

## **Principal & Director Reports**

**March 2010**

### **AC. Houghton Elementary**

#### **Community Involvement at ACH**

At AC Houghton, community involvement has been pretty good through the years. Events such as classroom celebrations special days or holidays always have good parent participation. Each grade level takes an educational field trip each year. We always have parent volunteers going along as volunteer assistants and chaperones. Our school has always been a part of the Foster Grandparent Program. This is a program where senior citizen members of the community are in the school each day during a majority of the day providing assistance in reading and/or language arts areas to students in several specific classes. They serve as great role models for students and are of great assistance to our instructional program. Our school has also had a continued participation by former parents, now patrons, because they don't have ACH students of their own, helping out in classes and in the production of instructional materials. Another positive area of community involvement comes from Irrigon High School students that serve as instructional assistants in classrooms as regular a signed class. This provides help and mentoring for our students and also positive role modeling. Our student involvement in the community is focused on two big areas. The first is our annual community cleanup day in April. Almost every student and staff member in the school picks up trash covering a 20 square block area of downtown Irrigon. That usually amounts to a couple dumpsters full of paper and other trash. The final area is set. We have become a high level of recycling school. We recycle all white paper, plastic, metal, and we wash our lunch dishes instead of using throwaway dishes. We want to be as Green as possible. We have a group of third graders that are our Recycle Team that collects white paper on a weekly basis. We also are the recycling source of white paper from the other schools.

#### **Child Find**

This was before March, but we wanted the Board to know of this activity from our school. On February 26, 2010 the Principal and Specialists at A.C. Houghton participated in "Child Find" hosted by the Umatilla Morrow Educational Service District. Approximately 60 children were screened for potential learning and development problems. Many of these children will be able to attend the ESD's early educational programs along with getting assistance on speech, language and developmental problems. This was a huge success. In the past, Child Find has only been reaching approximately 10 to 20 children a year at this screening. Due to more advertisement, letters home to parents of children at A.C. Houghton, personal phone calls and home visits, more children were screened. Lunch was also served to the parents and children that participated. This also contributed to the success of the day.

### **Heppner Elementary School**

It is once again a privilege to report the recent happenings of Heppner Elementary School. April has arrived and our enrollment at HES is 195 students as of today. Our current attendance percentage for the 2009/2010 school year is 94.83%. We still have 14 students in the running for perfect attendance for the year. As always we will continue to promote the importance of regular attendance to the students and parents of Heppner Elementary School.

March was full of many exciting events which took place at HES, with the highlight being the “Hawaiian Dance/Luau Party” that was held on March 18<sup>th</sup>, sponsored by the HES Parent Teacher Club. This family event was a great success and I would like to say **Thank You** to all who were involved with this spectacular fun filled evening. I have received many positive remarks from the families who attended and it appeared that everyone really enjoyed spending family time together. The HES Chess Mates Club also celebrated their final day on March 8<sup>th</sup> and fun was had by all who attended.

The third quarter ended on March 18<sup>th</sup> and we held conferences at HES on April 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Honor Card Assembly for the third quarter will be held in the HES gym at 2:00pm on Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. Other noteworthy events for the month of April include the Writing Festival for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders at WRE on April 15th, and the MCSD Math Contest being held at HES on the evening of April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

With the second round of OAKS testing complete, HES is again showing positive RIT growth and good results on the OAKS Tests.

I would like to end this months report by again thanking each of you for your support of Heppner Elementary School, and for your commitment to all students of the Morrow County School District.

