

Administration Reports

April 2026

Sam Boardman Elementary

Sam Boardman Elementary continues to maintain a strong focus on student learning and meaningful educational experiences as we move through the final stretch of the school year. Our students and staff remain engaged in rigorous instruction while also participating in opportunities that bring learning to life beyond the classroom walls.

Our second grade students recently enjoyed a field trip to Fort Walla Walla Museum as an extension of their Westward Expansion unit in the Amplify curriculum. This experience provided students with the opportunity to connect classroom learning to real historical artifacts and hands-on experiences.

Second and third grade students either have participated in or are eagerly anticipating visits to the Think Big Space, where they engage in interactive STEAM-focused learning experiences. These opportunities continue to foster curiosity, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity in exciting and memorable ways.

Academically, students have begun completing their spring Curriculum Associates Diagnostic assessments, which provide valuable information regarding student growth and progress throughout the year. In addition, all students are participating in Acadience benchmark assessments to measure reading skill development in comparison to national norms. These assessment tools help our staff reflect on instructional practices, celebrate student growth, and plan meaningful support as needed.

Our third grade students are nearly finished with state testing, and ELPA testing has wrapped up as well. We are incredibly proud of the perseverance and effort students have demonstrated throughout the testing season. Staff have worked hard to create calm, encouraging environments where students feel confident and supported in doing their best.

As we head into the final weeks of school, excitement is also building for our upcoming spring concert. Students are preparing for the May 21st performance and look forward to showcasing their hard work and talents for families and our community.

We are also excited to welcome incoming Pre-K and Kindergarten students and families during our upcoming Kinder Roundup. This event is always a wonderful opportunity to begin building these relationships with the newest members of our school community and families.

As always, we appreciate the continued support of our families, staff, and community as we work together to support student success.

Windy River Elementary

4th Grade Field Trip Highlights

Our 4th graders recently had the opportunity to take a field trip to The Reach Museum and Middleton Farms, and it was an outstanding experience for all involved. At The Reach, students explored the geology of our region—content they had already been studying in class—so this hands-on experience really reinforced their learning in a meaningful (and fun) way. Middleton Farms was equally fantastic, offering rich exposure to biology and agriculture. With the tulip festival in full bloom, the setting was especially beautiful and made the trip even more memorable.

State Testing Schedule & Outlook

We are also entering an important academic stretch with state testing underway. Math testing begins the week of May 4th, followed by ELA during the week of May 11th, and then iReady diagnostics the week of May 18th. It's a busy time, but we are eager to see how our students perform on the OSAS and iReady assessments. Our students, staff, and yes—even this principal—have all been working incredibly hard to support teaching and learning. There's definitely a mix of excitement and nerves as we head into these weeks!

