The background is a light blue pattern of various school-related icons such as pencils, paper planes, and books. Overlaid on this is a white graphic of a spiral-bound notebook with a grid pattern. The notebook has a red horizontal line near the bottom. The title text is centered on the notebook page.

Shadow Butte Elementary

School Board Update

For December 2023

December Magic

Wow, December sure is a magic month to be in an elementary school and it brings me great joy to reflect on the multitude of heartwarming events that took place at Shadow Butte Elementary. The spirit of the season was on display, filling our school with laughter, music, and the unmistakable warmth that defines our school community.

Our month began on a high note with the Community Winter Dance, where students and families came together to share in the joy of the season. The dance floor was alive and full of joy, embodying the strong sense of community that makes SBE truly special. It was wonderful to see children dancing with their families and their friends. A huge shout out to Mrs. Zufelt, Mr. Conder, and their team of helpers who decorated, planned, and DJed the event.

Later in the month the air was filled with melodies as our talented 1st and 2nd grade students showcased their musical talents in their program. Listening to their sweet voices brought smiles to so many faces. Thank you, Mr. Conte for helping our young musicians grow.

A pinnacle moment arrived with our CORE Values Assembly, where we had the privilege of celebrating students who exemplify our core values of Safety, Honesty, Responsibility, and Respectfulness. It was a powerful reminder of the positive impact these values have on our school culture, shaping young minds and fostering a supportive learning environment.

The school sing-alongs added a touch of magic to our daily routine, with students and staff coming together in harmony to spread cheer and celebrate the season. The joyous sounds of laughter and song echoed through the building, creating memories that will undoubtedly last a lifetime.

Class parties provided the perfect opportunity for students to come together, share festive treats, and revel in the joy of the season. These gatherings not only fostered a sense of camaraderie among the students, but also highlighted the importance of coming together with our school families as a unified school community.

Wishing everyone a fantastic start to the new year filled with continued growth, collaboration, and the boundless possibilities that lie ahead.

- Principal Jodie Farnsworth

REFLECTIONS FOR OCTOBER



Bright Spots- Shared by some wonderful Shadow Butte staff members

- December was hectic, as expected. My students were subject to a lot of district testing during a time when emotions already run high. There were challenges regarding health and staff shortages. There were times when they had to adjust quickly to changing situations. Some days were difficult, but they were pretty awesome! They worked hard right up until the end! My team and support staff worked to encourage each other and make the days fun, when possible. Also, most of my parents were incredibly supportive. **-Shawna LeValley (5th Grade Teacher)**
- We had lots of students reach their personal best on ISIP testing for winter benchmarks. **-April Russell (Title Teacher)**
- Our staff really came together to make it through the end of the semester. **-Clarissa Weideman (counselor)**
- December is always a fun month, I look forward to doing secret santa and the fun December events calendar; dressing up, treats, etc. with the Staff. **-Kami Dixon (School Secretary)**
- Growth on ISIP (K-3 monthly reading and math assessment) **-RaeLyn Williams (3rd Grade Teacher)**
- Positive students and positive staff. **-Tina Collinsworth (Technology Para)**
- The kids and staff really had a great time learning and there were so many opportunities for parents to join us. **-Stephanie Pirc (Special Education Teacher)**

REFLECTIONS FOR OCTOBER



Bright Spots Cont...

- I loved how much parent support I had for different Christmas activities! Our families rock! Our office staff put on an amazing Christmas Party for us that was lots of fun! **-Christiana Adama (1st Grade Teacher)**
- I would like to reflect on my communications with other staff. Am I being clear and concise? **-April Russell (Title Teacher)**
- Our month of December Fun for staff was motivating and fun. SICA Testing 3rd-5th grades completed and learned a lot to support ISAT success. Kindergarten Team is participating in the SDE sponsored SMART training. ISIP Growth Celebrations include 2nd grade, Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. LeValley and more! **-Vickie Renfro (Instructional Coach)**
- I think December ran really smooth. The organization during the threat was huge. I give a huge shout out to the SBE all staff and the students for handling it with such grace in a matter of such uncertainty. **-Teresa Zufelt (Title Para)**
- Our staff 14 days til Christmas was such a fun way to celebrate together. I really enjoy how everyone participates. **-Kristina Oliver (Kinder Teacher)**

AREAS TO GROW IN

Some staff were asked what areas they would like to grow in as a school or as an individual.

