

# Administration Reports

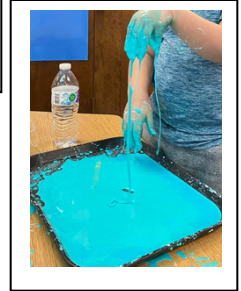
## April 2021

### Sam Boardman Elementary

We had another S.T.E.A.M. day March 12th at Sam Boardman that teachers alike enjoyed all the activities immensely! The 2020-2021 very challenging, so it's great our S.T.E.A.M. Fridays have been such a Kindergarten (Chemistry): Young learners explored chemical reactions toothpaste and properties of matter by making Ooblek. It was a favorite activity of the day, and just a tad bit messy! 1<sup>st</sup> grade (Health): With a focus on health, 1<sup>st</sup> graders focused on mental health creating stress balls from balloons and water beads, the students are still using the stress balls as focus fidgets. 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade (Art): Using different mediums 2<sup>nd</sup> graders explored art through painting, clay, and yarn creations. The 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students enjoyed being able to express themselves through their art projects. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade (science/health): The team really rolled up their sleeves and did some hands-on learning about their health by studying the cardiovascular system, building on last S.T.E.A.M. day when they learned about veins and arteries. The teachers brought in actual pig hearts for the student to study, and the brave ones even examined and held them! A few students are aspiring to be doctors someday from this activity. This was also a great activity as we just completed our jump rope for heart fundraiser with the American Heart Association. Our amazing SBE students raised over \$5,000 to help with research and to assist children born with heart problems and defects. Mr. Volpi, our new PE teacher, challenged the students to raise more than in the past by promising dying his beard (it was purple) and also being willing to be pied in the face by the top fundraisers. I encourage you to go on FB to watch the video, it's very entertaining and tied in so well with our S.T.E.A.M. activities!



students and school year has been bright spot! with Elephant



We completed our parent/teacher conferences with Google Meets, or by phone last week, April 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. I am happy to report we had one of the best turnouts to date; there are only a few parents to follow-up with this coming week. We may have a new way to ensure 100% conference results with a couple other options we would not have considered pre-Covid!

I will conclude with the best news of all, we have our students in the building from 8:00am-3:00pm! With lots of hard work, diligence with sanitizing, mask wearing and social distancing we proved that school can be held safely. We also are able to transport more students on our bus routes. The drop-off/pick-up procedures at SBE are just shy of miraculous as we now have had as many as 310 students attending SBE daily. It makes for a very busy parking lot to bring in and disperse that many students ... the staff works very hard to make sure it's safe and efficient. I appreciate them, the bus drivers, and the patient parents so much! Thank you also for your support and funding for our new drive loop, it has ensured we could increase our numbers more safely. Happy Spring from SBE!

### Windy River Elementary

This month's board report is based on the expansion of the school hours starting after Spring Break 2021. As stated in the March report, Morrow County is extending the school day until 3:00pm. The staff and students at Windy River are excited for this change. The feeling of normalcy is starting to return. Students and staff have been working diligently in a challenging setting. Now with this extended time we feel that we will have sufficient time for our students to achieve and grow that much more. Families who choose to remain in a virtual mode of learning will transition to having a specific distance learning teacher. As we stated in March, "This will allow teachers to focus on face-to-face instruction and the health and safety of students while at school for an extended time. And it will allow the students online to have the undivided focus of a teacher as well." In adhering to state recommendations with our new extended schedule, teachers will have greater flexibility of better meeting the needs of all students. Our special education and English learner programs will be able to better modify their schedules while meeting with students. Small groups and meeting times are being scheduled. Although there is now much greater flexibility with student schedules, we will still continue abiding by all safety protocols. For example, transitions within grade levels for different larger groups will not happen yet.

On March 12th we organized the STEAM Day at Windy River. We had about half of our students attend. The best part of the day was seeing the positive student engagement in each class. Students in 4<sup>th</sup> grade learned about engineering and forces. They built sail cars, straw structures, and parachutes. Students in 5<sup>th</sup> grade were able to build a tin can robot. Afterwards they watched as their robots raced against other robots. They also were able to practice coding. The 6<sup>th</sup> graders built a color-coded number chain from pi, practiced pastel art, worked with fractions in recipes, and dissected owl pellets.

