

Homedale Elementary School Memo



To: Homedale Board of Trustees, Superintendent Rob Sauer
From: Terri Vasquez, Principal
Date: November 13, 2017
Re: Report to Board of Trustees

ENROLLMENT: 456

AM Kindergarten: 43

ELL Kindergarten (AM): 14

PM Kindergarten: 38

Pre-1st: 15

Special Day (COSSA): 12

1st Grade: 95 (1 SPDC)

2nd Grade: 83 (2 SPDC)

3rd Grade: 81 (5 SPDC)

4th Grade: 102 (4 SPDC)

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK: The amazing Homedale Fire Department and Ambulance crew came to HES for our Kindergarten students. They taught them what to do if the smoke detector goes off in your home, what a fireman might look like if he's searching for them in a smoky house, how to "stop, drop, & roll" if your clothes catch fire, and what it feels like to wear a fireman's coat. The students also got to go through the ambulance, get strapped on the stretcher, and shoot water from the fire hose. We appreciate their support and the time they took to come teach the Kindergarten students about fire safety. We have a great community!!



LITERACY PD: On October 16th, the literacy team put together a professional development for the certified elementary staff. The purpose of this professional development was to make the staff aware of our ultimate goal for the 2018-2019 school year. This goal, as presented to us at the Idaho Literacy Improvement Training in September, is to strengthen literacy instruction by becoming more unified in best teaching practice. The focus of this PD was to reveal what we, as a staff at Homedale Elementary, are currently doing well. This allowed us to have conversations and brainstorm best practice in a positive atmosphere. We were able to focus on what is being done, or could be done, to strengthen our instruction, our relationships with students, and the moral in our building. During this exercise, we created posters to display in our workroom. They are there to reference when a fresh idea is needed. We, the literacy team, felt that this PD created an opportunity for the staff to begin to share ideas and practices that are currently being used and working well. It also promoted self-evaluation and provided ideas and resources to take back to our classrooms. Even the greatest educators seek ways to improve.



KINDERGARTEN/PRE-1ST FIELD TRIP: The students took a trip to Mansidor Farms to visit their pumpkin patch. There were games and rides, and of course the pumpkins! It is nice to have this so close to Homedale.



WALK-A-THON ASSEMBLY: The assembly was held to celebrate a very successful Walk-A-Thon and award prizes to students. The classrooms with the highest participation earned a movie/popcorn party: Ms. Coe AM Kindergarten, Ms. Albor 1st grade, Ms. Uria 2nd grade, Mrs. Blackstock & Mr. Johnson 3rd grade, and Mrs. Silva 4th grade. Three students who earned the most money will have lunch with Mrs. V: Preslee Morales (Ms. Coe AM Kindergarten), Aspen Vanderhoff (Mrs. Jenkins 1st grade), and Ema Lee (Mr. Emry 4th grade). Any student who earned any amount of money for the Walk-A-Thon were entered in a drawing for \$20 WalMart gift cards to be given to one child in each grade: Roenne Roberts (Mrs. Harper Pre-1st), Lynlee Ryska (Mrs. Jenkins 1st grade), Selena Badiola (Mrs. Uria 2nd grade), Aaliyah Yost (Mrs. Blackstock 3rd grade) and Thomas Olivera (Mr. Emry 4th grade). Those earning \$65 or more were entered in the Pie Throw Reward and one child from each grade level was drawn: Preslee Morales (Kindergarten), Sophia Topmiller (1st grade), Bradley Garrett (2nd grade), Kambrie McCoshum (3rd grade), and Ema Lee (4th grade). Mr. Long was a great sport and let them throw pies at him!



PTO MYSTERY DAY: On October 24th, the Homedale Trojan came to visit and gave each student a small pumpkin. It was a great surprise!



PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES: HES had 91% of our parents attend P/T Conferences on Wednesday and Thursday, October 24th and 25th. Thanks to PTO for the delicious meal served to the teachers on Wednesday evening.

RED RIBBON WEEK: Red Ribbon Week started on Monday, October 29th and ended on Thursday, November 1st. The following were our theme days for the week.

- Monday - "Lei Off Drugs" (Tropical Attire)
- Tuesday - "Tell Drugs to Take A Hike" (camping theme)
- Wednesday - "Say BOO to Drugs" (Halloween costumes)
- Thursday – "Drug Free and Trojan Proud" (wear red)

CALDWELL ROTARY: The Caldwell Rotary delivered books to every 2nd grade student and dictionaries for every third grade student. We certainly appreciate their support.

IDAHO FARM TO SCHOOL: Homedale Elementary teachers (Kindergarten & Pre-First) invited Megan Harper with Idaho Preferred into their classroom to talk about Idaho agriculture and introduce the My Idaho Plate to their students. The My Idaho Plate provides students with information about current dietary guidelines – and how to eat local, Idaho foods at the same time! Over 90 students learned about the five foods groups and the foods in each food group that are produced in Idaho. After the lesson, the students were split into three groups. One group learned where in Idaho the foods are grown by placing food models on a map of Idaho. At another station the students learned about different apple varieties grown in Idaho and taste-tested three popular varieties. At the third station students filled up a My Idaho Plate with fake Idaho-grown foods. The students also had the opportunity to make their own My Idaho Plate during a hands on activity.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- November 8 - Veterans Day Assembly
- November 9 – Imagine It training for staff
- November 10 – PTO Fall Festival @ HES
- November 16 – Thanksgiving break begins
- December 6 – 3rd and 4th grade music programs