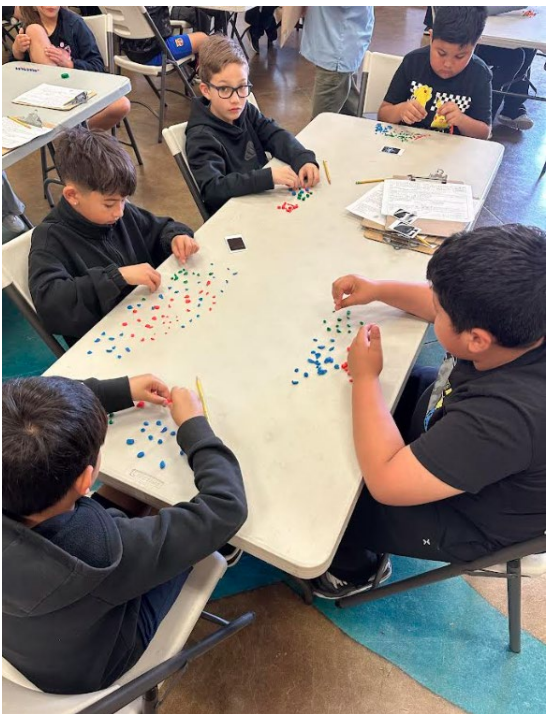
Spring Concert Preparation

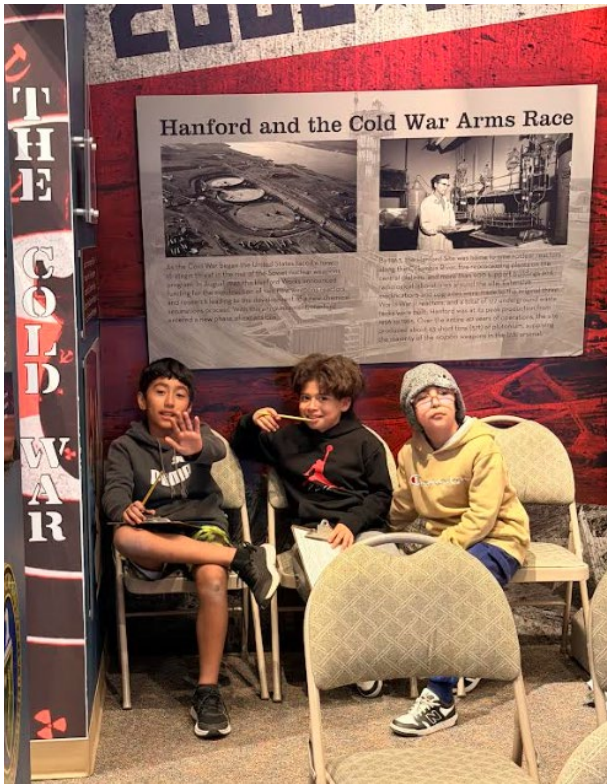
Preparations are in full swing for our Spring Concert on May 14th at 5:30 PM. Mr. Azuring and our students have been putting in a lot of effort, and it's really starting to show. The 6th grade bucket drum tradition is sounding fantastic, and other performances are coming together beautifully as well. I've even caught what sounds like a Coldplay song echoing from the music room on Tuesdays and Thursdays—it sounds amazing! We are all looking forward to a great evening of music.

Teacher Appreciation Week

Finally, we are kicking off Teacher Appreciation Week here at WRE. We are incredibly fortunate to have outstanding educators across MCSD, and from this principal's perspective, WRE teachers are truly the best around. They make it easy to celebrate them! If you see a teacher this week, please take a moment to thank them for all they do—our students benefit every day from their dedication and care.

MCSD School Board - Thank you for your continued support of MCSD and WRE!









PIRATE NATION NEWSLETTER

(541) 481-2525

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Student Spotlight

Adalia Chavez



Adalia is a senior this year and has competed in cheer, tennis, and wrestling. Adalia is also active in several clubs.

UPCOMING ATHLETIC EVENTS

 **Tennis Districts**
May 13th/14th
@ Hermiston

 **Baseball/Softball Senior Day**
May 15th
1PM/3PM
vs. Stanfield

 **Track Districts**
May 22nd/23rd
@ Nyssa



Athletic Spotlight

Ethan Beaty

Senior Ethan Beaty just finished his fourth year doing track long distance. He is grateful that he got the opportunity to be a part of the track team.

His sophomore year he set the record for the 1600 Meters as well as the SMR sprint medley relay.

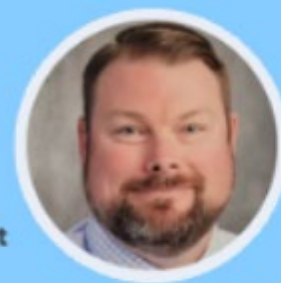
"My favorite memory is breaking a 4:30 in a mile"
-Ethan Beaty



Mr. Christy's Corner

End of the year reminders:

- Make sure you are getting your grades up!
- Make sure you pay your school bills
- Enjoy and have fun the next month!



TEACHER FEATURE

Mrs. Orciada

This is Mrs. Orciada's 4th year teaching at Riverside. She teaches Physical Science, Chemistry Honors, and Anatomy/Physiology. She has had a positive impact on students, and many students look up to her as an inspiring and helpful teacher!



"My favorite thing about teaching is when students engage in learning understanding the concept and having fun at the same time."

