

## Principal & Director Reports

### May 2008

#### A.C. Houghton Elementary

We are entering the final assessment period of the year. What follows was a report that I made to staff on our current status. You can see that we keep very close track of results and provide feedback to students and staff so that our efforts are focused where they are needed. It is critical that we celebrate successes as noted and focus where we still can make some gains.

#### **School-wide Planning Update**

This is an update of our current assessment status for reading math and writing. In the last week in May, we will be creating an update draft of our school-wide plan based on final assessment figures and survey information.

Writing	M	C	D
0607-Third-Grade Students Who Met or Almost Met-	76%	17%	5%
0708-Third-Grade Students Who Met or Almost Met-	79%	20%	1%
0607-Fourth Grade Students Who Met or Almost Met -	50%	24%	26%
0708-Fourth Grade Students Who Met or Almost Met-	48%	32%	20%

#### **Math**

Third-grade-0607-61% passed math benchmarks by the final testing

Third-grade-0708-

Second testing produced results at approximately the 61% level and we are poised to beat last year by 10 plus points, possibly more.

Fourth grade math-results were approximately the same as third-grade, with some possibility of beating last year by the same margins

#### **Reading**

Results for our third and fourth grade, with the new higher benchmarks, are looking like they will be about the same as the past years great scores, in the mid-80 percentile range. There it is some potential to gain a few percentage points.

### **Bear Day/Night**

Bear Day and Night will be 5/15. This is the annual celebration of reading success in our school. The younger grades stay after school, do crafts and receive prizes for their efforts. The older grades stay overnight doing the same thing with some extra late activities. The highlight of both times is running in the halls which is not unlike the running of the Bulls.

### **Self Manager Swim**

In previous years, the end of the year Self Manager activity has been roller skating. This year we are going to try a swim activity at the Hermiston Aquatic Center. We hope it is warm.

Swim dates are May 19 plus 20

### **Spring Concerts**

The following is the schedule for our spring concerts. They begin at 7 p.m.

5/13-prekindergarten-first-grade

5/22-grades 2-4

### **Heppner Elementary School**

It is once again a privilege to report the recent happenings of Heppner Elementary School. It is hard to believe that May has already arrived; our enrollment at HES is 194 students which is the same as it was for the April report. Our current attendance percentage for the 2007/2008 school year is 95.8%. This is slightly up again from last month and can be attributed to the "Be At School, Be A Winner" contest which began February 19th. Any HES student with perfect attendance from February 19<sup>th</sup> through June 5<sup>th</sup> will be entered into a drawing for great prizes to be given away at our end of the year assembly on June 5<sup>th</sup>. As of today we have 82 students still in the running for an award and as always we continue to promote the importance of regular attendance to the students and parents of Heppner Elementary School. HES also finished the second round of TESA/OAKS Testing this past month and I am happy to report that most of our students have met or exceeded the benchmark for their grade level. We are working hard to get the few remaining HES Students over the benchmark hump, for the third and final round of testing this month.

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 10<sup>th</sup> where 82 HES students received Honor Cards and Certificates for the third quarter. Heppner Elementary Students were also treated to a Band/Music performance by Mr. Lindsay's High School Band/Music Classes on April 30<sup>th</sup>. We also held conferences on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> and I received many positive remarks from HES Teachers and from some of the families who attended.

With the fourth quarter well under way we are rapidly approaching the end of the school year. Our 30 sixth grade students headed for the hills today for Tupper Outdoor School, and several other classes will be going on field trips later this month. Other noteworthy events which will be taking place during the month of May include a Kindergarten Round-Up on the 14<sup>th</sup>, A "Hampstead Players" Theatrical Production on May 19<sup>th</sup>, the HES Spring Concert on the 27<sup>th</sup>, and HES Field Day on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

I would like to end this month's report by again thanking each of you for your support of Heppner Elementary School, and for your commitment to all students of the Morrow County School District.