- Maintaining consistency is always needed and appropriate, especially with all the winter holidays.
- Better planning ahead for events and communication
- I would personally like to spread the holiday spirit out a little more during the month to balance all the high-stakes testing and activities the kids are subject to. They need some daily, stress-free fun to continue to build that community spirit (I think I need it too).
- Prioritize my needs and wants in my classroom.
- As an individual more quality time with grade level PLC groups to plan and reflect more on how support is best for kids



AREAS TO GROW IN CONT...

Some staff were asked what areas they would like to grow in as a school or as an individual.

- I would like to grow in behavior intervention for our high flyers.
- PLC Collaboration time guarded for teaching and learning data and decision making. I would love for us to better use standards based common formative assessments to guide our PLCs.
- I would like to work harder at being to work on time.
- All I can says is consistency is key.
- Finding ways to take time for myself and family. As a teacher it is easy to get sucked into the crazy at school. I want to make sure the students are able to have fun and to be academically ready to end the semester that I end up being a bit exhausted and that takes away from my family.



PRINCIPAL'S BRIGHT SPOTS



- We experienced such a team effort in wrapping up the 1st semester and found time to bring joy to our students.
- I am endlessly grateful and proud of how our staff, students and parents responded to our evacuation. The staff was extremely professional and reassuring to our students. They implemented systems that were being created in the moment flawlessly. Our students were patient and followed the lead of their staff. Our parents took a stressful situation and supported our systems in order to help keep our students safe and orderly. This was a true community response where staff and parents alike stepped in and filled gaps as needed.
- Lots of academic growth as demonstrated in the 1st-2nd grade ISIP growth rates as seen below.

ISIP Reading Typical (or Above) Growth Nov. to Dec. Celebrations

First Grade

Adams 12/23 52% - 17/23 74%
All 38/64 59% - 40/62 65%

Second Grade

Bailey 14/22 64% - 18/22 82%
All 50/69 73% - 54/69 78%

STAFF SHOUT OUTS

When asked who staff couldn't do their job without...

- I could not function without Mrs. Garcia, Ms. Quebrado, Mrs. McCormick, Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Creviston, Mrs. Dixon, and Mrs. Nebeker! Also, Mrs. G always brightens my day! Their humor and patience with me is astounding! **-Shawna LeValley (5th Grade Teacher)**
- Tiffany Nebecker- She always steps in and helps with whatever needs done and keeps the school running smoothly **-Clarissa Weideman (Counselor)**
- Morgan Kimball had been a HUGE help during December and these first few days getting some new organization put together. **-Tina Collinsworth (Keyboarding Para)**
- Athena-She always helps our students with what they need and goes above and beyond! **-Raelyn Williams (3rd Grade Teacher)**
- Athena Erickson , Monte Zufelt, Maddie Greer, Carol Sandahl, Jennifer Clark and Alishia Elliot. I could not do my job without each of them! This group LOVES kids and works hard for their success. **-Stephanie Pirc (Special Education Teacher)**
- I could not do my job without Tiffany Nebeker. She has really taken on her new job and excelled in it. I love her enthusiasm and 'can do' attitude. **-Kami Dixon (School Secretary)**



STAFF SHOUT OUTS

When asked who staff couldn't do their job without...

- Our Specials Teacher Rocked supporting the classroom teachers throughout the SICA testing process. Teresa Zufelt and PTO helped provide refreshments for our December month of Fun. **-Vickie Renfro (instructional coach)**
- .I absolutely love Courtney Thomas' attitude and enthusiasm when teaching and learning. She is never afraid to ask a question and love that quality. **-Kristina Oliver (Kinder Teacher)**
- I shout out to many: Mrs. Erickson, Mr. Zufelt, Mrs. Weideman and Mrs. Renfro. Thank you so much for helping fill in for whatever comes at us. **-Teresa Zufelt (Title Para)**
- Vickie Renfro - Thank you for all you do for our kids! I love partnering with you! I wish we had more time.
- Olga Quebrado for doing a cross-grade level writing activity with my littles! They had so much fun! Raelyn Williams and Brandi Griggs for being cross grade level reading buddies with me! It's been an invaluable time for my kids to practice their reading and gain confidence! **-Christiana Adams (1st Grade Teacher)**
- Second grade team- Courtney Thomas, Andrea Poser, Kaitlynn Bailey! They are doing a great job with interventions. **-April Russell (Title Teacher)**



