

A Look Inside HILLSBORO SCHOOLS

Spring 2014

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Communications Department

HILLSBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT POISED FOR 2014-15 BUDGET SURPLUS OF \$6.2 MILLION

For the first time since the economic recession began in 2008, Hillsboro School District is planning for a budget that *restores* dollars to our system rather than removes them.

Reductions had become a staple in our budget messages over the past six years, to the cumulative total of nearly \$70 million. But this year the trend will be reversed, thanks to several factors.

Gain Share. Hillsboro Mayor Jerry Wiley and Washington County Board of Commissioners Chair Andy Duyck jointly announced on Thursday, June 6, 2013, that they intended to gift \$10 million of their Gain Share* money to Washington County schools over the course of the 2013-15 biennium. For Hillsboro, this meant approximately \$1.2 million per year, and allowed us to restore three of the five planned budget reduction days to the calendar in both 2013-14 and 2014-15. (*Gain Share is money that local taxing authorities receive back from the state as a result of tax abatement agreements with large employers.)

Grand Bargain. 2013-14 has been the year of the “grand bargain”—first with the economic grand bargain passed by the Governor’s emergency legislative session on October 2, and second with the grand land bargain passed by the Legislature in their February 2014 short session. The grand bargain of the fall brought an additional \$100 million to K-12 schools for the 2014-15 school year, which meant approximately \$3.4 million for Hillsboro.

Poverty Funds. Districts have always received additional money for their students living in poverty, but in December, the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) announced they had been using figures from the previous U.S. Census (2000) rather than the most current one (2010) to do their calculations. When they began using the new data, it lowered the allocation for some districts and raised it for others. Hillsboro’s allocation increased by more than \$850,000.



Local Property Taxes. In January, good news continued when the state announced local property tax collections were higher than anticipated, which increased the amount of funds available for schools through the State School Fund (SSF) distribution.

SSF Estimates. In March and early April 2014, we received new SSF estimates for the 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 school years, which reflected fewer students in Oregon than initially projected, a higher transportation reimbursement than initially projected, and an increase in Hillsboro’s average years of teacher experience.

When all these things were factored into our projected revenues, it was determined that we would have a surplus of \$6,235,335 for the 2014-15 school year.

Our Board and administrative team worked hard to clarify a set of guiding values by which to determine how the money should be spent, keeping in mind the goals and objectives of our Strategic Plan. The task was less about the money available and more about coming to agreement on where and how we could have the most impact, knowing we would not receive enough to undo all of the reductions from the past six years.

In the end, a proposal was put forth that intends to: further student learning and achievement; offer support for students in need; provide sustainability from year to year; build staff members’ skills; promote college and career readiness; allow for equitable access and outcomes for students;

strengthen our infrastructure; and plan for future needs. Some key elements of the proposal are a differentiated lowering of the staffing ratio (class size), with greater reductions at kindergarten, and first and second grade; a restoration of one of the two remaining budget reduction days to the calendar; and the provision of instructional supports at all levels. To see the details of the proposal, visit www.hsd.k12.or.us and click on the Budget Matters link under the About HSD drop-down menu.

HIGH SCHOOL MATH ADOPTION

Hillsboro School District has been in the process of evaluating and approving materials to meet the new mathematics standards

State Senator Bruce Starr, U.S. Representative Suzanne Bonamici, and State Representative Joe Gallegos joined Glencoe’s Team Shockwave at their RoboExpo on Tuesday, February 18. The RoboExpo featured robotics teams from across the District, as well as a demonstration of Shockwave’s competition robot, which was designed to throw a large exercise ball through a target. Per league rules, robots must be wrapped, tagged, and shipped to the competition location in advance to ensure that no team is able to work on their robot for more than six weeks. Team Shockwave performed amazingly well throughout competition season, recently earning a silver medal in the Galileo Division and the #1 Pit Safety Award (second year in a row) at the World Championships in St. Louis, Missouri.

since their adoption in the fall of 2010. The process has been lengthy because of ongoing budget constraints and, in some cases, waiting for publishers to update their materials to better align with the standards. Therefore, we concentrated on grades K-5 initially, then moved to grades 6-8, and are now focusing on grades 9-12 with a High School Math Study Team that includes parents, community members, students, teachers, principals and central office administrators.

What’s interesting is that over the course of these past four years, the availability of high quality open source materials on the Internet has increased dramatically. That reality has placed a critical decision before the

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From the Superintendent



Mike Scott

Throughout this school year, a concerted effort has been made to improve and increase communication between District staff and all of our various audiences. Assistant Superintendents Steve Larson and Debbie Ashley and I have been

meeting with staff at each of our schools, as well as holding periodic listening sessions for licensed, classified and administrative staff, parents and students.