—Mrs. Orciada

This Month In Pictures



Riverside Seniors take part in Community Clean-Up Day!



Softball enjoyed a teambuilding day at Marker 40!



Senior Osmin Barrera took 3rd Place at the Shop Skills Competition last month!



Senior Abrianna Lameli was awarded a 1-year scholarship to Oregon State at the FBLA State Conference



Riverside Club Corner

FBLA

Riverside's FBLA members attended the State Business Leadership Conference in Eugene, Oregon. 17 different members are advancing to Nationals in June!

STATE CHAMPIONS

- Harper Krebs (Exploring Public Speaking)
- Paula Di Mauro (Career Portfolio)
- Daniela Navarro Anaya (Retail Management)
- Gavin Roshon (Digital Citizenship)
- Sophia Weiss (Exploring Personal Finance)

Upcoming Club Meetings

Key Club - 5/15 - Advisory - Ms. Simpson Room
FFA - 5/18 - 7PM - Ms. Rodelo Room
NHS - 5/20 - Advisory - Ms. Myers Room
FBLA- 5/20 Awards night

A.C. Houghton Elementary

As we move into the final stretch of the school year, our school community remains actively engaged in meaningful learning experiences and end-of-year activities that celebrate student growth and achievement. April marked the successful completion of OSAS testing for our third-grade students. We appreciate the hard work of both students and staff in preparing for and administering these assessments with focus and care. Our students demonstrated perseverance and commitment throughout the testing process, and we are proud of their efforts.

Now in May, we have shifted our focus to iReady diagnostic testing across grade levels. This important diagnostic provides valuable data that helps guide instructional decisions, measure student growth, and ensures we are meeting the diverse academic needs of all learners. Basically, it's the report card for our school's instruction for the year! All teachers and staff are working diligently to create supportive testing environments while continuing high-quality instruction during this busy time of year.

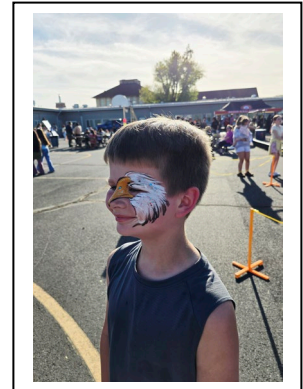
In addition to academics, our school recently hosted a highly successful community carnival event put on by our ACH Parent club. The evening of April 30th brought together families, staff, and community members for a fun and engaging celebration. The strong turnout and positive feedback highlight the importance of these opportunities to build connections and foster a sense of belonging within our school community. We are

grateful to everyone who contributed to making this event a success. We are so lucky to have such a dedicated group of parents that volunteer their time and effort to make sure this long-standing tradition is successful.

This week, and early next week, our third-grade students are excited to participate in a two-day visit to the Think Big Space, where they will engage in hands-on science and STEM learning activities. This experience will provide students with opportunities to explore, collaborate, and apply critical thinking skills in a

dynamic, real-world setting. This group will also travel to Richland, Washington next Thursday to the Academy of Children's Theatre to watch the play Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. Lastly, they will have a fly up to 4th grade visitation to IES the first week of June.

Overall, this time of year reflects both the culmination of a year of hard work and the celebration of student success. We remain committed to finishing the school year strongly while continuing to provide meaningful and enriching experiences for our ACH students.



