

Administration Reports

December 2025

Sam Boardman Elementary

As we step into December, our theme this month is all about togetherness! This theme resonates deeply as we aim to spread joy among our students, staff, and families, creating a warm and vibrant atmosphere that embodies the spirit of the season.

We concluded November on a high note with a wonderfully attended community feast. The excitement was palpable as students enjoyed a delightful menu featuring drumsticks and creamy mashed potatoes, which turned out to be a favorite among our young diners. Each grade level contributed to the festive ambiance by creating unique, handmade decorations, showcasing their creativity and teamwork.

Looking ahead, we are eagerly anticipating the cheerful winter concert, scheduled for December 11th at Riverside Jr./Sr. High. Our talented students and dedicated staff have been working tirelessly to prepare for this special event. We can't wait to witness the enthusiasm on display as our students share their voices and musical talents with their loved ones, filling the air with delightful melodies and festive cheer.

We are excited to share that we've received donated funds from Tillamook for a new laminator, as ours has been out of commission from the beginning of the year. UEC also contributed to the project by donating funds that will be used for purchasing laminating film. We are incredibly grateful for these paired donations as they help preserve the handmade cherished memories that our students take home for their families to enjoy for years to come. They also support teachers by allowing them to create learning experiences for their students that last year after year. A big thank you to Tillamook and UEC from all of us at SBE!

Even with so many festivities occurring, academics still remain the primary focus at SBE. Our learners are ready to show what they learned over the past few months through the Acadience Reading Benchmark Assessment and iReady Math and Reading Diagnostic Assessments. These assessments help us provide intentional and focused instruction to each of the students to capitalize on all of their learning opportunities.

As December unfolds, we are filled with excitement for the upcoming events and activities that will bring joy to our school community. Together, we will create memorable moments that celebrate the joy of the season, reinforcing the bonds between students, staff, and families. Our hope is that we embrace this joyful journey and make this December truly special!

Windy River Elementary

I'd like to share a few highlights from Windy River Elementary:

1. Art Night – Our First Parent Night of the Year

We ended November with our very first parent night, *Art Night*—and it was a tremendous success. Students produced an incredible variety of artwork, and our staff did an outstanding job supporting them. Families were able to explore multiple stations, including pottery, painting, and an “Ugly Christmas Sweater Ornament” creation table where parents and students made keepsakes together.

A major highlight was a UV Light Art Extravaganza hosted by our 4th grade team. The safari-themed experience was complete with inflatable costumes (a 4th grade favorite!) and glowing artwork. The energy, creativity, and family participation made the evening one to remember. There was even a JEEP- Themed Photo Booth for the family to take photos in!!!

2. I-Ready to Party Week

As I write this report, our school is in the middle of “i-Ready to Party,” a fun and engaging spirit week centered around building excitement for our Winter Diagnostic. Students have enjoyed Super PE, extra recess, ice cream sandwiches, and a joyful school-wide atmosphere.

The best part? Students genuinely love coming to school this week—and from our experience, their motivation and positivity also support stronger performance on their diagnostics. Results are coming soon!

3. Student Leadership at the Boardman City Council

Two of our students, **Edelyn Romero** and **Ruby Kerns**, continue to serve as representatives at the Boardman City Council meetings. Each month they provide updates from Windy River Elementary. This opportunity is a meaningful way for them to grow as leaders, practice public speaking, and contribute to their community. We are incredibly proud of them.

4. Winter Concert – December 16

Our Winter Concert is just around the corner on **December 16th @ 5:30!** Students across the school have been practicing daily and are singing their hearts out. We are excited to showcase their hard work and cannot wait to see families fill the gym for this cherished annual event.

5. Wise Wolf Awards – November 25

We recently held our quarterly *Wise Wolf* awards assembly on November 25th. Students were recognized for their hard work, positive behavior, and academic achievement. Families were invited and many attended, adding to the celebration.

It was wonderful to see students receive balloons, candy, stuffed animals—and in one heartfelt moment, a big hug from a younger sibling. Each award recipient also received a certificate and a token for a **free book** from our book vending machine, courtesy of the WRE staff.

Here are some ART Show Photos (taken by Xenia Velasco - from the IMESD)



Windy River – continued



PIRATE NATION NEWSLETTER

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Student Spotlight



Jaime Calvillo

Jaime is a sophomore this year.

He is a active member of RHS athletics and FBLA.