### **Riverside Jr/Sr High School**

We are excited at the opportunity to open our schools to full day in-person instruction beginning on April 12th. Below is information that we have sent out to the community regarding the changes for school at Riverside as of the 12th.

While we were on Spring Break, Oregon Health Authority and the Oregon Department of Education made some adjustments to the guidelines for schools to follow. With the changes to the guidelines, along with Morrow County being in the Lower Risk “green” we are able to make some significant changes to our educational setting for students.

Beginning on Monday April 12th, we will be opening the school to a full day of classes. When you review the schedule below, you will notice we are still going to have 4 periods of class each day. The new schedule will be in a block format allowing for 80 minutes per class period.

The most significant change that will start on Monday April 12th is that we will **NO LONGER** be offering Comprehensive Distance Learning. All students will transition to in person learning beginning on Monday April 12th. We have worked closely with Morrow County Public Health all year, and will continue to do so to provide a safe learning environment for all students and staff.

<b>Monday/Wednesday</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>		<b>Tuesday/Thursday</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>
<b>Student Arrival / Breakfast</b>	7:00am	7:25am		<b>Student Arrival / Breakfast</b>	7:00am	7:25am
<b>Period 1</b>	7:25am	8:45am		<b>Period 5</b>	7:25am	8:45am
<b>Period 2</b>	8:50am	10:10am		<b>Period 6</b>	8:50am	10:10am
<b>JH Lunch / HS Advisory Group Study Hall</b>	10:10am	10:42am		<b>JH Lunch / HS Advisory Group Study Hall</b>	10:10am	10:42am
<b>HS Lunch / JH Advisory Group Study Hall</b>	10:45am	11:17am		<b>HS Lunch / JH Advisory Group Study Hall</b>	10:45am	11:17am
<b>Period 3</b>	11:20am	12:40pm		<b>Period 7</b>	11:20am	12:40pm
<b>Period 4</b>	12:45pm	2:05pm		<b>Period 8</b>	12:45pm	2:05pm
<b>Tutorial</b>	2:05pm	3:00pm		<b>Tutorial</b>	2:05pm	3:00pm

March was a busy time at Riverside with many exciting activities. We had a homecoming week during the week of March 8th-13th, during the week we had spirit dress up days, recognized a prince and princess from each class, and crowned a king and queen at the football game. We also had our 2nd STEAM Day with many engaging and fun activities

for our students to participate. Lastly, we hosted our yearly Kid Wind Challenge. We had student from Riverside and Heppner compete in the challenge this year, this has become an activity that our student body looks forward to competing in on a yearly basis.



**A.C. Houghton Elementary**

AC Houghton Attendance:

Monday, March 29th	186 students present	205 enrolled	91% attendance
Tuesday, March 30th	196 students present	207 enrolled	95% attendance

A.C. Houghton Elementary School students began attending from 8:15am - 3:00pm on Monday, March 29th. I am so proud of our students and what they bring to our school community: honesty, empathy, problem solving and courage. I see their acts of kindness throughout the day and our staff is very proud of them. This month we kicked off our Kids



Heart Challenge to raise money for the American Heart Association. Mrs. Osborne, our PE teacher, is facilitating this informative and fun event. If 100 students reach \$5 everyone gets a pajama day! The top 2 earners in our school will get to throw a pie in Mrs. Osborne and Mrs. Ewing's face!

Students at AC Houghton Elementary School participated in projects and activities on March 12th during our STEAM Fun Friday. Each grade level planned different Science and Art activities like making slime, painting rocks and planting vegetables.



Check out this amazing Battle of Books team from AC Houghton Elementary School! The champions were the Unicorn Team from Mrs. Arnold's class. We posted photos from our awards ceremony in each 3rd grade class on Facebook. It was really exciting to bring this competition to ACH and have 8 teams battle in our first year!

