



# MANZANITA ELEMENTARY

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Jessica Durrant, Principal Ronda vanlandingham, Office Manager

November 3, 2011

Dear Mr. Huber-Kantola and Three Rivers School District Board Members,

As the first trimester draws to a close, I am amazed and in awe at the wonderful opportunities Manzanita students and staff have experienced thus far this school year. We truly are an “Outstanding” school! We are all very thankful to the board for allocating resources to hire two additional teachers. Not only are the students thriving, the teachers and assistants are able to focus on curriculum rather than management. Manzanita is in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of fully implementing a PBIS program for students and staff. Our PBIS team meets regularly to review discipline data and plan fun, exciting activities for students to earn for great behavior. September 23<sup>rd</sup> staff development day was very productive and meaningful for the staff. Teachers participated in technology training and then the entire staff met together to review/revise the School Improvement Plan. All staff also received training on SMART goals and how to effectively write a goal for the school year. We are eager to meet again as a whole staff to further develop the sense of community. Every teacher at Manzanita is scheduled to participate in a collaborative group focused on a variety of topics, ranging from technology to science curriculum. Our staff is dynamite and is working very well together!

Below is a snapshot list of events that have occurred so far this trimester. I am so proud of the accomplishments and energy that this list represents. We have had a great start to the school year and I am excited for the experiences our students will have the rest of the school year.

## September –

- Open House with BBQ Dinner and dessert for all families
- Field Trips to Crater Lake
- Jog-A-Thon fundraiser - students raised money for classroom technology and PBIS

## October –

- Music classes started – 30 min/week for each student at Manzanita!
- 4<sup>th</sup> grade field trip to Science Works, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade to Big Cats Park in Cave Junction
- Manzanita Halloween Parade with classroom parties
- Conferences -
- Kindergarten went to Ft. Vannoy Farms
- Students who raised over \$175.00 for the Jog-a-thon were treated to a “Fabulous Fun Friday” of staying the night at school, breaking all the school rules, pizza for dinner, a trip to Urban Monkey and then to Dairy Queen.

I know 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester will bring additional activities and happenings at Manzanita.

You are always welcome to any of Manzanita’s events and I look forward to seeing you soon!

*Jessica Durrant*