### **Heppner High School**

- Mrs. Dickenson and her FFA cohorts held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual FFA Awards Banquet this month. It was very well attended and Mrs. Dickenson had it very organized.
- Our new ASB Officers have been elected for next year. They are as follows-  
President- Sherilyn Peck  
Vice-President- Emily Thompson  
Secretary- Sarah Ballard  
Treasurer- Maggie Armato  
Assistant Treasurer- Lane Wright  
Publicity Director- Grant Smith  
Business Manager- Kaylee Helfrecht
- We held our annual GOAL Celebration with all of our seniors doing very well with their presentation- using a cross section of community members, students, and staff.
- Our students made their annual trek to the Tri-County Band festival where they participated and competed in an array of activities.
- Kristen from the Forrest Service brought a group of inter-agency personnel in to discuss their Career Camp with our junior class students. She and her team stopped by all three schools and put on a presentation, looking to gain interest. I have been talking with Kristen and her boss about changing the dates in the fall starting it on a Saturday and going through Wednesday instead of Wednesday through Saturday. This will enable more kids to apply due to late week conflicts with other extra-curricular activities. Sounds like it will be a go for next year and we are looking forward to this opportunity for all Morrow County School District students.
- Our annual Shop Skills and Technology Student Association competition was held at BMCC this month. HHS was well represented at this event and it was fun to see the success of so many that participated.
- Our spring play, Pillow Talk, a comedy- was a good one involving many students. Our drama program works hard on their spring production and it showed as they put on three performances.
- I have held numerous meetings with parents concerning our drug and alcohol free after graduation party for seniors. Our parents and myself have worked very hard on pulling this event off, and it should be great fun. It runs from 7pm until 5am.

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Mustang Mop Up was held on May 1<sup>st</sup>. It was a huge hit again where our students accomplished more than 57 civic service

### **Irrigon Elementary School**

**IES Safety Committee-** I would like to thank our safety committee that has met every month to discuss safety needs at IES. The members are Grace Sandlin, Dee Hamilton, Rachel Luke and I. We have worked hard to make IES safe, accident safe, so that everything that happens is safe for staff and students. They are a group of people who care, and who have given time to show this commitment.

**IES Parent Teacher Organization-** This group of parents has met throughout the year to raise funds for IES needs, and to provide refreshments for IES parent events. The members are Mr. Robles, Mrs. Maria Romero, Mrs. April Linnell, Mrs. Carrie Kaneaster and Mrs. Brenda Newport. These parents have shown dedication and support as a caring group of parents here at IES. I thank them for their commitment and dedication.

**IES Family Education Night-** I would like to thank the parent/ patron volunteers who have made this program a success for the last three years. Mrs. Laura Torres, the director; Timothy Helberg, Marilyn Helberg, Victoria Rivera, Maria Romero, and Kelly Writh have volunteered many hours of their time to teach ESL, U.S. Citizenship, Computer Literacy, and Child Care. I would also like to thank the Irrigon High School students, about 10 to 12 students who would come to volunteer to work helping adult teachers, helping children with homework, games, crafts and other things.

**IES Leadership Team-** I would like to also especially thank a team of teachers and classified that I brought together, like a President's Cabinet, to help me think through ideas and suggestions to make IES a better school. Those people are: Ms. Laura Rowe, Mr. Fred Long, Mrs. Karli Cook, and Mrs. Angel Younger. They have been there to help me and give me sound council when I needed the best decision possible.

**IES Site Council-** I would also like for the Board to recognize our Site Council. They have helped me implement the past 2007-2008 School Action Plan. They have learned to trust me and one another. This group has taken their responsibility well, and they are now helping me work on the changes of our new 2008-2009 IES School Action Plan. They are: Mr. Paul Sherman, Mrs. Melissa Hocker, Mrs. Rachel Luke, Mrs. April Linnell, and Mrs. Brenda Newport. They are a good group of parents, and staff that understand our school's needs and the district goals.

