

Administration Reports

March 2022

Sam Boardman Elementary

As educators we know the importance upon attendance and the past two years have made this concept even more clear...if students aren't present-- we can't teach them. Consistency increases student achievement. That consistency in routines, structures and daily activities helps students academically, behaviorally and socially.

Students with regular school attendance are more likely to succeed. Every day matters for every child. To help ensure students are regular attenders our Head Secretary, Department Secretary and our CARE Coordinator work daily to check on unexcused absences. Historically our attendance at SBE has been in the 77% +/- range. Our daily student attendance for the 2021-2022 year thus far averages 86.33%. These efforts have made a significant difference along with concentrated efforts from our teachers. Building relationships by supporting students and families in the current stressful climate has been a focus. The social emotional well-being of students has been a concern. Students with anxiety, health concerns and overall struggles with daily expectations have made education more challenging than ever. Teachers and staff recognize that when students feel supported and safe they come to school. By regularly attending those routines and structures promote academic growth! Recently stated by a kinder teacher, "When students are all here the learning moments are rich!" Also, "We celebrate attendance, especially if everyone is present".



Teachers use many different tools to have open communication with our families. Kinder, 1st and 2nd utilize digital communication apps to track student behavior and correspond with families regarding grades, behavior and notifications for any school related activities. The favored application is Class Dojo and once kinder students' parents know how to use this helps for the rest of their career at SBE. Teachers focus on conversations about the importance of being at school, unless students are ill, and this promotes students being excited about being present and engaged. Some teachers report making weekly phone calls to families and others have found email correspondence to be effective.

Community programs that are being used to support students, promote attendance and maintain our SBE school family include:

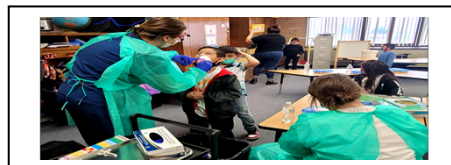
- Community Counseling Solutions (CCS), this includes our SPURS youth mentoring program
- CARE Coordination with Morrow County Health Department, Oregon Health Program (OHP) and Department of Human Services (DHS)
- Continued partnership with IMESD. Currently utilizing services from the Migrant Education program, two teachers coming to SBE daily to teach small group reading and math skills groups
- Advantage Dental –screenings, sealants and referrals

Our school-based counselor, in partnership with our CCS counselor, work together to support student well-being and provide student support while creating trusted family relationships. We have referred more students this year for counseling needs than in recent years, and our students are benefitting from these, as well as the above-mentioned wrap-around services.



(Left) Our March virtual student body assembly celebrating student successes for academics, social/emotional growth and also attendance!

(Below) Advantage Dental doing follow-up screening in 1st grade.



Windy River Elementary

Report on Board Goal #2: Develop and foster strong communication practices that support the district's mission and goals with all stakeholder populations. MCSD will strive to build trust and improve partnerships with communities, including parents, business, civic and cultural groups. MCSD will continue to work with families and community partners to emphasize the importance attendance has on student learning.

We had the great opportunity to hire a full-time CARE coordinator this year. The impact to our school and connection with the community has grown immensely. They find avenues to meet student's needs inside and outside of school. I am biased to say that Mrs. Pena is an amazing individual who contacts parents and other stakeholders on a regular basis to find resources for our students but I know others would agree with me. This means finding rewards for students who are struggling with attendance, or doing well as incentives for students with our community groups.

One major change we have done at WRE is personal phone calls to families. Families who have unexcused absences every day will receive a call from my department secretary and CARE coordinator before the first robo call. This is where we are able to help train parents on what to do to excuse their child as well as find out if there are other factors that are inhibiting their child from attending. It has led to other school-oriented MDT groups meeting to help students.

We have SITE council that is still growing where we are getting feedback from parents and how they can help us be involved in our school. One suggestion was to have parent volunteers come and help with delivering of information for attendance to other parents. We want to start a community/parent group to help with making further connections. The plans are being developed and making sure we navigate through the previous COVID protocols before we are a go on this.

Riverside Jr/Sr High School

Board Goal #2: Develop and foster strong communication practices that support the district's mission and goals with all stakeholder populations. MCSD will strive to build trust and improve partnerships with communities, including parents, business, civic and cultural groups. MCSD will continue to work with families and community partners to emphasize the importance attendance has on student learning.

This school year we have worked diligently to communicate with families on their students' progress. Each week we send home a notification to families of students who have an F or a D in any classes. Our goal with this is to keep the communication open with families and help notify them if their student is struggling. This has led to many family meetings in person so we can all work together to meet the needs of their child.