UPCOMING EVENTS



VS. Pilot Rock
12/11/25

Girls/Boys Varsity home game 5:30PM



VS. Weston-McEwen
12/16/25

Girls/Boys Varsity home game 6PM



VS. Westside Christian
12/30/25

Girls/Boys Varsity home game 3PM



Athletic Spotlight Christian Espain

Christian is a goalkeeper, he has been playing soccer since he was five years old. He is now a junior in high school, It is his third year playing as goalkeeper.

Christian Espain - "My favorite memory was the bus ride back home from the win against Mac High, everyone in the bus was happy and hyped up!".



Rosen's Corner

- I love it when you stop by to say "Hi", but if you want a private meeting don't forget you can use my Calendly to schedule an appt: (<https://Calendly.com/elizabeth-rosen>).
- Are you a part of the RHS Counseling google classroom? Sign up NOW to get important emails about upcoming field trips and events! The class code is 2wwncm.



TEACHER FEATURE

Mr. Birt

Mr. Birt teaches a variety of classes, including airbrushing, graphic design, photography, and art to students in grades 7 through 12. He has been teaching for many years and has built strong relationships with both students and staff. Many people admire him for being such a wonderful person.



What I love most about teaching is when students come back and say they've been successful. And those who come back say they remembered me.

—Mr. Birt

Este mes en imágenes

The Boys soccer team made it all the way to quarterfinals, playing at OES High School!



The girls soccer team made it to round 2 of the playoffs and hosted Catlin Gabel!



Seven cross country boys made it to state, after placing 2nd at Districts in Pendleton



Yuridia Calvillo and Angelica Caldera made it to state for cheer!

**Riverside Club Corner
Key Club**

Key Club is a student led, high school organization. Our members make the world a better place through service. Key Club provides its members with opportunities to provide service, build character and develop leadership.

The advisor for Key Club is Ms. Simpson. The President is Abrianna Lomeli, Vice President is Adalia Chavez and Treasurer is Alondra Cortes.

Upcoming Club Meetings

FBLA High School - 12/11 Advisory - Library
FBLA Jr High - 12/18 - Advisory - Library
FFA - 12/10 - 6PM - Ms. Rodelo Classroom
NHS - 12/11 - Advisory - Ms. Myers Classroom
KEY CLUB - 12/17 - 5PM - Ms. Simpson Classroom

Created by Abigail Mendoza

A.C. Houghton Elementary

As we near the end of the calendar year and the midpoint of our school year, ACH continues to focus on student progress, instructional adjustments, and professional development aligned with our six high-yield instructional strategies. In mid-November, a few of our administrative team completed walk-throughs across seven classrooms at ACH. Highlights from observations in Amplify (CORE reading) lessons, and ELA WIN (intervention) lessons, included:

- Energetic pacing that sustained high student engagement
- Multiple, varied opportunities for students to respond
- Well-managed small groups with strong engagement at all levels
- Consistent individual connections and specific, meaningful feedback
- Warm, welcoming classrooms supported by predictable routines
- Effective use of EAs to reinforce instruction and maintain participation
- Natural, positive teacher–student interactions
- Clear signals and routines that enhanced student responsiveness

School Events and Celebrations

Today, our kindergarten students benefited from a long-Houghton tradition. The local Moose Lodge generously handmade winter stocking caps for our students. The and joy during distribution were unmistakable, and we grateful for their continued support, kindness and our students.



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Our music teacher, staff, and students are preparing for our winter concert on Wednesday, December 10th. PreK, Kindergarten, and 1st grade will perform at 6:00 p.m., followed by 2nd and 3rd grade at 7:00 p.m. The ACH Parent Club will host a bake sale during intermission to raise funds for classroom support. We might even be blessed with a visit from Mr. Claus himself!

Staff and I are also planning for our final day before winter break, which is Friday December 19th. We will start our day with our Student of the Month assembly. Each month teachers recognize students who demonstrate attributes of a skill taught by our counselor; this month's focus is *Encouragement*—supporting others to build a sense of belonging and intrinsic motivation. We will also celebrate academic achievement in Math, Writing, ELL, as well as present a PE "Hustle Award" for the fastest class challenge at each grade level. On this day students will also enjoy cookie decorating; these cookies along with decorating materials, are donated by our always supportive ACH Parent Club. This last school day for the calendar year is an early release day, with dismissal at 12:45 p.m. Staff will conclude the day with an ACH holiday gathering before heading into a well-deserved break.

I would like to wish everyone a very ***Happy Holiday Season***, especially to our MCSD Board Members. Thank you for your commitment to our students, staff, and community.

Irrigon Elementary School

November was an active month of learning and community engagement, highlighted by our successful Family Night event on November 20th. Each grade level showcased meaningful projects that demonstrated student learning and creativity.

