

Principal & Director Reports

November 2010

AC. Houghton Elementary

1. On November 10, ACH will hold a Veterans Day assembly to recognize local veterans who have served or are serving our country. Mrs. Marquardt, our music teacher, is working with the Judy Brown, who retired last spring, to coordinate this assembly. We will have music selections and a special video presentation recognizing the contribution of US veterans to our country.
2. Buck and Elizabeth, country western artists and music educators, will return to ACH beginning the week of November 8-12. This duo is sponsored by our Parent Group. They work with each grade level several times involving the students in the writing of a original musical composition. Buck and Elizabeth have worked with our students for several years now very successfully. The experience for them is truly unique in that they go through the music writing process from beginning to end. They choose themes, wording that lends itself to music composition, and finally, simple music composition that takes a form to bring the words to melody. On Friday, 11/12 there will be a daytime concert and a nighttime concert as well for the grade level music efforts. The nighttime concert will be at 7 PM. You are invited to attend this function and you would be rewarded for doing so greatly.
3. The Morrow County Ski Program will have a evening orientation meeting 11/23 at 7 PM in the ACH cafeteria. We will distribute program advertisement posters in all of Morrow County schools inviting all participation. Students in fourth grade or higher can participate in program without parental participation. Any age level can participate with parental participation. The long -term forecast is fairly bright for good snow in the mountains so we should have a great year. Participants pay their own skiing expenses and transportation is provided free of charge through donations that provide a ski bus. We will ski three weekends in January and the first weekend in February. We do not have program during the Martin Luther King birthday weekend.

Heppner Elementary School

It is a privilege to report the recent happenings of Heppner Elementary School. It is hard to believe that October has passed and that November is already upon us. With the end of the first quarter we are busy preparing for parent teacher conferences this week. Our enrollment as of today is 183 students and our attendance percentage for the year 97%. As always we will continue to promote the importance of regular attendance to the students and parents of Heppner Elementary.

HES Students raised nearly 800 pounds of canned food recently to help the Heppner Neighborhood Center and families from our community. The HES Student Council Members coordinated Red Ribbon Week activities at HES during the week of October 25th – 28th and I am proud to report that they did a great job. Everyone at HES learned a lot about the negative impacts that alcohol and drugs have on living a healthy lifestyle and made the pledge “Proud to be Drug Free”. We are currently gearing up for the first round of OAKS

testing and HES students and staff are eager to meet the recently delegated rigorous ODE math standards this year.

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

Have a great month and a Happy Thanksgiving!

Heppner High School

Irrigon Elementary School

1. 4th Grade Science- Mick Davis from the University of Oregon came and stayed two weeks teaching the fourth grade classes on science using the FOSS kits. It really gave teachers some new insights on teaching science and the kids loved it. I want to keep science alive at IES with all the state emphasis on Reading, Writing and Math.
2. Family Movie Night- On October 14th we had this year's first movie night. We had about 50-60 people come. We sold nice concessions of popcorn, soda and candies. People had a nice time. I laughed at the movie and relaxed. It gave us all a sense of being at ease and being together.
3. Community Involvements- Several community groups of Irrigon are using our building at different times. We have the Columbia Youth Boys and Girls Basketball, the Latino Men's' Soccer League playing in-door soccer, the 4H Club meeting on weekends and the Junior High basketball meeting here as well for practices. We are busy day and night, week-days and week-ends.
4. Whitman Mission 4th Grade Field Trip- Our fourth grade went on their yearly Whitman Mission trip and they said it was the best trip they had ever did. The kids behaved. It was still interesting and they all came back on the 28th to enjoy their Halloween Harvest celebration.
5. OAKS Testing- We are in the process of doing our OAKS tests. It is going well. Nothing major has broken down. We hope to improve on last year's scores. Our data will show what the children know.

ESL

1. With the help of George Mendoza we have started a program called, Los Niños Bien Educados (The Children Well Educated). This is a parent involvement program we are doing at Windy River Elementary and Irrigon Elementary to help parent have more skills in a child's education at home and at the school. We have had 20 to 25 parents attend at both sites. We provide child care, pizza dinner and an hour and a half of instruction on Monday nights. It has been good. With this we hope to lead a parent group into the second semester in both communities.