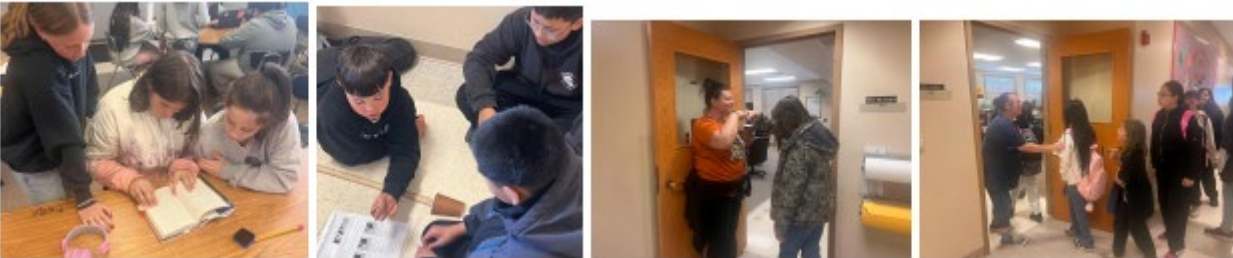
Irrigon Elementary School

April was a busy and positive month at Irrigon Elementary. We had a great week of parent-teacher conferences paired with our Book Fair, which brought a lot of families into the building. It was a great opportunity for staff to connect with parents, share how students are doing, and enjoy seeing our students excited about this year's Scholastic Book Fair selection.

Our 5th grade Pinewood Derby tradition is officially underway. This is always something students look forward to, and it's fun to see it build across schools. The excitement will carry through to a building and district competition in June before the end of the school year. Mr. Temple, our 6th grade teacher, finds this to be a great way to form relationships with students that will be coming to 6th grade next fall. He also enjoys the construction of the cars and teaching our students the skills for a successful run.



In our classrooms, as a focus on relationships, we continue to see strong connections between staff and students with intentional communication. From morning greetings to the activities happening throughout the day, teachers are showing consistency and determination in keeping students involved and doing their best. Most recently, our 5th and 6th grade teams paired up their classes to build writing strategies as 6th grade mentor/5th grade mentee/relationships.



We also held our 3rd quarter awards assembly, which is always a highlight. Students were recognized for attendance, and our PE and Music teachers celebrated students in their programs. Our custodians gave recognition for keeping the school clean, and classroom teachers shared “shout outs” for students showing effort and positive habits. It’s a great way to celebrate the many ways students are contributing to our school community. There’s always a fun game played that our teachers play alongside the students. This is sure to be a fun memory for everyone.



Our 6th grade students have started preparing for the move to junior high. They’ve been learning about how to choose classes and what to expect next year. We also had a visit from the IJSHS band, who shared what being part of the program looks like. Students are excited, and a little nervous, which is all part of the transition.



As we head into the final stretch of the school year, staff are keeping things positive and upbeat. There are staff appreciation activities, dress-up days, and small moments planned to bring people together. It’s been a good way to maintain energy and connection as we wrap up the year

Irrigon High School

The Class of 2026 presented their Senior Portfolios on May 6 and May 8. It was a scramble but they completed this requirement.

May 12-14 the Saj Architects will be in the building to meet with staff and dial down the necessities of the classrooms, media center and other spaces. Following this they will hold a forum/presentation of the plans for the new building up to this point in time. This presentation is May 20 at 5 pm and will be open to the community. We are excited to showcase the planning and coordination of the DAC.

The ODFW presented to interested students and staff regarding the updates to hunting and fishing zones around the state. They did a nice job answering questions and helping students understand the changes.

We will close out the school year with Knight of Excellence, NHS Induction Ceremony, Baccalaureate, Grad Walk, Spring Band Concert, FFA Banquet, Athletics Senior Night and Graduation.

Heppner Elementary

The end of the year is moving fast. There is always a lot to do coming into the last few weeks of school: testing, field trips, field day, outdoor school, and finishing up core curriculum. The school is buzzing with energy and excitement, and I look forward to all of the fun coming up in the last month of school.

Tupper Outdoor School occurred from May 4th to May 7th. 6th Graders enjoyed the traditional experience with counselors dedicated to making the experience unforgettable. Students participated in classes with local agencies such as the USFS, ODFW, NRCS, NOAA, and community members with specialties in outdoor topics. We welcomed parents on Tuesday night to cook dinner for the students, and were introduced to the group by their student "host" after dinner. Students at Tupper not only learn about the outdoors, but about public speaking, manners, gratitude, and tradition in a variety of fun ways. It is an experience to be remembered!

HES students are working through state testing, and will be finishing up this week. Some classrooms have begun iReady testing, and we look forward to seeing the hard work students and teachers have put in pay off.

