festival is April 27 in Helix
- 5th grade will participate in the Field day on May 5 in Ione
- Jr. High district track meet will be May 6 in Stanfield
- 7-10th grade will have a speaker on Gang/Violence behaviors May 11
- 6th grade Outdoor school will be the week of May 16
- FFA Banquet will be May 19
- 5-10th grade Spring Music concert May 24
- HS sport awards May 26
- 7-10 Night of Excellent will be June 2

Recognition

- I would like to recognize Dee Hamilton for winning the Crystal Apple award this year.

Wade A. Smith
Heppner High School Principal's Report

Heppner High School:

The two spring months of April and May always border on controlled chaos at jr/sr high schools with events such as graduation, 8th grade promotion, prom, next year's scheduling, college applications for seniors, and frantic 6th graders looking forward to the "move up on the hill." Following is a list of activities for Heppner Jr/Sr High School:

- April 30th at 9pm: High School Prom
- May 7th: 8th grade Celebration
- May 11th at 6pm: HHS Site Council
- May 11th at 7pm: HHS Booster Club
- May 13th – 14th: District Track Meet
- May 16th: Spelling contest in Pendleton
- May 17th at 7pm: HHS Sports Awards at The Elks Club
- May 18th: PTE GIS night at HHS
- May 23rd: 3rd Annual Community Celebration of Excellence Barbeque and Awards Ceremony, BBQ 6pm, Dessert 6:45pm, Awards Ceremony 7:00pm
- May 25th at 7pm: HHS Drama Play
- May 26th at 7pm: HHS Spring Music Concert
- May 28th at 7pm: HHS Drama Play
- May 31st: Baccalaureate
- May 31st: 6th grade orientation

Other important notes for Heppner Jr/Sr High School:

- We are wrapping up jr/sr high school 05-06 class scheduling. I am pleased to announce that with "creative" class scheduling and dedicated and willing teachers, we have opened up 6 new general elective classes for jr high and high school students (jh reading instruction, high school Daily Living, high school World Cultures, History of Filmmaking, Hospitality and Tourism, and Astronomy), while maintaining a rigorous high school honors/AP program of 5 different approved courses. We have created a new FBLA(Future Business Leaders of America) club program for interested students, and maintain to offer our BMCC dual credit courses through our 2 approved PTE programs.
- Our feedback from college-bound seniors has been wonderful. In it's second year of operation, our college counseling elective class for seniors continues to "pay off" both in scholarships received, successful student acceptance rates, and improved SAT scores. Mr. Dowdy continues to do an outstanding job in this area.
- All board members and their spouses are invited to our 3rd annual Community Celebration of Excellence. Pulling off this event takes an incredible amount of planning, preparation, and resources. Without dedicated Site Council Members, this simply wouldn't be possible. Come join us for an evening of food, entertainment, and applause for our outstanding students!

Daye A. Stone

Heppner Elementary School Assistant Principal's Report

Heppner Elementary School

- District math contest was a big success and was well attended.
- High Five Club is going strong and we are experiencing tremendous enthusiasm from our students for this program.
- Fifth grade field trip went extremely well.
- Facilities are looking good and our new Facilities Coordinator is working hard on the grounds.
- We held our 3rd quarter MANE Event and we had over 50% of our students receive an award.
- Accelerated Reader is going extremely well, and nearly 90% of our students met their 3rd quarter goal.
- Spring testing window is open and our early testing is going smoothly.
- Outdoor school is coming up and our 6th grade students and staff have been working on this and are excited for the opportunity.
- We are working extremely hard in putting together some training to ease the transition of implementing Reading Mastery for next year- K-2.
- Overall, our school is doing very well and working on meeting the needs of our kids. Our teachers and support staff are working hard, and our students are responding positively.