Irrigon High School

We started our first round of state testing this week, beginning with reading. Everyone has worked hard this fall and is anxious to see the results. Following this round of testing, we will review and discuss student results in our building level PLC meetings in an effort to improve student achievement. I will have results for you next month.

Congratulations to Shanna Backmann and Jennifer Working who placed 1st and 2nd respectively in the Morrow County Soil and Water Conservation District poster contest. Shanna's first place poster will go on to the state level. Nice job ladies!



On Wednesday, October 27th students were treated to an amazing performance by Portland Taiko. (Taiko is the Japanese word for drumming.) This small group of performers blends their expertise in drumming, storytelling and teaching to share the art of taiko and the role of spirit, energy and respect in this cultural tradition. Students were actively involved by participating in a body-percussion call-and-response using voice and clapping to simple taiko rhythms. Students were also able to volunteer and show off their stamina by participating in the actual drumming using the taiko form and technique. A special thanks to the North Morrow Community Foundation for funding this wonderful opportunity to enrich the cultural awareness of our students.

Last month we held our annual college visitation courtesy of our Gear-Up grant. Students had a great time and really enjoyed getting to see the different campuses. One particular highlight for our student was having five members of the class of 2010 spend time with us while we toured the Oregon State campus in Corvallis. It was a huge bonus for our students to see graduates attending one of the larger colleges and hear their first-hand their accounts of college life. Our junior high students did not attend their college visitations on that day, but instead were treated to a career fair which included a wide range of professionals. Students have already begun to make requests for next year's career day – so if you know of any professional athletes, please let me know!



Morrow Education Center

Riverside High School

RHS HOMEPAGE

Please check out the RHS Homepage at rhs.morrow.k12.or.us. We think you will find it informative and easy to use. Our goal is to keep parents informed and involved with student's education.

SCHOLARSHIP/SENIOR INFORMATION

Riverside High School students and parents have immediate access to most upcoming scholarships. The website is updated by our counselor weekly. In addition any relevant senior information including colleges and SAT/ACT test information is posted on our home page at <http://rhs.morrow.k12.or.us/> under Senior Information. The feedback from parents has been that they appreciate the immediate access to all the information for their students.

CAREER DAY

Boardman and other local businesses opened their doors to our seniors on Wednesday, October 20, 2010 for the 2010 Career Day. Every senior was placed at a local business in order to learn more about everyday functioning of a business. They were to ask their supervisors questions regarding their career and what kind of preparation is needed in order to go into that particular field. We worked very closely with the Chamber of Commerce, Diane Wolfe, in particular to make this event successful. After the

morning job shadows, students and supervisors met at the Port of Morrow for a luncheon where students were able to talk about their experience at the local business and what they learned. Then the business supervisors were able to share their experience.

BOARDMAN KIWANIS

The Boardman Kiwanis thanks all RHS homerooms who participated in decorating doors for the Community Halloween Party held at RHS. Approximately 650 children had a safe and healthy Halloween. Winners in the door decorating contest will be announced. RHS Key Club members helped in the organization and served hot dogs at this annual event that was once again a great success.

RIVERSIDE CHEERLEADERS CONNECT WITH SBE/WRE

On Friday October 22, 2010 the Riverside High School track was invaded with mini-cheerleaders for an amazing half-time performance during the Boys Varsity Football game against Nyssa. The RHS cheerleaders hosted a mini-cheer camp October 19-22 as a fundraiser. 20 plus students from SBE and WRE participated; they learned 4 cheers and one dance. They played games and had a lot of fun.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AT RIVERSIDE

Riverside High School recently held its first ever Community Harvest Festival this past Thursday, October 28. The event was organized by the High School Youth Advisory Council and meant to serve as a family and community involvement activity to celebrate the harvest as well as bring the community together for a fun night together. The Youth Advisory Council organized the event and was responsible for conducting over 15 family friendly games and activities for the young and old alike. They raised over 700.00 to support their organization and there were many smiling faces going home with lots of food, cake, candy and prizes. RHS administration would like to thank Mayor, Chet Phillips, Mrs. Pam Docken, Youth Advisory Council members, Key club members, all fall athletic teams and the many volunteer students and adults that worked together to make the evening a success.