### **Heppner High School**

- We just finished our second round of OAKS testing and we are excited about the numbers we are seeing in several areas. With one more testing window to go, we could gain several more meets from students that are on the bubble. But in a nutshell, looking at just meet and exceeds- we like where we are sitting at this point. Here are our percentages 7<sup>th</sup> grade math 86%- 22/26 students met or exceeded, 7<sup>th</sup> grade reading 77%- 20/26 students met or exceeded with several nearly meeting the standard, 8<sup>th</sup> grade math 83%- 24/29 students met or exceeded, 8<sup>th</sup> grade reading 70%- 20/29 students met or exceeded with seven of these students nearly meeting the standard, 10<sup>th</sup> grade math 82%- 27/33 students met or exceeded, and 10 grade reading 85%- 28/33 of our 10<sup>th</sup> grade students have met or exceeded. We are continually working on getting all of our students over the hump and will have some tremendous growth in some of our kids that have not met due to how low they were at the start of the year. Congrats to my staff and their work here!
- Our seniors have been working very hard on scholarships. This class is extremely talented with several of them being accepted to honors colleges and hard to get into private universities. This process is exciting for students, staff and parents. It definitely demonstrates the “good” that Heppner High School illustrates thorough our students success.
- Congratulations to our FFA Program for their spring time accomplishments. 3 Heppner FFA members won their Proficiency area at the state level and their applications will advance now to the national level. Devin Robinson of Heppner was named the State Beef Production Placement award winner, Brynna Rust of Echo was named the State FFA Grain Production Placement award winner, and Garrett Gibbs of Heppner was named the State FFA Environmental Science and Natural Resources Placement award winner. All state winners receive a check of \$50 from the State FFA Association and \$250 from the National FFA. Their

applications will be judged and rated gold, silver or bronze. If chosen as one of the Top 4 National finalists each will receive a plaque and a \$500 check. The national winner, selected from this group, will receive an additional \$500 check and a plaque. The ESNR Proficiency area is sponsored by Triscuit, the Beef Production area is sponsored by Midwest PMS and National FFA Foundation and the Grain Production area is sponsored by Pioneer Hi-Bred.

- State FFA Degree Recipients from Heppner include: Brett Harrison, Kellee Jones, Jarreid Miller, Haley Struckmeier, Brynna Rust, Devin Robinson, Willy Gentry and Brandi Hong.
- Congratulations to the Heppner FFA Chapter for receiving 3<sup>rd</sup> place at state in BOTH Secretary's Book (Kelsi Putman) and Scrapbook!!!
- Again, these results are amazing and a testament of our Mrs. Dickenson's hard work and dedication to student success!
- Senior GOAL portfolio presentations will be held on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of this month from 6pm until 8pm. If you are interested on being part of a community panel, please let me know.
- FBLA State Convention is on April 7<sup>th</sup> through the 9<sup>th</sup> in Portland. We have two students attending with Mrs. Collins their advisor. Ashley Wolff and Daisy Victorio both qualified to compete on the state level in Business Ethics and Management Making Decisions. Good Luck and Congratulations to our club on another successful year.





### **Irrigon Elementary School**

1. Trevor Fox: Last month on March 4<sup>th</sup> a sixth grade student from IES was killed in a tragic motorcycle accident. Trevor Fox will be greatly missed. The day after his death we met with the Crisis Intervention Flight Team manager, and we prepared for the next Monday when children would return to school. That same Friday people held a candle vigil and walked from ACH to IES. About a 1,000 people came; it was amazing! On Monday, the office and the Crisis room were filled with students, parents and volunteer staff from other schools. The week before many of them had been helping at our schools in Heppner. We made it through the week with many tears, hugs and sighs. That Friday we held the final funeral service at IES gymnasium with about 800 in attendance. We will never be the same, but we are healing. I thank the Morrow County staff for all their help at this time of grief and pain. Together as a community, and as a district, we are thankful that we have each other and the wonderful supports of our ESD's Crisis Intervention Flight Team.
2. Battle of the Books: On March 18 the final battle of the last two teams battled for the questions being answered. The Kongregates beat the Book Worms by one question. Both teams won passes to the movies, bowling and to McDonalds or Pizza Hut. Over seventy students participated in the battling groups. This encourages kids to read, have fun, and win things for their efforts.
3. Third Quarter Awards Assembly: We celebrated our third quarter assembly with awards for AR reading, Gatoraid awards for P.E., teacher awards for students in each class, special programs awards, and perfect attendance awards. Parents were invited to attend to support their child receiving awards.