SBE & WRE May Reports

May is a great time of year. The weather is feeling very 'summer like' and activities outside are in full swing. At SBE we are looking forward to our end of the year activities as well. Our students K-4 will have the opportunity to go to the Hermiston aquatic center at the end of this month. K-2 will go on the 24th of May and 3-4 will be there on the 25th.

The 17th of May will host our 2nd annual school BBQ. I will be flipping burgers again this year and hope all parents can come and enjoy a BBQ picnic with their child during their lunch times. An adult lunch costs \$2.50 and we will send a schedule home of when your child has lunch. The evening of the 19th at 6:30 SBE and Mrs. Appleton will put on our spring concert. This concert will be a treat. Mrs. Appleton has incorporated a lot of dancing and movement into the performance. I hope everyone can take some time and attend the concert.

May 12th from 6:30-8:00 will be our 2nd annual 'books and blankets' family reading night. This is a great time to come with a comfy blanket and your favorite stuffed animal and read with you child. We will have a story around the campfire and maybe even a tent or two to read in. Hope to see you there.

Have a great end of school and a safe summer break. See you in the fall!

School Board Meeting RHS Principal Report

FOURTH QUARTER PROGRESS REPORTS

Fourth Quarter Progress Reports will be mailed home the first week of May. Conferences will be held at Riverside from 4:00-8:00 on Tuesday, May 10th.

DATES OF INTEREST

May 5 th	Jr High Nite O Fun
May 11 th	Jr High Science Field Trip Jr High & Sr High Assemblies—Guest Speaker Community Gang Information Workshop @ RHS @ 7:00 p.m.
May 12 th	Riverside Spring Concert @ 7:00 p.m.
May 17 th	Night Of Excellence @ 7:00 p.m.
May 18 th	Junior-Senior Class Picnic
May 23	Jr High Field Trip to Aquatic Center Booster Club Meeting @ RHS for JR High & SR High Parents @ 6:00 p.m.
May 26 th	Last Day For Seniors
June 1 st	Baccalaureate @ 7:00 @ Community Church in Irrigon
June 2 nd	Spring Sports Awards @ 6:30
June 5 th	Riverside Graduation @ 2:00
June 6 th	Jr High 4 th Qtr Perfect Attendance In-House Movie
June 8 th	Jr High Awards Assembly
June 9 th	Jr High Spring Fling Dance
June 13-15	Pirate Basketball Camp
June 16-18	Pirate Wrestling Camp

GUEST SPEAKER

Jesus Villahermosa, Jr. will be a guest speaker at Riverside on May 11th. He will speak to both junior and senior high school students in separate morning assemblies. Mr. Villahermosa has addressed students from all over the country in motivational assemblies regarding choices, consequences and respect. At 7:00 that same evening, parents and community members are invited to attend a Gang Information Workshop with Mr. Villahermosa as the guest speaker. District staff will attend an inservice on May 13th on gangs, breaking up fights, use of force issues and campus intruders.

CYCLE OREGON

This September 9, 10, 11 Cycle Oregon will visit Boardman. They chose Boardman as the site to kick-off the 18th year of their ride. Every fall 2,000 cyclists from around the world and 48 states meet to spend a week on a riding tour of the rural areas of Oregon. They will ride almost 500 miles during their week and eventually end up in Astoria. Cycle Oregon is very organized and prepared. They bring their own tents, tables, chairs, showers, kitchens, stage, and various other support services and people. Along with the cyclists travel another 2,000 friends, family, and support personnel who will temporarily call Boardman "home." To pull off the logistical challenge of making a small tent city to accommodate everyone, they need a well-organized group to help. Because of this need, the chamber has asked Riverside to help organize and provide a labor force to pull it off. We are now in the planning phase and lots of involvement from most clubs, groups, and sports. It should be a great time.

MARCH STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

7TH Grader—Tanner Wightman
8th Grader—Juan Rodriguez
Fr—Leticia Rodriguez
So—Ciera Lucas
Jr—Ruben Mendoza
Sr—Brandon McGill