Sam Boardman Elementary School

Students of the Month for October:

	Academics	Respect	Responsibility	Safety	Attendance
K-Team	Caden Szazs Abraham Zapata Nataly Matir Samantha Fulsang	Braydyn Russell Jose Morales Loli Jacquez Brenda Trujillo	Abril Rosales Yasmin Martinez Allison Newton Halie Orcutt	Armando Ibarra Catherine Ruiz Gustavo Zuniga Dayanara Lopez	Mrs. Matheny 95%
Team 1	Isabella Gonzalez Carlos Magana Lelila Cambero Mariela Mendoza	Benancio Sanchez Ali Zapata Erika Rodriguez Alexis Sanchez	Layla Castillo Lisete Cisneros Gabriela Avila Jasmin Lopez	Brock Barrett Logan Cordova Estefani Llamas	Mrs. Fletcher 97%
Team 2	Gavin Cates Susan Newton Cinthia Diaz Ramon Montes	Natalie Reed Roselyn Caldera Myles Harper Hailee Pratt	Samantha Rea Alyssa Luna Gunnar Livingston Daria Sanchez	Adaisya Ferrer Oryon Flores Heidi Chavez Ana Calvillo	Mrs. Kennedy 97%
Team 3	Aaliyah Calderon Jacqueline Amaya Neftali Pacheco	Arrik Russell Juan Frausto Destiny Aldrich	Anddy Martir Zoey Gilbert Karen Cambero	Eric Medrano Jose D.Rodriguez Blake Davis	Mrs. Bankston 97%

Enrollment: 308

Attendance: Average attendance for October was 93.89%

Students, staff and parents celebrated **Students Being Excellent** to a harvest theme.



We laughed as we watched four teams compete to wrap their mummy with toilet paper. Mrs. Orcutt encouraged students to read and get their name on

the “Turkey Hall of Fame” and at the same time earn a chance to vote for which teacher would wear the turkey costume all day. “Larry and Larry” from *Image Portraits* in Portland, introduced this new PTO fundraiser encouraging families to get their portraits taken on November 20th. Mr. Harper put together another inspirational video recapping our Red Ribbon week. Monday students wore red to show support for drug free living. Tuesday they were dressed in ridiculous outfits demonstrating “Drugs Are Ridiculous”. Wednesday’s was boot day giving support to the slogan “Give Drugs the Boot”. And on Thursday students dressed as their favorite book character to highlight, “It Takes Good Character to be Drug Free”. Parents joined students for classrooms Harvest Parties and a special committee selected the winners of the costume contest for best story book character.



Winners: Alissa Kennedy (1st grade) as Dorothy, and Zane Kennedy (kindergarten) as the Scare Crow, both from the “Wizard of Oz”; Belen Ponce (2nd) as “Little Red Riding Hood”, and Jasen Lester (3rd) dressed as Sherlock Holmes. Congratulations! Students were presented with a \$10.00 Book Fair gift certificate and SBE sweat pants!

Third grade students are excited about receiving their very own new **dictionaries compliments of the Boardman Kiwanis Club**. Jane Pope, Kate Close and Diana Wolf introduced the Kiwanis Club and helped students explore their new treasures. Thank you Kiwanis!



Third grade **OAKS assessments** are under way and the preliminary results show that we are eight students stronger in meeting the reading benchmark on the first round! The **Site Council** voted to stay with their 3% improvement goal in reading, writing, math and language development. They reviewed Mr. Gruber's workshop report about the Oregon Alliance for Health, PE, Recreation and Dance at West Salem. The Council celebrated the 125 books given away at the Family Reading Night, and reviewed other upcoming reading incentives and family involvement activities. Time was spent in updating the questions on the Parent Survey which will be distributed during parent-teacher conferences. The Site Council amended their bi-laws to include four parent representatives on the Council and to include a new officer, Co Chair, which will be in training for the next school year as Chair. The next Site Council meeting will be November 15th and discussion will be around the first round of testing data and parent surveys. Board members are always welcome to join us for Site Council.

Professional Learning Communities: Teachers updated their three data indicators for each subject area which determines "on grade level" for first quarter. Each PLC is reviewing student performance against these indicators and strategizing for interventions.



The **Tooth Taxi's** dental staff screened 144 students, provided 18 oral surgeries, 1 emergency surgery, and restored 15 teeth with obvious decay. They also sealed 28 teeth on these patients...for a grand total of \$21,555.00 in dental services for Sam Boardman students! Can you imagine trying to learn reading or math with a tooth ache? Thank you Tooth Taxi!