**IES After-School & Before School Programs-** I would also like to recognize the staff who have taken on a little bit more before or after the school program to help students more in Math, Reading or homework. These people are: Mrs. Rachel Luke, Mrs. Yvonne De Los Santos, Ed Clark, Paul Sherman, and Jenny Chavez. I thank them all.

### **Irrigon High School**

#### **Hosting District Track Meet**

30 plus volunteers later the Irrigon High Track team hosted the district track meet on Friday. We would like to thank all of the volunteers. They raked, measured, used a stop watch, and anything else they could do to make the track meet a success. Results will be in over before the board meeting starts so we should be able to update everyone on how the area team performed.

#### **Salem Trip**

On April 30<sup>th</sup>, 30 students and 4 adults traveled to Salem for the annual Senior Government Trip. The day started at Willamette University for lunch and a tour of the facilities. Students were able to investigate academic buildings as well as half of them observed the current art on display at the University Museum. Students then met with the Capitol tour guide and learned about State history as well as the numerous symbolism that are everywhere in the Capitol. Students walked to the top of the Capitol and learned about the history of the Golden Man at the top. The trip ended with the students at the State Supreme Court building and learning about the third branch of government. All in all it was a great trip and the students were able to come away with a real hands on learning experience.

### **Graduation Plans**

Irrigon's graduation will be on Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Seniors have planned every aspect from decorations to their guest speaker. State Representative Greg Smith of Heppner will be the Class Speaker along with Elise Ross, Valedictorian, Laura Montes, Salutatorian and Davis Gordanier, Class President. There will be 48 graduation seniors and we look forward to announcing a huge number for the amount of scholarships that they have earned.

### **Best of I.H.S.**

On the night of May 22<sup>nd</sup> we will be holding the second annual Best of I.H.S. It is a night showcasing our clubs and activities. The Drama Club, Band, Choir, Art students, computer students, and Spanish students will take part in an evening of recognition and entertainment. The Jazz Band and the choir will be performing.

### **Knights Klean-up Day**

On Thursday May 1<sup>st</sup> IJSHS held its second annual Knight Klean-Up Day. Advisory classes were spread out all over Irrigon performing community service. Over half the classes were involved in pulling weeds, mowing grass, and other general yard cleaning at individual houses, the marina, and local businesses. A couple of classes held fund raisers which raised over \$500 for the Irrigon library while yet another one held a can food drive with the donations given to the local fire department. Finally, we had two groups do some painting here at IJSHS and are happy to report there is no more 'Columbia Blue' on the west end of the building!

### **Morrow Education Center**

Once again, it is a privilege to report the recent happenings of the Morrow Education Center. Mr. Melville 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 104, which is approximately 15 more students than were enrolled at MEC this time last year. As a result of the warmer weather the students are anxiously anticipating the end of the school year. I am proud to announce we will again be having our graduation ceremony at the Irrigon Elementary School on May 29th 2008 at 7:00pm, and hope that you are all able to attend. We are anticipating 23 to 26 graduates from the MEC program this year.

This has been an outstanding year at MEC. We have achieved many goals the staff had set out to reach—including opening our doors to help from community resources. To their credit; the community has responded with great enthusiasm. We now have a tutor on Wednesday afternoons thanks to Blue Mountain Community College, many of our students have been connected with the "Offender" grant through CAPCO, Morrow County Juvenile Department has worked side by side with us to offer Job Shadow experiences for seniors, Morrow County Health department are providing needed assistance to our pregnant/parenting teens, and many of our students have been connected with branches of the military service through their recruitment efforts.

Dave 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.

### **Riverside High School**

#### **Career/College Representatives Visit RHS**

On Tuesday, April 29, 2008, Mr. Dennis Williamson of the Electrical Workers, Local union 112 from the Tri-Cities met with juniors and seniors about apprenticeship programs and how a craftsman can become a skilled journeyman. Mr. Williamson represents the Joint Apprenticeship and Training Program and offered students information about how to receive training in his trade as well as others.

