

Administration Reports

December 2016

Sam Boardman Elementary

December is a superb month for Sam Boardman Elementary.

The SBE Parent Teacher Organization hosted their first annual Thanksgiving Potluck. Many families came, brought food to share, and enjoyed fellowship together. There were coloring activities for the kids along with bingo and prizes. Everyone left full of good food, and excited about next year's potluck.

December 8th was our Winter Concert. The gym was packed as usual. Students sang traditional holiday songs as well as newer and sometimes silly but adorable songs about winter and the holidays. Our winter concert is a wonderful event every year, and this year was a treat.

Finally, the second week of December was the staff celebration of the season. Different teams took different days of the week and provided a meal for the group. It was so good to see staff working together and enjoying each other's company. We are looking forward to the break, and coming back well-rested and ready to tackle the second part of the year!

Windy River Elementary

Technology continues to be a vital part of the education process. At the beginning of the year our school was awarded 102 chrome books through our local district grant. Our desire as a school was to procure enough electronic devices to allow students to have a one-one ratio with any given device. Recently, Windy River was able to purchase 40 additional chrome books which brought us to this goal. Students in every grade level have the opportunity to either have a chrome book, iPad or desktop computer.

Student Achievement is a second component of our "4 Square Focus". With the help of these electronic devices our goal is to develop a math program which combines our new math assessment with a computer based program, to improve student achievement. At the beginning of the year each student was given a benchmark test. Every 6 weeks' students are re-evaluated to see how they are progressing. Our electronic devices are allowing us to take the data from these assessments and use them in a computer-based program that will generate specific math problems based on the needs of the students.

We are finding out that with technology comes patience and understanding. The first week of implementation has been rocky, but teachers are working through the hiccups to help their students succeed.

Riverside Jr/Sr High School

November and December continue to be busy months at Riverside. The first of November Mrs. Rosen organized a College Application week where we had a variety of community and regional volunteers come in to help our seniors with college applications, essays, and scholarships. We already have 33 seniors that have completed the application process to at least one college. The Juniors have also met with Chris Elliot to review their results from the career inventory/ASVAB scores. This information will be used in their advisory and Language Arts classes as students work on their 10 year plans and research career opportunities.

November was also our first parent-teacher conference for the year, we have moved to two day conferences at the middle of the semester. Despite having the highest parent turn out in 6 years, their feedback on the changes are mixed and we are reviewing different strategies to address concerns and hopefully get more parents involved.

Our staff are continuing to take advantage of multiple professional development opportunities to improve their content instruction and the culture of the school. We have two math teachers participating in a STEM grant that is providing instructional and real life application professional development. Oregon GEAR UP is also sponsoring two sessions of professional development around the topic of social emotional learning and growth mindset. Staff completed the first session the first of December and several will have the opportunity to walk in the shoes of a student for a day and bring their experiences back to the group during our second training. In January we will be hosting a teacher workshop for the KidWind Project which will be held at RHS in March.

Winter sports are now in full swing with all teams having started competition. Both basketball teams won their opening games and our wrestlers are starting off strong.

AC Houghton Elementary

At AC Houghton we are gearing up for the holiday season. The students are working hard practicing for our holiday concerts on December 8th (K/1) and 13th (2/3) at 6:30 pm. The students are collecting canned food to share with others in our community who may need some extra help this holiday season. On Dec. 4th our staff and students will participate in the annual Irrigon tree lighting ceremony at Irrigon City Park at 5:00 pm. We are looking forward to the break to be ready to come back and start after school programs, and many more learning opportunities for our students. The sounds of Christmas are ringing throughout the building and town.

Irrigon Elementary

Irrigon Elementary School is preparing for our final sled run before Christmas break. This includes our Winter Music Concert and Lego League Competition.

With this said we are over the moon excited to see what our amazing music and band teachers have up their sleeves for our Winter Concert. After the fantastic concerts the students performed for their parents last year (which we had a full house) we cannot hardly wait until December 7th at 6:30 for the 2016 Winter Concert to take place. Mr. Searles and Mrs. Evanoff are a fantastic team that have the ability to make students find their love for music and we are truly lucky to have them be part of IES.

Our students and Lego coaches have worked hard as teams, individuals, and as IES school reps to prepare for the Lego competition in The Dalles which they competed in on December 3rd. The students have learned how to be responsible individuals when building and learning engineering/programming skills. We would like to give a huge shout out to the Lego coaches, Rachel Luke, Addie Cole and Danielle Wardle and their students who participated in the competition.