LOOKING AHEAD TO JANUARY



Jan 4 - Teacher Workday

Jan 5 - PD Day

Jan 8 - School Resumes for Students

Jan 10 - After School Program

Jan 11- Leadership/Safety Team meeting 8 am

Jan 11 - Lunch Bunch - 2nd grade with Mrs. Sandahl

Jan 11 - Staff Meeting @3:35 pm in Library

Jan 12 - K-5 Lee Pesky visit @2:35 pm

Jan 15 - MLK Day, No school

Jan 16 - Report Cards Sent Home

Jan 16 - Chocolate Fundraiser Kickoff 2:30 pm

Jan 16 - PTO Meeting in Library @ 5:30 pm

Jan 17 - Staff Book Study @11:35-11:55 pm

Jan 17 - After school program

Jan 19 - District PLC's 2:50 pm

Jan 22 - Tier 2 PBIS Team @ 3:35-4:30 pm

Jan 24 - Staff Book Study @11:35-11:55 pm

Jan 24 - After school program

Jan 25 - Staff Meeting @3:35 pm in Library

Jan 26 - SBE Committee Meetings @2:50 pm

Jan 26 - Class Birthday Celebration @1:30 pm

Jan 29 - Tier 2 PBIS Team @ 3:35-4:30 pm

Jan 30 - Chocolate Fundraiser Ends

Jan 31 - After school program



Community Winter Dance



It was SO great to see children and families enjoying time together.

Community Winter Dance Cont.



Community Winter Dance Cont.



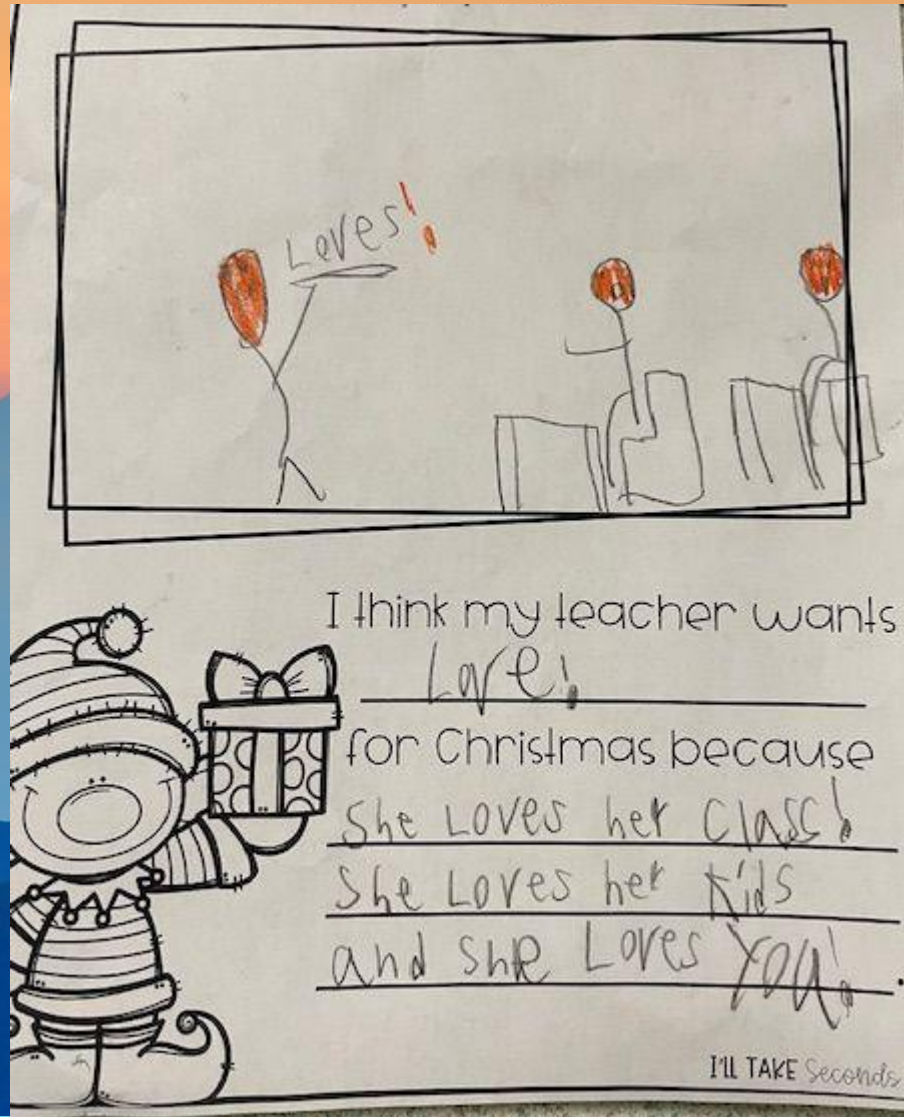
Christmas Sing-Along



Christmas Sing-Along Cont.



I love to see what the students have in their minds.





Student Artwork