We also communicate with families when their child is recognized as a Captain of the Month. Students are recognized as Captains of the Month by their teachers, and we pass this information on to the parents. It is a great way to recognize the amazing work our students are doing at Riverside.

There have been a lot of events going on as well. Our drama club put on a performance on March 10th, 11th and 12th of Alice in Wonderland. It is so AMAZING to have these opportunities again for our students and community. Our band also has a spring concert coming up on March 16th. All of these are opportunities we communicate with the community and our students receive a tremendous amount of support from parents, friends and community members at these events.

AC Houghton Elementary

MCSD Board Goal #2: Focuses on communication, developing trust and the importance of strong attendance on learning outcomes. Building a strong partnership with families is a key component of meeting this goal. Monthly newsletters, family nights, parent-teacher conferences and engagement on a variety of social media platforms helps to maintain this strong relationship.

Recently, Mrs. Osborne, our K-3 PE teacher, facilitated a fundraiser for the American Heart Association. In order to increase participation and engagement, Mrs. Osborne set a goal for the school. Guess what? The students rose to the

occasion and that ended with both Mrs. Osborne and Mrs. Ewing getting a pie in the face! The kids really had a great time.

Along with communication and family events, we strive to improve relationships with students leading to increased attendance. Each classroom begins the school day with a morning meeting focusing on students feeling safe at school, growing friendships and strengthening relationships with trusted adults. Throughout this school year our overall daily attendance has hovered around 89%. For the month of March, so far, our average is 92%. This is a tough metric to move, but we are committed.



Finally, our 3rd grade students have wrapped up their 1st week of swimming lessons and this has been a challenging but extremely worthwhile experience. Out of 60 students in 3rd grade, less than 20 had experienced swimming lessons previous to this week. These swimming lessons and transportation to the Boardman Pool and Recreation Center were funded through a grant from Tillamook.

Irrigon Elementary School

Irrigon Elementary School had a successful last month with students engaged in their learning. We have been supporting our students who are academically struggling or need to be academically challenged through ELA and math skill blocks. Our students are receiving additional skills to challenge and increase their academic knowledge.

Our school-based counselor has been meeting with students individually, in group settings and in the classroom to support their social/emotional needs. These sessions have helped students learn how to self-regulate and control their emotions.

We have also been working with our wrap around services to support students and families with Community Counseling Services, OHP benefits, vision/dental/health appointments and any other need that is expressed to our CARE Coordinator. We currently have about 27 students signed up for the food backpack program. This program allows for us to handout meal bags to our enrolled students every Thursday with food for the weekend.

Attendance has been a challenge with making sure that all of our students have access to their education through in person learning and virtually while in quarantine. We have been communicating with parents on how to attend virtually, if their child is unable to attend due to illness. Our SRO has helped with making home visits to students we are concerned about or to drop off learning materials to students who cannot make it to our campus.

Overall, it has been such a great year with being able to see students learning and thriving at school. We will continue to support our students and families the best we can each and every day!

Irrigon Jr/Sr High School

It is March and spring is finally here! 30 degrees one day and 68 degrees the next, it seems the only constant is the wind! I would like to give the board an update on the Irrigon Jr/Sr High School Track Project. We believe we have secured the needed funding to build the track starting in April. This project has been in the planning stages for almost 7 years. With

the great support from local community partners and the school district, this greatly needed facility is about to become a reality. I would like to thank the Park and Rec district for a tremendous donation of \$100,000, the City of Irrigon and the CREZ for setting up funds through their board to provide a similar amount of funding, to Tillamook for a \$20,000 grant, and to the school district, which has already set aside \$100,000, with another \$100,000 to follow in July to finish the project. I also cannot forget the Port of Morrow, who without their support this project would also not be occurring. The Port of Morrow will be supporting the project management and providing other pivotal work and support to this project. It is so tremendous that this project was supported solely through our community partners and the district! Thank you to all those involved!

I would also like to highlight the accolades from state wrestling, as we had 2 wrestlers place at the state competition. Stephanie Romero finished 2nd in state in the girls heavyweight division, and Jacob Ayala, who was a district champion, finished 3rd in state at 152 lbs. Our Junior High Wrestlers are heading to their state competition this week, sending 4 wrestlers. Chloe Classen-Wilson and Zach Parton were regional champions, and Preston Slawson and Brody Parrish were runners up, and will be competing for the middle school state championship on Saturday. Good Luck Knights!