### **English Second Language (ESL)**

1. The ESL director attended a Title II Staff Development seminar on March to have input and involvement in the staff development program to the whole district which impacts ELL students across the district. He joined the "Big Team" which works under the Assistant Superintendant Phyllis Danielson who is leading the direction of this team.
2. English Language Development Plan: The English Language Development plan has been developed to provide a structure for teachers across the district in both primary and secondary schools. This plan, sent to the Oregon Department of Education, will provide

a process by which the district plans to prepare every teacher to better teach their content and English language development.

3. ELPA (English Language Proficiency Assessment) test: The district has completed the ELPA test for every ESL student in the district. This test is required by state law for every ELL student in our district ESL program. It is done every year. By this test we are able to identify how many students have increased English proficiency levels and how many students are exiting the ESL program. Any new ESL student will be quickly assessed in the ELPA until May 17<sup>th</sup>, which is the last day we can use this test.

### **Irrigon High School**

We have just finished ELPA testing for our ELL students, and we have finished analyzing our second round of OAKS scores. We will soon begin the new online version of the state writing test for our 10<sup>th</sup> grade students, and any 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students who have not yet passed. In addition to a score from a trained rater, the system will generate a score as well. Once the writing tests are finished, we will conduct our last round of OAKS testing.

In 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade, we are already outperforming the results we posted at the end of the second round of testing last year. In the 7<sup>th</sup> grade, we are 9 students away from surpassing last year's performance in both Reading and Math. In 8<sup>th</sup> grade, we are 1 student away in Reading, 3 students in Math, and we have already topped last year's best performance in Science. In 10<sup>th</sup> grade, we are 2 students away from surpassing our best performance last year in Reading, 5 students away in Science, and we have already topped our performance in 10<sup>th</sup> grade Math.

In addition, we are closely monitoring the students who, if they meet benchmark, will help us make AYP. Since the AYP targets increased by 10% this year, we are working even harder to help those students meet. We have already demonstrated incredible growth (8 points average for 9 of the 11 7<sup>th</sup> graders) for students "double dipped" in Math. Because many of those students have tested out of the additional math class, we have moved a number of students in that we have identified as needing additional help.

Over spring break Morrow County FFA attended the state convention in Corvallis. After placing first in the regional event, our beginning parli-pro team took fourth at state. When not competing, students attended workshops, sessions, elected officers, and selected proficiency winners.

Our Knights Pride Booster Club's annual auction was held last month and was an enormous success. Their efforts raised over \$15,000 dollars to devote to various projects and programs around our school, including a \$1000 donation to our library last week. Of that \$15000, we had ten student groups earn a combined \$1410 from table sponsorships including the Key Club who brought in a whopping \$575 for their table.

### **Riverside High School**

#### **CONGRATULATIONS WINTER ATHLETICS**

Congratulations to the following sports that competed at the State level for winter sports:

- Boy's Basketball ~ Finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in league securing the team a spot in the State Tournament.
- High School Wrestling: Brigham Hansen~State Champion, Gustavo Madrigal~3<sup>rd</sup> place, Briton Hansen~5<sup>th</sup> place. Also competing at State were Hector Dominguez, Martin Herrera & Eric Magallanes.
- Junior High Wrestling: Hans Rockwell~4<sup>th</sup> Place. Also competing at State was Elijah Conlon.

- Matt Hyder was selected to the State 3A All State Basketball Team. Matt will play in the OACA/Gatorade North-South All Star Basketball series June 18<sup>th</sup> at Northwest Christian College in Eugene and June 19<sup>th</sup> at Clackamas Community College in Oregon City.
- Mr. Clair Costello was selected as one of four, Portland Trail Blazers Coach of the Year. He will be honored at half time of the Trail Blazers vs Dallas Mavericks game Friday, April 9<sup>th</sup>.

We congratulate these athletes and their coaches for their dedication and hard work.