As we have once again modified our school day, this required master schedule changes, staff schedule changes and the ability to now offer in-person PE, Music and Library instruction to our students on a weekly rotating basis. It was a lot of work,



Monday was a little bumpy, but our students and staff are enjoying the added time together. Thank you.

### Irrigon Elementary School



We have SUCCESSFULLY completed our second STEAM Friday!! Our 4th grade students worked on projects based off of Outer Space. 5th grade constructed and learned about the human body using food products. Our 6th grade students were engineers for the day constructing an ultimate roller coaster. The day was filled with excitement and learning.

Parent Teacher Conferences will be March 30th, 4-8pm, April 1st, 4-8pm and April 2nd 7:30-11:30am. Conferences will be offered to all parents using a virtual platform of either google meets or phone call. It is great that we can start the last quarter of the 20-21 school year with almost all of our students in person.

We are ready to extend our school day until **3:00pm!**

All K-6 buildings have been open every day without needing to shut down a school due to exposure to the virus. We are now allowed to have 28 family groups of students on the bus at a time. This is a significant increase from the beginning of the year when we could only have 20 individuals on a bus at a time. Any bus route changes will be communicated on an individual basis from your school.



Thank you again for all of your support and positive words. We are lucky to have a community that has a focus on our students and their academic success.

### **Irrigon Jr/Sr High School**

Spring is in the air; the sun is out and the wind is blowing! But more importantly, big changes are coming! We are very excited that we are moving closer to “normal” at school and having all students back in the building for a full day. With the changes that ODE/OHA have implemented, we have been able to increase the capacity within the classroom that will allow all students to attend in-person full time. Students will be able to move classrooms throughout the day, while maintaining all safety protocols that are still required. We are very excited that our students and staff will get to interact together in-person, which is very crucial to student learning, as well as their social/emotional health. To help ensure that we are maintaining a safe environment, students and staff will still be wearing their masks while at school, drinking fountains are shut off (water bottle fill stations are available to use), and we have increased our cafeteria space by converting half of our gym into cafeteria space to maintain the 6-foot spacing still required for students. We will also continue tracking cohorts with cohort logs and seating charts, as well as continue visual screening of students throughout the day. We are also excited that we have been able to increase the number of spectators at events. We are now able to allow 50% capacity to indoor events and outdoor events! We are at the end of fall sports, and spring sports are beginning this week with baseball, softball, and track.

We also wanted to highlight our second STEAM day activities. We had over 80 students participate in our STEAM day activities, which included: Critical Thinking and Strategy through Chess, Movie Critique and Analysis, Meat Grinding, Cultural Art, Murder Mystery-Mr. Digit, Outdoor Cooking and Survival, Dessert Making, Spring Paper Crafts, and Rainbow Slime. One of my favorite parts of the STEAM day activities is observing the staff and students get excited about sharing these activities and having discussions with each other about what they want to do “next time”.

Now that we are in the final quarter of the year, it is crunch time for seniors. We have a lot of seniors that have worked very hard and can see the light at the end of the tunnel. For those that still need a little help our staff is working hard to provide them as many opportunities as possible to be successful and complete all needed requirements for graduation. We truly hope that with a return to in-person learning, we can help those seniors cross the finish line!

Go Knights!

### **Heppner Elementary**

Happy April! At HES we are ecstatic to have our kiddos all day. The best thing about it is the energy that students bring. Our days seem to fly by. Here is a list of things we have been able to add back with this expanded day.

- PE for all grades at least two times a week
- Music for all grades at least two times a week
- More time for intervention and individual support
- More time for hands on classwork
- Some collaboration with HJSHS students
- More time for Mrs. George to meet with more students
  - Small groups of students meeting for Social Emotional Learning

There are also more things on the horizon. Some of those things that we are planning for the coming days are as follows

- SPURS mentoring for 6-8 of our most at-risk students through collaboration with CCS and HJSHS
- A few spring field trips to places nearby that are open and have guidelines that accommodate groups
- Tupper outdoor school!
  - We are working within the RSSL guidelines to have day trips to some venues
  - Students are doing some work in class then following up with hands on in the field
- HES is preparing for statewide testing in the coming weeks.