Field trips will be taking place over the next month in a variety of forms. 1st graders will visit the Heppner Courthouse, the Heppner Dam, and put flags on the graves of veterans for Memorial Day. 5th graders will be participating in a trip to BMCC for college and career readiness, and a few of our classes will be utilizing our local art center for creative classes and walking field trips.

I look forward to a productive and fun end of the year!



Heppner Jr/Sr High School

1. HJSHS students and staff wrapped up a strong fine arts showing with our end-of-year drama production of *Frozen*, performed April 28–30. The production was well attended and showcased the hard work and talent of our students, along with the commitment from staff and community members who supported the event. Opportunities like this continue to be an important part of building a well-rounded student experience.
2. Our Career and Technical Student Organizations continue to perform at a high level:

FFA:

Students recently attended CDE Days in Corvallis, where Heppner senior Sarah Estes earned 1st place in Horse Judging at the state level—an outstanding individual accomplishment that reflects both her effort and the strength of our program.

TSA:

Students competed at their regional event in Boardman, with four students qualifying for National Competition. This continues to show growth in our TSA program and the opportunities it provides in applied, hands-on learning.

FBLA:

Five students represented Heppner at the State Leadership Conference in April. Highlights include a 3rd place finish in Entrepreneurship and a 3rd place finish in Hospitality and Event Management.

3. State testing is in full swing at HJSHS. We have largely completed Science and Math assessments and are now focused on ELA. Staff have done a solid job maintaining structure and minimizing disruptions to ensure a productive testing environment.
4. Attendance for the month of April remains strong. Our senior class led the building with a 94.59% attendance rate, while overall school attendance was 93.19%. Maintaining consistent attendance continues to be a point of emphasis as we move toward the end of the school year.
5. As we approach graduation, we are preparing for several important end-of-year events, including the NHS Induction Ceremony, Mustang Mop-Up, Daytime and Night of Excellence, 6th Grade Bring-Up Day, and Freshman Orientation. These events are important milestones for our students and provide opportunities to celebrate achievement while supporting successful transitions between grade levels.

Staff Incident/Accidents Report:

Date	School	Incident
4/22/26	SBE	Employee slipped inside a bus while counting students for a field trip. Rolled ankle and hurt shoulder catching herself. No medical attention sought.

MCSO Maintenance & Facilities Report – May 2026

The required annual inspections and preventative maintenance are being scheduled for June - July and schedules have been shared with pertinent staff. This will help our staff to be able to work around these inspections when cleaning or taking care of other projects. The next step will be scheduling the approved maintenance projects that need to be completed during the summer months.

Bond Project Update:

Irrigon Jr Sr High Project:

The Irrigon DAC has moved into schematic design and met in April to review the imagery charette from March's meeting and discuss the feedback from the tours. The highlight of the evening was SAJ's presentation of the proposed exterior renderings of the new building which was well received and offered a visual glimpse of structure! This group will continue to meet each month through September. Irrigon's DAC members are Rose Palmer, Marie Shimer, Addie Cole, Dan Locey, James Durfee, Brenda Shockman, Heidi Horn and daughter Jade and Aaron Palmquist.

On May 12 -14, the SAJ team will be at Irrigon Jr Sr High for a 3 day, in-person educator workshop. The workshop will offer time for staff to review the proposed design plans and engage in a hands-on design process using their patent pending, Modular Planning Kit for their specific spaces.

Mark your calendars for May 20 from 5:00-6:00 for our Irrigon Community Engagement Event at IJSH where SAJ will present the design plans and answer questions!

Fowler Construction and MACC Estimating Group have each provided cost estimations on the Irrigon draft plans and both analyses are coming in under budget. These rough estimations give SAJ guidelines as we continue through the design process.

Riverside Jr Sr High Project:

In the board packet, you will find the recommendation for the Construction Manager/General Contractor for the Riverside Jr Sr High project. Our selection team reviewed the seven proposals and conducted three interviews on April 14. All three companies were outstanding and made our decision difficult, but we came to a unanimous decision. We look forward to adding another contractor to our bond team.

Boardman's DAC will meet from July 2025 – January 2027 with school tours in June if schedules align. The members are John Christy, Marie Shimer, David Boor, Stephanie Simpson, Claude Birt, Smokey Joe Wightman, Veronica Nunez Lezama and daughter Ariana and Luis Campos.