### KEY CLUB

Key Club of Riverside High School sent eight members and one advisor to the District Convention at the Double Tree Inn at Sea Tac in Seattle over Spring Break. All four incoming officers attended officer training. Riverside traveled with Division 80 clubs from Hermiston and Umatilla. Thank you to Boardman Kiwanis for sponsoring a sophomore Key Club member to attend convention this year. Key Club members also participated in the set-up of the Annual Tillicum Club Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Riverside has been involved with several community service opportunities/projects recently:

- Head Start – Looking for 2 student volunteers for child care for 10 weeks.
- Sam Boardman – Looking for 6 student volunteers for parent/teacher conferences.
- Sam Boardman – Looking for volunteers to help with their annual Carnival.
- National Honor Society Blood Drive.

### CHANGE FOR HAITI

Riverside students and staff collected change for the Haiti Relief effort.

### Sam Boardman Elementary

#### ***Students of the Month for March:***

	<b>Academics</b>	<b>Respect</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Safety</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
<b>Kinder</b>	Jasmin Lopez Damian Garcia Siloe Barragan Hailey Daltoso Trinidad Mendoza	Suzie Newton Estella Castro Jonathan Ramirez Isabella Gonzalez Karyme Lopez	Miranda Landeros Giovanni Salas Melanie Foster Zuriel Martinez Benancio Sanchez	Moisha Shoeships Isabella Mastriona Estefani Llamas Maya Navarro Keilah Mossman	Mr. McClenahen 95%
<b>1st Grade</b>	Wendy Sanchez Cooper Szasz Wyatt Duke Patrick McConnell Vanessa Rodriguez	Taylor Schneider Nate Harrison Samantha Rea Matthew Eubanks	America Pacheco Karen Frausto Jaylene Altamirano	Maria Marquez Francisco Barajas Lupita Silva	Mrs. Wilson 96%%
<b>2nd Grade</b>	Johan Pena Edwin Pacheco Cristian rea	Serafin Roque Blake Davis Jocelyn Rodriguez	Isabella Ganvoa Soledad Munoz Megan Gilbertson	Zoey Gilbert Jesus Carmona Alexis Zapata	Mrs. Files 96%
<b>3rd Grade</b>	Aidan Barresse Trustin Winn Veronica Alvarez Silvestre Vasquez	Sabreena Metcalf Lainey Rogers Odalys Ibarra Sylvia Johnson	Andrew Vestal Marytza Prado Ana Navarro Joshua Matthews- McCord	Isaac Terry Jared Miller Daisy Sanchez Ethan Harper	Mrs. Raible 96%





**Enrollment:** 310 **Attendance:** The average attendance for January was 93.45%.

**Students of the Month Assembly:** Students Being Excellent! For each book students read they earned a vote for the teacher they wanted to see get a pie in the face. Students reading chapter books earned three votes. At the assembly student names were drawn from the voting can to determine who would throw the pie in the teacher's face. Pictured here is the principal's first ever pie! What teachers and principals won't do to get students to read! 1,833 AR points were earned, and 219 chapter books were read. WOW!



(Well, teachers will do most anything to get students to read! Students begin reading this week for a chance to vote for the teacher they want to see eat bugs!) Also, **Student Council** presented several great spring safety tips for students, now that the days are getting longer.



**Fiesta Party celebrates AR Reading:** Students completing their goals for third quarter were invited to a Fiesta Party complete with games, piñatas and nachos. Over 220 students reached their AR goals and celebrated the 4,094 books read this quarter and the 11,613 books read so far this year! 1,832 more books than last year! Way to go Buccaneers!

**King Arthur's Quest:** Thirty area students and their parents

participated with the Missoula Children's Theatre in workshops to learn about costumes, dance, articulation, makeup, set design and more. They gave two outstanding performances. What a treat for our



community! Thank you North Morrow Community Foundation.

**Promoting Fitness:** S.B.E. students will have the opportunity to participate in a four week program developed to promote physical fitness and health in the youth of Oregon. The program, **Shape Up Across Oregon**, began April 1<sup>st</sup>. Students are encouraged to exercise each day in order to reach a goal of 45 segments in one month. Thirty minutes of exercise earns a child one segment. Those who complete the "journey" will receive a certificate signed by the governor and be entered in a drawing for prizes.