Mark your calendar! We would like to invite you to SBE/WRE's Veterans' Day Assembly on Wednesday, November 10th at 10:00 a.m., SBE gym. Our Harvest Feast will be on Thursday, November 18th from 11:00-12:30. Let us know if you would like to help serve; it is a great way to

mingle with the families in Boardman!

Windy River Elementary

Reading Day

Students will be joined with their families on WRE's 3rd annual Reading Day, November 12th. Students, along with their families, will enjoy a variety of reading activities, a read-aloud by "Our Heroes from RHS", the heroes from RHS included Mr. Mendoza, Mr. Boor, Mr. Cornelius along with high school students that are heroes to our students. We appreciate how several businesses have donated materials for students to earn reading awards and free books throughout the day. Flyers have been distributed to local business to try to increase parent participation and awareness. Reading is a necessity to have and we hope at WRE to instill in our students the value and pleasure that can come with successful readers. Parents, trek on down to WRE to join your child for the day and "hang out and read!"

Book Fair

The “Here’s to Our Heroes! Reading Saves the Day!” book fair will be November 3rd – 12th. WRE’s book fair will continue with the classroom wish list for donations to be made for teacher’s classroom libraries, change collected to be donated to a scholastic organization such as Toys for tots, daily specials, family reading day, flyers in local business, our own website with hours and specials for parents and students to view, and a teacher’s choice board. Students partook in a coloring contest to win a free book from the book fair, students also heard from various others promoted during the fair. The goal of the book fair is \$1800.00. Lastly, there has been tremendous effort from the staff to add excitement through bulletin boards, decorations, displays and various activities to try to receive a grant from scholastic. The amounts range from \$2,000 to \$500 scholarships were items can be purchased in forms of books or other teacher’s resources for the school’s library. It has been a lot of hard work, and the efforts of all the staff have really helped boast the excitement of WRE students.

Red Ribbon Week

The week of October 25-28th, Windy River Elementary students celebrated the nationally recognized RED RIBBON WEEK; dedicated to educating our students on the harms of drugs and alcohol and the promotion of making healthy choices. We encourage this week to be interactive and fun for all staff and students while still understanding the important message of living a Healthy and DRUG FREE life. Activities for students and staff include dress up days, door decorating, a soccer tournament and canned food drive. This event is always a success not only with the participation in staff and students, but also in recognizing that being healthy and active is an enjoyable way of life.

OAKS Testing

Most of last month was dedicated to testing.

Team Meetings

WRE PLCs are up and running and they meet every Wednesday morning.

WRE Donation

The Desert Rats Car Club donated \$150 to help WRE students with school supplies.

Student of the Month Assembly

<u>OCTOBER</u>	<u>Academics</u>	<u>Academics</u>	<u>Theme - Perseverance</u>
Beagle	Shelby Collins	Angel Ruiz-Gomez	Joseph Muniz
Boor	Gustavo Amaya	Emily Kirby	Yoselin Ayuso
Browne	Abigail Hernandez	Karina Llamas	Cody McCullough
Cornelius	Gabrielle Miller	Bryan Altamirano	Jessica Calvillo
Gaede	Rose Jurcich	Veronica Alvarez	Ricardo Ramos
Keefer	Daniel Rodriguez	Katia Garay	Noe Sanchez
LaFramboise	Alondra Caldera	Brandon Harris	Ana Navarro
Prindle	Karrizima Luna	Chance Frederickson	Briseyda Avila-Rojas
Strebin	Emily Sepulveda	Dixitka Ghising	Taylor Hamby

Honor Choir

The following students were accepted into the Elementary All State Honor Choir:

Abram Hernandez, Danny Rodriguez, Jennifer Rodriguez, Donovan Carmack, Lisa Finley, Kirsten Taylor, and Skylar Wightman.

They will begin practicing in late November. Students will attend rehearsals in Eugene with students from across the state on Jan 14 and 15 and perform in the Hult Center for the Performing Arts on Jan. 15th before an audience of over 1,500. It is a great honor to participate in this choir and an experience they will carry with them for years to come. I am excited to work with these students and travel with them to Eugene.