Heppner K-12 Project:

The CM/GC request for proposal (RFP) for Heppner's K-12 project will be issued in May and a recommendation to the board in August.

Heppner's DAC meetings are September 2026 – March 2027. The members are Ryan Gerry, Laura Winters, Marie Shimer, Petra Payne, Jason Palmer, Ashley Beard, Sarah Matheny and son Peyton, Linsey Hanna and son Jasper, Jennifer Wilson, John Doherty and Linda Kenny.

District Wide:

Fowler Construction has submitted their construction schedule for Irrigon Elementary and Windy River Elementary's safety and security upgrades for this summer.

IES: June 15 – July 17

WRE: June 25 – July 29

SBE, MEC and ACH's upgrades along with the SBE bus loop and parking project will begin in June 2027. The preliminary design and engineering work will start this summer.

The District team along with SAJ, Wenaha and the IT department are reviewing the quotes for the security cameras and access control systems. The goal is to find systems that will be used in all our facilities that are versatile and long-lasting. Our next step is to select the bells and paging systems.

SAJ is creating MCSD Educational Specifications which are a guide for facility design, to ensure consistency and equity across the District, to support planning and budgeting, and to engage stakeholders with an eye towards the future. Staff from Riverside and Heppner were given an opportunity to review the educational specifications and provide feedback via a shared google document. SAJ and our team appreciate those that took the time to offer their opinions. The Irrigon staff will provide feedback on May 12 – 14 during their educator workshops.

We received two proposals for the commissioning agent and once under contract, we will announce them. All surveys and consultants are a vital part of the process to aid the architects and general contractors to know what to expect and provide a checks and balances system which in turn should keep the change orders and unexpected expenses minimal.

The Bond Oversight Committee's next meeting is May 19 at 6:00pm in the RJSH library. Scott from Wenaha, presents an update on the progress, budget and answers questions. As a reminder, the committee will meet quarterly through the entire bond process ending in the fall of 2029. The BOC's core purpose will be to carefully monitor the delivery of the proposed bond program to ensure accountability, fiscal transparency, and community trust. The meetings are facilitated by Wenaha along with Matt, Gabe and Brandi. Up to three board members are allowed to attend the meetings.

The BOC members include Brett Harrison, Meghan Golden, Don Alleman, Justin Nelson, Tia McNamee, Zac Acock, Debbie Radie, Phyllis Danielson, Torrie Griggs, Frances Glenn, George Shimer and Karen Pettigrew.

Pacific Northwest Communications is continuing to create press releases, social media content and update the website. As draft floor plans are ready for release, we plan on presenting to our schools, community organizations and members to share the hard work from our DACs and the SAJ Architects. Our first community engagement for IJSH will be on May 20 from 5:00 – 6:00 as stated earlier, all are welcome and encouraged to attend!

The District team would like to thank all the volunteer committee members and our incredible staff for their time, openness and support. We are excited to work collaboratively with the school board, staff, students and the community to create facilities for the next generations.

For Irrigon, the proposed schedule is as follows:

Schematic Design:	03/2026 – 06/2026
Design Development:	06/2026 – 10/2026
Construction Documents:	11/2026 – 03/2027
Bidding and Permitting:	02/2027 – 06/2027
Construction:	07/2027 – 04/2029

For Riverside, the proposed schedule is as follows:

Schematic Design:	07/2026 – 09/2026
Design Development:	10/2026 – 01/2027
Construction Documents:	01/2027 – 05/2027
Bidding and Permitting:	06/2027 – 09/2027
Construction:	10/2027 – 03/2029

For Heppner K-12, the proposed schedule is as follows:

Schematic Design:	09/2026 – 12/2026
Design Development:	12/2026 – 03/2027
Construction Documents:	03/2027 – 06/2027
Bidding and Permitting:	07/2027 – 10/2027
Construction:	02/2028 – 06/2029

Respectfully Submitted By,
Matt Combe, Gabe Hansen and Brandi Sweeney