**Site Council:** Members reviewed our school-wide improvement plan and updated our parent survey.

**Parent Conferences** were well attended! Each parent completing our school survey earned a coupon for a free book with information on how to read aloud to their child. We collected 160 surveys and gave away 141 books!

**SBE's Carnival is April 29<sup>th</sup>:** Parents and staff have been busy creating a whole new look around a carnival theme. You won't want to miss the fun!

## **Windy River Elementary**

### **March Students of the Month**

#### **MARCH**

Beagle  
Boor  
Browne  
Foster  
Wainwright  
Dames  
Keefer

#### **Academics**

Eloy Hernandez  
Giovanni Hernandez  
Mirna Daltoso  
Anthony Ramirez  
Alonso Cambero  
Samantha Zapata  
Belinda Lomas

#### **Academics**

Shandon Sanders  
Ruby Salazar  
Kassie Harrison  
Luis Olvera  
Arturo Flores  
Angelic Perez  
Sadie Hasbell

#### **Theme - Courage**

Stephen Groce  
Kevin Bravo  
Anisha Ghising  
Emily Taylor  
Markus Smith  
Emily Kirby  
Josue Calvillo  
Durga Chapagai & Devika  
Luitel  
Jose Agripino





### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Party

Science and Engineering was the focus of our March parent party. Using string, balloons, a straw, and a cargo carrier made out of a milk carton, students designed and tested a rocket balloon. The cargo was 10 paper clips. The goal was to find the best design that would carry the cargo the furthest. Students found that the larger the balloon (more air), the further their rocket traveled in distance. Some other changes that were tried were different kinds of strings, where slick fishing line created the least amount of friction, making the rocket travel further. It was an excellent experience that provided the students and parents with practice in Designing and Engineering, a new component of the new Science standards.

### Benchmark Testing Rewards

On April 1<sup>st</sup>, as a reward for students who either passed Math or made a 6+ point gain, WRE had an extra recess at 2:20-2:50pm. All those who passed Reading or made a 6+ point gain went to a 2:50-3:20pm extra recess. IF they qualify for both, then they had a one-hour recess. This turned out to be a great motivation for students and was a great success.

### WRE Family Math Night

Family Math Night at Windy River Elementary, held on March 11<sup>th</sup>, was a success. The evening started with a free hamburger/chips/pop dinner for the first 100 people to attend. All but a few of the burgers were devoured. Students and their parents/guardians then stopped by tables all employing math skills: Straw Rockets and Statistics/Probability; Probability and Statistics Games; Checkbook Writing and Reconciliation; Tangrams; Estimation; and Graphing, to name a few. Games involving math concepts were given out by each table as prizes throughout the evening including Monopoly, Phase 10 and Chess. Teachers are excited to do this again next year with plans on how to make it even better.

### OMSI Assembly

On Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, OMSI came to our school for an assembly and presented science circus: the physics of fun. Juggling, acrobatics and the irresistible force of levity demonstrating the significance and relevance of physics. Some of the topics were: centripetal force, gyroscopic stability, gravity, balance, inertia, mass and resistance.

### Morrow County District Math Contest - Top 6 WRE

<b><u>4th Grade</u></b>	<b><u>5th Grade</u></b>	<b><u>6th Grade</u></b>
Fabian Meza	Brianne Bishop	Jordan Mashos
Kevin Madrigal	Lacey Mashos	Kristen Frederickson
Ana Barajas	Abram Hernandez	Rory Barrese
Aramis Corpus	Marino Pena	Wayne Killion
Ruby Barrera	Sadie Hasbell	Edith Velasco
Alicia Calvillo	Gabrielle Miller	Ryan Ibarra
<b><u>Alternates</u></b>	<b><u>Alternates</u></b>	<b><u>Alternates</u></b>
Gustavo Amaya	Tania Mendoza	Dixie Gonzalez
Sonja Medina tie	Kirsten Taylor	Stephanie Madrigal
Misael Madrigal tie		