Thank you for advocating to have our students in the classrooms. Though we are still in cohorts and adhering to guidelines there is a greater feeling of normalcy and we appreciate it.

## **Heppner Jr/Sr High School**

We are excited for the opportunity to open our secondary schools to full day in-person instruction beginning on Monday, April 12, 2021. Below is information that we sent out to our Heppner parents, students and community stakeholders regarding this exciting news.

During Spring Break, The Oregon Health Authority and the Oregon Department of Education made some adjustments to the guidelines for schools. With the changes to the guidelines, along with Morrow County being in the Lower Risk “green category” we are now able to make some significant changes to our educational setting for HJSHS students.

Beginning on Monday April 12th, we will be opening school to a full day schedule! You will notice we are still going to have 4 periods of classes each day. However, the new schedule will be in a block format allowing for 80 minutes per class period.

Time	Monday/Wednesday Periods 1 - 4. Tuesday/Thursday Periods 5 - 8.
7:45am - 8:05am	Breakfast
8:10am - 9:30am	1st / 5th
9:35am - 10:55am	2nd / 6th
11:00am - 11:40am	Lunch
11:40am - 1:00pm	3rd / 7th
1:05pm - 2:25pm	4th / 8th
2:30pm – 3:30pm	Tutorial Opportunities for students

**As we are NO LONGER** offering Comprehensive Distance Learning, All HJSHS students should now be attending HJSHS for in person learning. We have worked closely with Morrow County Public Health all year, and will continue to do so to provide a safe learning environment for our students and staff. As a reminder, students who are participating in athletic and extracurricular activities will be held accountable to regular attendance and eligibility requirements.

March was very busy at HJSHS with many athletic events and extracurricular activities. On March 12, we had our 2nd STEAM Day which included many engaging and fun activities for our students to participate in. I’ve included a link below to view a video from our HJSHS website highlighting the March 12<sup>th</sup> STEAM Day activities.

<https://hhs.morrow.k12.or.us/o/hhs/article/430910>

## **Management’s Discussion and Analysis**

### **MCSD – Maintenance & Facilities Update – April 2021**

The 2021-2022 Maintenance Budget has been submitted and building administrators have been notified about what has been approved for the 2021-22 school year. Our budgeting focus continues to be based on Safety, Extending Useful Life and Efficiencies/Cost Savings with an added emphasis on COVID and air quality.

We are requesting bids for the outdoor learning spaces at Irrigon Elementary and AC Houghton. These projects are part of their County STEAM (Windmill) Fund allocation.

Sam Boardman Elementary and Windy River Elementary have been approved by ODE to have their parking lots repaired and restriped which is part of the COVID relief funds that are available.

A fire panel will be replaced at Irrigon Jr-Sr High which was recommended by Johnson Controls.

We are continuing to work with Dave Fishel and Jose Aparicio from Wenaha Group on the next steps for the May 2022 Bond. Our Core Team is reviewing the draft plans and will schedule Committee Meetings by Community via Zoom in the next few weeks.

**Staff Incident/Accidents Report:**

Date	School	Incident
None		

**Financial Report Talking Points:**

1. We were able to save \$72,000 in General Fund expenditures by allocating a portion of several classified staff's salary & benefits to the Food Service fund, to account for the time they have spent helping with meal preparation and delivery.
2. The District received the March payment from the Morrow County Unified Rec District in the amount of \$274,250.

**MCSD Pension Obligation Bonds**

Milliman, the PERS actuary is considering recommending lowering the assumed earnings rate on PERS investments to the PERS Board. This recommendation has triggered a legal requirement to update the assessment for selling bonds and has delayed the process as EcoNorthwest, an economic consulting firm, recalculates the risk of issuing pension obligation bonds. If the sale of bonds is still viable, we will ask the Board to consider a formal resolution at the May Board meeting.