Kelly Nielsen, a representative from the Art Institutes, was here on Wednesday, April 30th and spoke to high school art classes and the advanced art students. She discussed an alternative schooling in the art field, in which students who are interested in art have the potential of earning a bachelor's degree in 3 years. Ninety percent of the students that graduated from the Art institute last year are already working in their field of study. The goal of the school is for each student to build a working portfolio and find a job in their field of interest. The areas of study are Design, Media arts, Fashion, and Culinary arts. These studies are known as applied arts vs. the normal fine arts that you would typically find at a 4 year university. This type of schooling seems like a great way to get intensive study in the art field and get into the work field as quickly as possible.

A representative from UTI (Universal Technical Institute) will meet with students in grades 9-12 on Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>.

#### **ASB & Club Activities**

TSA Club recently attended a regional competition to compete in the technology problem solving and co2 Dragster design and race. We had a great deal of success in the co2 dragsters bringing home third place again. Eight of our ten cars made the top twenty. Students involved: Bryce Dohrtey, Nick Armstrong, Chace Simpson, Harley Orcutt, Chris Benson, Fernando Castenada, Rickey Trim, Ashley Town, Cody Connell, Tanner Wightman. More info on final placing should be available soon.

The Key Club held their Charter Party on the 24th, sponsored by the Kiwanis, at the Port of Morrow. Pizza, salad, cake, pop & punch were served. NHS provided the servers.

RHS Leadership Class is sponsoring Leukemia Awareness Day on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Students and staff are encouraged to wear orange to show support of Leukemia awareness.

#### **Riverside Music Spring 2008**

As always, the Riverside Music Department is a busy place. Both the high school and the junior high bands have attended annual Tri-County Band Festivals. The festival for high school students was held at Athena-Weston High School so we got a taste of bagpipes. The junior high festival was held in Arlington. Only through music is it possible for over 200 students to meet and participate at a high level and **all** come away winners.

Upcoming music events include: RHS Annual Spring Concert May 15<sup>th</sup> at the RL Bateman Auditorium; "Music in May Festival" held at Silverwood Theme Park (we placed 2<sup>nd</sup> at this event last year); visiting and performing at local nursing homes and the Boardman Senior Center; the band will be performing at graduation as always.

## **Windy River Elementary**

### **Boardman Clean Up**

On April 28th Windy River Elementary participated in a Community Clean up. Our students and staff spent an hour cleaning up the school grounds and the property across the street. They did a wonderful job helping to make Boardman a more beautiful place to live and work and we want to thank them for a job well done!



### **April Students of the Month**

<b>April</b>	<b>Academics</b>	<b>Academics</b>	<b>Theme - Fairness</b>
Beagle	Jose Amaya	Juan Olguin	Ruth Waagan
Boor	Bryant Cardenas	Sam Hibbits	Aracelli Ibarra
Browne	Jessica Maya	Clay Miller	Diego Pacheco
Chapman	Stephen Groce	Arturo Flores	Ariana Corpus
Cox	Mario Sepulveda	Francisco Vealzquez	Omar Barrera
Dames	Marcelo Rea	Ryan Hahn	Paige Esterbloom
Gaede	Consuelo Llamas	Jonathan Lopez	Carmen Puerta
Keefer	Julissa Sanchez	Emily Medina	Wenceslao Olvera
Strebin	Taylor Kress	Juan Rodriguez	Monica Madrigal



