

Report to the Board  
Fort Vannoy School  
March 1, 2013

Two big events occurred in December; our Christmas Program and the beginning of a six month process with the staff toward building a Positive Learning Community (PLC).

The Christmas program was once again a huge success. Fort Vannoy uses the Grants Pass Performing Arts Center (GPPAC) because it is an all-school event. Every grade level learned Christmas and seasonal songs for the performance. From Kindergarten to fifth grade, all of the students were on the stage together. This is a very popular event, put on by our Music Teacher Dayna Hankins. Mrs. Hankins' position is funded by the Fort Vannoy PTA.

A Leadership Team was developed for Fort Vannoy starting early this fall. Serving on the Team are teachers Jim Kriz, Sheri Rubey, Mary Solomon and Nicole Pendleton and Kathie Hill. The Team has been meeting with Peggy Cowens to plan information sharing with the Fort Vannoy teaching staff. We are moving along in the process, opening up discussion about what it means to collaborate and what we want the culture of Fort Vannoy to be. The goal is to have a plan in place by the end of the school year for collaboration which will flow right in to the 2013-2014 school year.

Monthly Family Movie Nights, sponsored by PTA, have drawn big crowds. Movie Nights bring the Fort Vannoy community together for a recently released children's film and snacks. It is so cute to see the kids come in their PJ's, dragging blankets and stuffed toys. We all become little kids eating popcorn and enjoying a lighthearted movie together.

After School Tutoring for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students started right after Christmas Break. Two instructional assistants are paid using Title One funds. They are working with about 40 students over three days a week using the Computer Lab computers and a Math program, IXL.com. Free afternoons snacks are provided by Food Services and parents pick up their children after the 90 minute sessions.

For a short month, February was very busy! We packed in OMSI assemblies, symphony performances, Science Fair and Book Fair. Fort Vannoy students were well represented at the Science Fair. Thirty students earned either a bronze, silver or gold ribbons. Students from first grade through 5<sup>th</sup> participated.

Looking ahead, Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup> is the annual Bingo/Auction Night at Fort Vannoy. This is one of our big fundraisers for the year and involves the whole community. Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup> is the dress rehearsal and evening performance of "Willy Wonka" put on by third-fifth grade students who practice after school two days a week for months! This is an extension of our Music program with Dayna Hankins.

Another important piece of information is that Kathie Hill will be retiring from Fort Vannoy, 50 years after starting her educational career in Josephine County at Fort Vannoy School.