- 4th Grade featured interactive displays on how sound travels, complete with hands-on demonstrations using 3D pens and circuit boards. Families enjoyed exploring the models and engaging with students as they explained their work.
- 5th Grade transformed the hallways into a Presidential Museum. Each student dressed as a U.S. president and shared information through a recorded audio button they created. This exhibit was a standout with families, who appreciated the historical learning and student enthusiasm.

- 6th Grade presented detailed planet dioramas, creating an immersive display across their classrooms. Families toured the models, asked questions, and celebrated the thoughtful research that went into each project.



Alongside these celebrations, our building continues the important work of strengthening our instructional practices. Learning targets and success criteria are now consistently posted and articulated in every classroom. This routine is a vital part of our instructional goals, helping bring clarity and focus to lessons and ensuring students understand what they are learning and why it matters.



December Preview

As we move into December, our annual Canned Food Drive with the Irrigon Fire Department is underway. The hallways are beginning to fill with non-perishable food items donated by our students and families. These contributions will be distributed to local families, reinforcing the importance of community support and generosity during the holiday season. Tillamook Creamery is partnering with us and donating ice cream as an end of year treat to celebrate our work to support our community of Irrigon.

Irrigon Jr/Sr High School

IJSHS basketball will host Four Rivers with their home opener on Dec 6 after heading to Riverside on Dec 4. Wrestling has a match at home on Dec 4.

ASB ran a school wide hygiene drive that benefit Altrusa International out of Hermiston. They collected items such as deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste and combs which were organized into kits. The kits will be sent to those in need of such items. As a building, enough supplies were brought in to fill three bins of kits.

In November, Key Club partnered with Red Cross and held a successful blood drive. Community members were invited to give blood as well as staff and students.

We will have our Winter Band Concert on December 9. It will feature JH and HS bands and choirs.

IJSHS will continue to hold staff PD around literacy by encouraging students in all content areas to write in complete sentences as well as challenge them to expand their writing with compound and complex sentences.

Heppner Elementary School

MCSD Board Goal #1 emphasizes ensuring academic growth for every student, and Heppner Elementary continues to keep that goal at the center of our work. Our staff is committed to data-informed instruction, and we have built structures that give teachers the time and support needed to deeply analyze student performance. Weekly data team meetings and grade-band PLCs create regular opportunities for meaningful conversations that directly shape instruction and support student growth.

Now in our fourth year with Amplify as our core reading curriculum, teachers are confident and consistent in their use of the science of reading and explicit instruction practices. Acadience progress-monitoring every two weeks provides timely insights into student progress, allowing teachers to adjust small-group instruction and targeted interventions as needed. Our reading interventionist, Samantha Gerry, continues to be an invaluable resource—guiding staff, helping interpret data, and supporting teachers in meeting student needs.

In math, teachers are prioritizing strategic vertical alignment, intentionally building vocabulary and strategies across grade levels. By previewing upcoming concepts and strengthening foundational knowledge, students are developing a deeper understanding that supports long-term retention and prepares them for increasingly complex content.

At HES, every instructional minute matters. Through purposeful use of data, explicit instructional practices, and a shared commitment to helping every student make at least one year of growth in reading and math, we are steadily moving toward our goals. We are excited to see how this hard work is reflected in the winter iReady diagnostic, which opened on December 1st.



Heppner Jr/Sr High School

1. Staffing and Instruction

- This month, I have intentionally increased my presence in classrooms to support instructional quality and consistency. Walkthroughs have been conducted in every classroom, giving me a clear and current picture of teaching practices across the building. We are also in the formal observation window, which allows for deeper feedback and coaching aligned to the instructional priorities we set for the year. The focus remains on ensuring that our staff is implementing the strategies we have emphasized and that students are experiencing coherent, high-quality instruction in every period and every content area.

2. School Culture and Student Engagement

- Our fall athletic season concluded this past week, highlighted by strong postseason performances across multiple programs. Girls Cross Country placed 5th at the state meet, Volleyball took 3rd in state, and Football finished as the 2A state runner-up. These achievements have brought positive momentum and pride to the student body.
Winter sports are now underway, with basketball and wrestling beginning competition this week.
- To strengthen school culture this fall, we held several targeted pep assemblies to recognize teams, build spirit, and create shared experiences for students. These efforts had a noticeable impact, contributing to an energized and supportive climate throughout the season.