### **Classroom Attendance Award Winners for the Month of April:**

March 31<sup>st</sup>-April 03: Mrs. Strebin with 99%

April 07-April 10: Mrs. Cox with 99%

April 14<sup>th</sup>-April 17<sup>th</sup>: Mrs. Strebin with 98%

April 21<sup>st</sup>-April 24<sup>th</sup>: Mr. Keefer with 99%

April 28<sup>th</sup>-May 01<sup>st</sup>: Mrs. Cox with 99%

### **Monthly Attendance Award Winner for April:**

*Mrs. Strebin with an average of 98% attendance. Great Job!!!*

### **Writing Festival**

On April 17<sup>th</sup> we had our annual writing festival. Irrigon Elementary and Heppner Elementary both came over with their 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to participate in this fun and enriching event. Our story teller this year was Deborah Hopkinson. She has written numerous books on historical events that has a fictional twist to them. She was impressed that we were taking the time to foster such creativity in our students. She said that many of the schools that she is in are so focused on testing that the students have no outlet for creativity. She liked hearing about different lesson plans and activities and mentioned that in some buildings that she is in, it is so extreme that every classroom in the district must be on the same story, on the same page, of the same basal every day! Congratulations to the staff at WRE, IES and HES for taking the time to participate.



### **Math Contest**

Windy River Elementary Schools top seven math students from each grade competed at the Morrow County Math Contest on April 17, 2008 at Heppner High School bringing home the first place plaque for both fourth and sixth grades. Participants from Windy River include:

Fourth Grade – Rory Barresse, Wayne Killion, Ryan Ibarra, Jose Agripino ,Kristin Frederickson, Edith Velasco, Ryan Hahn

Fifth Grade – Teneisha Peterson, Antonio Munoz, Bianca Barajas, Sierra Koehler, Sam Gilbert, Hans Rockwell, Aaron Lester

Sixth Grade – Sarah Bose, Avika Sharma, Kelsey Caudron, Joe Amaral, Arik Corpus, Margo Calvillo,

Placings in the contest were:

4th Grade: Rory Barresse - 1<sup>st</sup>, Ryan Ibarra - 3<sup>rd</sup>, Kristen Frederickson - 4<sup>th</sup>, Edith Velasco - 6<sup>th</sup>, Jose Agripino - 7<sup>th</sup>, Ryan Hahn - 10<sup>th</sup>

5th Grade: Cade Antonio Muniz and Teneisha Peterson - 9<sup>th</sup>, Hans Rockwell and Sierra Koehler - 10<sup>th</sup>



6th Grade: Avika Sharma - 1<sup>st</sup>, Kelsey Caudron - 3<sup>rd</sup>, Sarah Bose - 4<sup>th</sup>, Arik Corpus - 6<sup>th</sup>, Margo Calvillo - 7<sup>th</sup>, Joe Amaral - 10<sup>th</sup>

### Spring Concert

**Islands around the world**, was a great success. The forth and fifth graders did very well singing in Japanese, Chinese, Cuban, Porto Rican, and singing in syncopated rhythms. The sixth did a fine job playing Louie, Louie and Band room Boogie from sheet music. The treats after the concert were received well by parents and children. Overall community involvement has been up this year for concert events and I want to thank you Boardman for your support and trust.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Watershed Field Trip

This is an annual event for 5<sup>th</sup> grades put on by the ESD and OSU extension office. It is an all day activity letting students participate in many science activities. It was held in Lexington this year and our students came back with a greater understanding on how water affects their lives.

### Jog-A-Thon

On Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, Windy River Elementary students participated in their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual jog-a-thon. This was a celebration of National Physical Fitness week to excite students about healthy activities and exercise. Students and teachers also held health related classes all day and had a special presentation on hydration from the OSU extension office, Family Nutrition program. They also provided water bottles and pedometers to all students. In addition students collected pledges on their lap running as a fundraiser for special programs and fieldtrips.



