

Fruitdale Elementary School

Heather Yount -Principal Dianne Phelan-Office Manager

1560 Bill Baker Way
Grants Pass, Oregon 97527
Phone (541) 476-2276
Fax (541) 471-2447



February 27, 2013

Dear Board,

The second trimester is almost over. The Fruitdale Community has been hard at work. Please read below to see what we have been working on.

Family and Community Support

On February 12th, 2013 our PTO sponsored Fruitdale's Family Science Night. We invited several outside community organizations to provide a night full of hands-on science learning opportunities. The following activities occurred on campus:

- Science Works provided several engineering stations in gym.
- There was a chemistry station in which students made their very own worms.
- Wildlife Images brought several animals including birds and snakes.
- Bugs R Us provided a hands-on look at several creatures found in all parts of the United States.
- Grants Pass Astronomers Club came with a hands-on activity relating to meteorites as well as a giant telescope for our students to look into.
- We had a new addition to our Science Night! Oregon Caves brought a portable cave which filled our cafeteria. Our students had a blast exploring the various compartments.
- As another new addition, the Caterpillar Mobile Learning Laboratory was here for students to explore.
- The Rocks and Minerals Club brought a collection and set up an interactive station for our families.
- There were several other activities including snacks, raffles, as well as fun craft projects.

This was a fun-filled night which united the Fruitdale staff with students and their families.

I would like to thank Heather Richter, our PTO President for providing the vision for this outstanding family night at Fruitdale Elementary School.

PBIS

Fruitdale's PBIS program has continued to progress.

- We have participated in a second Panther Rodeo reteach behavioral expectations.
- We have taught several school-side lessons. The topics include revisiting expectations, playing games fairly, as well as bullying.
- Once a month we have a Panther Pride Assembly in which we recognize outstanding students who are safe, respectful, responsible, and positive.

Academics

Our strong system for Double Dosing our students in both reading and math has been enriched! We now provide an extra 30 minutes of leveled instruction in reading for all students. Students who are at or above grade level are provided reading enrichment at this time and students who are below grade level are working on the specific skills needed to promote success. We have also provided an enrichment program for our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students in math. Our teachers meet every four weeks to discuss progress monitoring results, plan curriculum, as well as discuss teaching strategies to specifically meet the needs of all of our students at every level. As the year has progressed, we have also developed a math double dose system for our first and second graders as well.

Our teachers are doing an incredible job identifying students with serious academic needs and working closely with our special education and title one specialist. The teamwork and professional collaboration on this campus is resulting in positive academic gains for all students.

These are just a few things to demonstrate what an outstanding school community Fruitdale Elementary School is. I contribute these gains to the dedicated staff at Fruitdale Elementary School. Every adult on this campus is supporting student learning. The teamwork here is next to none! I am proud to be a Fruitdale Panther.

I am looking forward to the third trimester.

Sincerely,

Heather Yount
Principal
Fruitdale Elementary School