Heppner Elementary

HES has a strong system of communication practices that helps us foster community support and engage our stake holders. These continue to be our go to actions.

- We continue to use Monday folders for class and school communication to parents
- HES uses the school website and various other social media options to communicate with parents and interested community members.
- We regularly have articles in the Heppner Gazette
- Our open house was well attended and through that we added many members to our Parent Teacher Club, which in itself is a means of communicating with our stakeholders.
- In urgent situations such as inclement weather we are able to push messages to parents' email, text and voice messages with a few clicks on the computer.
- We reach out to businesses and other civic organizations through monthly chamber meetings and respond quickly to queries from these stake holders.

For an update on wrap around support for better attendance through the use of our weekly CARE meetings here is a quick overview. In these meetings our multi-disciplinary team of the principal, both counselors, the SRO and our CARE coordinator we discuss the current student concerns, especially attendance. We are advancing the process to bring in the support of Judge Diehl in a timely manner when we have the need.

In addition, after a discussion at site council, we are now communicating regularly with classroom teachers about families we are engaging. They also have this opportunity to bring up any concerns they have. We have held several Multi-Disciplinary Team meetings with parents around attendance. This seems to be having a very positive impact with immediate results. One family with whom we piloted this approach last year has seen a 10% increase in attendance.

These meetings have been ongoing for the last 5-6 years and will continue. The added emphasis on attendance includes, but is not limited to, contact/communication from teachers, incentive programs through our community partners, phone calls and home visits from the CARE coordinator, SRO and principal prior to reaching the threshold for irregular attendance. Once a student's attendance drops below acceptable we schedule the MDT with parents. We are also including clear communication in writing with encouragement and clear expectations.

Thanks once again for your support and time on behalf of all our HES family.

Heppner Jr/Sr High School

For this month's report I will be once again highlighting Board Goal #2: *Develop and foster strong communication practices that support the district's mission and goals with all stakeholder populations. MCSD will strive to build trust and improve partnerships with communities, including parents, business, civic and cultural groups. MCSD will continue to work with families and community partners to emphasize the importance attendance has on student learning.*

We continue to communicate our HJSHS events via the Heppner Gazette, on our HJSHS website, the HJSHS R-School activities calendar, on our reader board located in front of Columbia Basin Electric Co-op and through school messenger notifications. Back to School Night, new student conferences, seventh grade conferences and freshmen conferences were all held this Fall at HJSHS and we had good overall turnouts for them utilizing the communication practices describe above.

Many thanks to our local community for their continued support and involvement with our school programs and I also want to extend a “BIG THANKS” to our Booster Club, Local Business Community, and Site Council for all of their continued support!

We just recently completed our Winter Sports Seasons at HJSHS. We had two Mustang wrestlers (Conor Brosnon 182lbs. and Cade Cunningham 195lbs.) compete at the 1A/2A State Wrestling Tournament in Culver on February 26th. Conor a senior at HHS, placed 4th and Cade who is a sophomore gained valuable state level competitive experience. Our Girls basketball team finished 4th at the Blue Mountain Conference District Tournament and our Boys basketball team were the BMC league and district champions advancing to the state tournament which was held March 3rd – 5th in Pendleton. I’d also like to give a “shout out” to our HHS Pep Band, who under the direction of our new Band/Music Teacher (Brook Baker) have done an exceptional job performing during the fall and winter sports seasons! Go Mustangs!

I would like to end this month’s report by thanking each of you for your support and commitment to all students of the Morrow County School District.

Management’s Discussion and Analysis

MCS D – Maintenance & Facilities Update – March 2022

We have reviewed the Maintenance budgeting requests from our schools and will be submitting our 2022-2023 budget by March 14, 2022. Our budgeting focus continues to be based on Safety, Extending Useful Life and Efficiencies/Cost Savings.

We continue to work with WTI and McKinstry to move forward with the HVAC Projects that were approved with ESSER II and ESSER III funds. The design and engineering studies are underway and we plan on moving forward with construction beginning in April with completion tentatively set for September.

The District Bond Core Team is continuing their communications work for the proposed Bond Measure 25-87. Information flyers have been mailed to residents, the renderings and floor plans are on the website and have been shared on social media and the video will be released later this month. Wenaha Group is helping keep the district on track with deadlines and submissions.

Staff Incident/Accidents Report:

Date	School	Incident
2/9/22	HES	Ed Assistant hurt hand playing tetherball. Went to the doctor, no time loss.