

Report to the School Board

April 10, 2023

By Elementary / Intermediate School Principal Dave Riebel

GOAL 1: THE DISTRICT WILL STRIVE TO PROVIDE THE BEST EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS.

- Kindergarten Registration evening – March 28



Kindergarten teachers Ms. O’Duggan and Ms. Pilger were a central part of the Kindergarten Registration night on March 28 at the Elementary School. Families were sent an invitation and registered for Safari times. Each family visited seven stops on their safari that highlighted the places that kindergarten students will interact with next year. Registration evening is a great way for our Kindergarteners to build the excitement for next year. The evening also helps firm up the decision process for families determining kindergarten readiness decisions.

History Day project to state!

Congratulations to state qualifiers Ian Garcia, Josie Rasmussen, Kassandra Cavazos, Luis Morales Itehua, and Mina Sozio whose History Day exhibit entitled “American Indian Movement” qualified for the state level during the regional competition held at Winona State University. This regional event is one of 12 regional events across the state. These sixth graders are adding some additional adjustments to their project prior to traveling to the state competition at the University of Minnesota on April 22. Honorable Mention ranks went to “Hinkley Fire of 1894” by Annika Shurson and Violet Passow as well as “BWCA Wilderness Act of 1978” by Rosie Hienz and Xander Thelen.

GOAL 2: THE DISTRICT WILL STRIVE TO HIRE, DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN THE BEST POSSIBLE STAFF.

- March 23 – Staff continued their work on developing specific proficiency scales to assess grade level standards and add them to our district curriculum folders.
- April 10 – Staff professional development and workshop

PK-6 Staff previewed the steps that our JMC assessment and reporting software has available for upcoming standards based reporting. Staff also reviewed the updated EduCLIMBER digital cumulative student files and data warehouse in order to best utilize this district tool. Afternoon time was also spent finalizing the report cards for Quarter 3.

- CPR/AED training – April

A group of volunteer staff participated in the local CPR/AED training. Those members are part of a Elementary and Intermediate response team and stand ready to serve in the case of emergencies at our buildings. Thanks to Matt Essig for the in-person training and Ms. MacPherson for the organization.

GOAL 3: THE DISTRICT WILL STRIVE TO MAINTAIN A POSITIVE EMOTIONAL AND SAFE CLIMATE FOR LEARNERS AND STAFF.

- Wellness –

Continued thanks to the staff Wellness team for continued activities, highlighted by a fun evening of trivia for 30+ staff members at Blacktop Bar in Elgin. Upcoming events in April include Random Acts of Kindness activity board, Podcast and Book Clubs and step counter clubs.

- Reading Night – Can you escape your classroom?!?!



Grade appropriate reading tasks were built into an Under the Sea themed activity for students and parents to work their way through. By accomplishing five reading tasks, students produced a code that unlocked a padlock allowing them to “escape” their classroom. Families also enjoyed a pizza supper, sponsored by the PLAY Group. Thanks goes out to Ms. Ostrander for the multi-level coordination and to the many staff members who volunteered their evenings to participate in the fun.

- Fools Five collaboration –

The first step in the community collaboration that is the Fools Five weekend begins on Friday morning at the Elementary School. Members of the Fools Five organization team arrive and join the assembly of all PK-4 students (and some Intermediate students) to reveal just how much of an impact our Elementary and Intermediate students and their families have on the joint fundraising efforts for cancer research. Our students were challenged to raise \$3000 in order for the biggest fool in Lewiston, Mr. Schmaltz, to dress up as “A Fool” in a court jester costume. Students and families responded with over \$12,500 in pledged support. That amount was matched by silent donors bringing the PK-6 totals to a record setting \$25,000 contribution for cancer research. Our Cardinal CARES were on full display for this event. Thank you to all involved in this weekend community event.



GOAL 4: THE DISTRICT WILL STRIVE TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE THE DISTRICT'S INFRASTRUCTURE.

- Budget preparations:

PK-6 staff have began the budget process for the 2-23-24 school year.

- District Auction preparations:

Ms. Carman, Mr. Banicki and Mr. Riebel met with Bret Walters of Grafe Auction to finalize plans for our upcoming district auction in June. Staff members will continue to identify items from the Intermediate School as well as the Elementary and High School that can be sold in the June auction.