### Sam Boardman Elementary Students of the Month for April

	Academics	Respect	Responsibilit y	Safety	Attendance
Kinder	Lilian Solis Sebastian Sanchez Juan Fraustro	Jocelyn Rodriguez Dasiy Maddox Samantha Spence	Jason Daltoso Nyssa Muniz Sarah Calvillo	Davi Sharma Neri Munoz Delmy Barrera	97% Bigham
K/1 <sup>st</sup>	David Araiza Kelly Ashe Isiah Hart-Powers	Alexis Cambero Brandon Madrigal Christian Dominguez	Jasen Lester Destanee Battaglia Johana Sepulveda	Ashley Price Seth Nunamaker Aurora Garcia	100% Christy

1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	Adelfo Sanchez Anthony Carillo Oscar Lopez	Micah Mossman Christopher Stanger Zac McDonough	Jared Miller Jerry Ruiz Jose Sanchez	Tiffany Akers Ana Navarro Gabe Harper	97% Ogden/Harjo
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Yonathon Flores Fabian Meza Skylar Wightman Yonatan Flores	Sterling Bither Eric Pacheco Abigail Hernandez Sterling Bither	Courtnei Trowbridge Martin Chavez-Urena Luis Olvera Courtnei Trowbridge	Odalys Ibarra Alicia Calvillo Andy Melendez Odalys Ibarra	97% McClenahan
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	Kirsten Taylor Edgar Guzman Kara Heiple Jorge Garcia	Katie Gilbert Donovan Carmack Leslie Guardado Yaniva Garcia	Carlos Hernandez Rosy Olvera Alex Madrigal Marino Pena	Abram Hernandez Katelyn Bass Natasha Lester Phillip McDonough	97% Raible

**Spring Concert:** Over 150 parents enjoyed our Spring Concert. The performance included singing, dancing, guitar and fiddle. Migrant preschool children sang songs in English and Spanish. Pictured here the grand finale, "This Land is Your Land, This Land is My Land."



is

**Summer School:** Registration for Benchmark and Migrant Summer School has already begun. Summer school starts on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Bank of Eastern Oregon:**

Classroom presentations to encourage lifelong saving were given by Julie Gisi and Ciltali Mendoza Pacheco. Each student received a piggy bank.

**Kindergarten Roundup:** Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup> is Kindergarten Roundup. Parents have already scheduled their appointments. Teachers are introduced to students through fun lesson activities. Parents complete registration forms and learn from kindergarten teachers expectations for the coming year.



**Artist in Residence:** Students took pleasure in water color lessons and learned much about technique from artist Paul Hoelscher from Baker City. Students are encouraged to continue their exploration with water colors using pirate and ship designs created by Mr. Hoelscher for SBE.

**Professional Development:** Teachers dug deeper into their math Power Standards by unwrapping the big ideas behind each standard. They worked together to identify higher order thinking

skills and lessons in the curriculum which best addressed the standard.

**Teacher Appreciation Week:** Classified staff is celebrates teachers with a week of "Racing to the Finish Line!" Monday they rev up their day with a warm breakfast, Tuesday teachers are encouraged to make a pit stop for a delicious snacks, Wednesday they will be treated to a Tailgate Lunch and on Thursday, they Cross the Finish Line with a Trophy Cake.

**OAKS and MAPS:** Students and teachers have worked very hard and are expecting test results to celebrate their efforts. All students will be tested the first two weeks of May beginning with Third grade OAKS.

**Student Trips Scheduled in May:** SBE choir will present at Heppner Elementary School on May 6<sup>th</sup>. SBE Student Council members will visit a Council meeting at RHS. Water safety will be presented by ESL teacher Clara Baes Fitzgerald followed by swimming in Hermiston for K-1 and swimming in Pendleton for 2-3 grades. K/1 will make a farm visit to culminate their math unit. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade to The Dalles to visit the Oregon Trail Museum. 2<sup>nd</sup> grade will visit museums and the refuge in Pendleton.

**Please Join Us:** Please join us for The American Dream Pageant on May 23<sup>rd</sup> with two performances, 3:00pm and 7:00pm. You are also invited to our annual Community BBQ on Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. Serving begins at 11:00.