In two short weeks we will say good bye to our students for the 2016 Winter break. This break will start on December 16th and go until January 1st. School will resume on January 2, 2017.

We would like to wish everyone a family filled and relaxing Holiday season from the staff at Irrigon Elementary School!

Submitted by Kaira Rysdam, Head Teacher

Irrigon Jr/Sr High School

The month of November started off with parent teacher conferences. We experienced a great turnout, specifically with our Spanish speaking families. In the week leading up to conferences, our ELL assistant made a personal phone call to all of our Spanish speaking families inviting them to conferences and letting them know that she would be available at conferences to support them in communicating with teachers. We also had our first visit from Advantage Dental to provide screenings for our students, the follow up appointments are scheduled for this month. With Veterans Day falling in the month of November we celebrated the event with a Veterans Day assembly, where students read poems, quotes and shared stories about their appreciation for those that served in the military. We contacted the local VA to invite members of the community to join us for the assembly. This year we had 11 veterans on hand at the assembly. During November our ASB Leadership students chose their school improvement project that they will be undertaking for the remainder of the year. They have chosen to improve the front entrance area, rebuilding the flowerbed area and creating a decorative surround for the electrical box in the front of the school. We also had a productive meeting with the city to hopefully get the green light to start the construction of the press box project on the football field.

The Winter Sports Season has begun and our basketball players and wrestlers already have their first games/matches under their belt. We encourage you to come and check out our student-athletes when you get the opportunity. Our winter band concert is Dec. 5th, they will be hosting a Holiday Bazaar at IJSHS on Dec. 10th where local groups will be selling hand made goods. This is a fundraiser to support their trip to Hawaii. The Drama Club will be putting on a Holiday Extravaganza on Friday Dec. 16th at 6 PM, as a fundraiser. Students will be performing skits, Christmas carols and other fun family events.

Heppner Elementary

November started right out with conferences at HES. Once again there was a very good turnout. We continue to have both Chess and Lego Robotics after school. The students were recognized in an assembly for both character and attendance. HES currently has 42 students with perfect attendance.

As we head into December we anticipate a lot of activity. Extra-curricular activities now include Colt basketball for boys' and girls' teams. The Lego Robotics teams will be competing at EOU campus on December 3rd. HES will be participating in the winter concert on the 14th of December.

The Parent Teacher Club is sponsoring a Santa Shop once again, in which the students can purchase inexpensive gifts for family members. Gift wrapping is provided. Based on the success of this activity last year we anticipate good participation.

We would like to end this report by again thanking each of you for your support of Heppner Schools, and your commitment to all students of the Morrow County School District. Happy Holidays!

Heppner Jr/Sr High School

It is a once again a privilege to report the recent happenings of Heppner Schools. It is hard to believe that the month of December is already upon us. Our current HJSHS enrollment is 158 students and our attendance percentage is 90.54%. At HES the enrollment is 174 students with an attendance percentage is 94.3%. We will continue to promote the importance of regular attendance to the students and parents of Heppner Schools.

Congratulations to our 2A state semifinalist Heppner Mustangs Football Team for another successful season!

Here are a couple of important upcoming events for your calendars - The annual winter concert is scheduled for the 14th of December and will be held in the HES gymnasium. Winter break begins on December 16th with school resuming on January 2nd of 2017.

Management's Discussion and Analysis

MCSD – Maintenance & Facilities Update – December 2016

McKinstry has submitted their Facility Improvement Measure Summary and repair work is currently underway.

Radon testing took place the end of October in all schools by PBS Environmental. We recently received our Radon report and all levels were below the EPA limits in all schools. Jan has the test results on file at her office for review. Results will be published on the MCSD website.

The District plans to evaluate our camera systems for front entrances in all buildings for security purposes. We will be working with the IMESD IT Department to go out for bid for this project. Additionally, we are currently reviewing campus site locations of existing AED machines and plan to add additional units to help provide better coverage for each MCSD campus.

Financial Report Talking Points:

A new fund has been created for Miscellaneous Grant (Fund 212) for all of the buildings miscellaneous donations and grants. This will allow for easier tracking of revenue and expenditures.

November Incident/Accident Report

- None