3. Academics

- Communication with families continues to be a priority. Several departments have elevated their outreach this year by providing monthly newsletters that highlight classroom learning, upcoming projects, and co-curricular opportunities. In addition to our standard Mustang Monthly, we now distribute the Music Mustang Monthly and have recently added the Career & College Readiness Newsletter through the counseling office. These tools give families a clearer view of what is happening in our classrooms and help reinforce the relevance of our academic and extracurricular programs.
- As we approach the end of the semester, we will be implementing semester teacher-parent conferences for the first time during my tenure at HJSHS. The goal is to provide meaningful, timely communication about student progress, celebrate successes, and collaborate with families on strategies that will support students heading into the second half of the year.

MCSD Maintenance & Facilities Report – November 2025

In December, we will submit the annual building data collections report to Oregon Department of Education. This report provides an inventory of the school facilities and year-to-year energy usage data, internet connectivity, maintenance expenses and major or minor renovations.

We are continuing the lead in water testing in December. This is an ODE requirement for all schools in the state, and we are required to conduct them every six years. All fixtures that may be used for drinking will be tested and reports posted within 10 days. All mitigation will be done promptly and follow the ODE guidelines. Along with MEC, two additional schools have completed testing and we are waiting for the lab results.

Bond Project Update:

The Wenaha and the District team have weekly meetings to stay on track.

Our first Bond Oversight Committee meeting was informative and provided an opportunity for the committee to learn about the process, ask questions and provide feedback. Our next meeting will be scheduled soon and likely be in February. 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 will be 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.

The Design Advisory Committee (DAC) meeting was well attended and was a great success! The members commented that the meeting was engaging, thought-provoking and they learned a lot about the process. Our student members were the highlight of the evening – their insights were thoughtful, openminded and they provided a great reminder about how important this process is. The group is tasked with helping to shape the design and vision of the schools and to communicate the work with the staff, community and stakeholders. They will prioritize cost framework, craft the design goals and refine the design to shape the future of our schools. Our architect firm, SAJ, facilitated an outstanding workshop with open discussion and creative activities.

We will continue to combine the DACs for Boardman, Heppner and Irrigon for the next three meetings on December 16, January 20 and February 24. Up to three board members may attend the meetings.

In March, Irrigon will meet for the next seven months separately. Boardman's group will meet from July 2025 – January 2027. Heppner's meetings are September 2026 – March 2027. During those meetings, the DACs will create unique, individual spaces for their buildings.

Irrigon's DAC members are Rose Palmer, Marie Shimer, Addie Cole, Dan Locey, James Durfee, Brenda Shockman, Heidi Horn and daughter Jade, Nubia Loera and daughter Nathaly and Aaron Palmquist.

Boardman's DAC members are John Christy, Marie Shimer, David Boor, Stephanie Simpson, Claude Birt, Smokey Joe Wightman, Veronica Nunez Lezama and daughter Ariana, Richard Rockwell and daughter Kaia and Luis Campos.

Heppner's DAC 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.

The SAJ Architect design schedule includes opportunities for building staff, students and community members to provide input and feedback. As we move through the process, we will provide more details and communicate with stakeholders.

The Irrigon new build and safety security request for proposal for the Construction Manager/General Contractor was released on October 31. We had 12 firms attend the mandatory zoom meeting on November 10 followed by five firms at the non-mandatory site visit on November 12. The firms received an addendum that included answers to all questions that were posed. Proposals are due on December 9. The evaluation committee will review and interview by January 6 and make a recommendation at the January 12 school board meeting. The Boardman and Heppner CM/GC request for proposals will be available in 2026.

SAJ along with several engineers, Wenaha and the District team visited Windy River and Irrigon Elementary on November 20 for the safety and security upgrades that will be done during the summer of 2026. The group visited with principals about how the spaces work now and what improvements could be made. Safety and security may include updated camera systems, door access control and secure front entries.

Topographic and utility survey reports have been received and shared with Wenaha and SAJ. Hazardous material survey samples have been collected, and the full report is due at the end of December. We selected the company for the geotech surveys and coordination will begin this month. Our next procurements include third party cost estimator, commissioning authority and building envelope consultant. All surveys and consultants are a vital part of the process to help the architects and general contractors know what to expect and provide a checks and balances system which in turn should keep the change orders and unexpected expenses minimal.

Pacific Northwest Communications created our press release which was shared on all schools' social media and area news outlets. This press release centered around the BOC and DAC meetings. Our next task is to create video content featuring the DAC students.

The District team would like to thank all the volunteer committee members 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.

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

Staff Incident/Accidents Report:

Date	School	Incident
12/2/25	SBE	Employee was kicked in the head by a student in the Life Skills classroom. No time lost, no medical attention sought.