In addition, I held two series of informal Coffee Chats—one in October, one in March/April—to my regular schedule of community listening sessions to provide more opportunities for patrons to get information about the District and ask any questions they had of me.

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Century

FEEDER GROUP

BUTTERNUT CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Enedelia Schofield

Students at Butternut Creek Elementary School continue to focus on academics, student health and fitness, and extracurricular enrichment.

Butternut teachers and staff have been working to develop units of study that align with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in preparation for next school year's full implementation. Collaboration and dedication are at the heart of this effort.

Butternut held its first ever school-wide (first through sixth grade) field trip to the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall to experience Ten Grands for Kids. This free concert is made possible through Michael Allen Harrison's Snowman Foundation. Ten Grands for Kids is a 75-minute matinee show created especially for young people, featuring ten pianists on ten grand pianos, with a mix of professional musicians and gifted kids playing together on one stage. The goal of Ten Grands for Kids is to create a show that inspires students to follow their dreams, exposes them to music at a very high level of proficiency, and introduces them to Portland's own wonderful Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall, creating a visual and auditory experience that is impactful.

All 405 students, staff, and parents found it to be a memorable experience, indeed!

In April, Family Fitness Night was spearheaded by PE teacher Melanie Kimple and brought out the largest crowd to date, with over 300 students, siblings, and their parents coming to an activity-filled night of exercise and fun! Fitness stations were placed throughout the school, including yoga, Zumba, gymnastics from Oregon Gymnastics Association, martial arts from Ernie Reyes Martial Arts, and many other community organizations. Health screenings were offered, we welcomed visitors from local businesses, and prizes were raffled. Thanks to all who attended!

IMLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Molly Siebert

This spring, students at Imlay have had a wide variety of learning experiences including field trips to OMSI, Franz Bread, Century High School drama productions, Tillamook Forest, Oregon Ballet Theater, and local parks to explore nature.

The Imlay Art Festival will be held Fri-

day, June 6, from 6:30pm to 8pm. The theme this year is "Art Brings Community Together." This event will take place in coordination with Imlay's Open House, so there will be a lot to see and do.

The goal is to share Imlay's love and appreciation of art with the community! Already confirmed are performance art workshops (open to everyone—even parents!) such as Zumba for Kids and dance lessons from Elements Dance Studio.

There will be a hands-on community art area, with projects to be donated to the community and/or Imlay, a wooden art painting activity for each child, a performance corner (music, poetry, etc.), multi-seat face-painting station (free to everyone), local food carts so that busy families can have dinner right here at school, and several workshops focused on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art/Design and Math) that will give kids the opportunity to learn how to create their own animated movies and video games (using "Alice" and "Gamemaker" software which is free online to download).

As a member of the Right Brain Consortium, Imlay is jazzed about what can be done to integrate art into instruction and give students the opportunity to learn in exciting and engaging ways.

Special thanks go to Kristen Martin & Tiffany Mapes, Imlay 2014 Art Festival Co-ordinators.

INDIAN HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Bruce Bourget

Welcome Neighbors

Change is inevitable, and this time it comes in the form of students changing schools because of a boundary adjustment due to new construction in Hillsboro. Next year, friends from a few streets over in the current Tobias attendance area will join Indian Hills.

The initial projection was that 98 students would move from Tobias to Indian Hills to make room for new students who will enroll at Tobias. Not all 98 students will be coming next year. Some parents are requesting that they be allowed to stay at Tobias for the coming year.

Whatever the number of students who join Indian Hills next year, those families should know that Indian Hills welcomes you, and the school will do its best to help you adjust to new surroundings. You are coming from an excellent school with caring

teachers, run by a respected principal, Mr. Callaway, and Indian Hills wants the transition to be as comfortable as possible.

You are changing from one good school to another one. What you can expect is to be welcomed by a teaching staff that is committed to the success of children. The teachers here not only have excellent teaching skills, but they are driven by a desire to help children be successful. Stated simply, the teachers at Indian Hills have a deep feeling of responsibility regarding children's learning, and they do everything that they can to help students succeed. Indian Hills will do its very best to partner with you in this effort, as the staff did at Tobias, to help your children develop academically, socially, and emotionally.

Like all schools in Hillsboro, Indian Hills is constantly evolving and continues to seek ways to improve our programs and help students develop as capable and caring citizens.

"My commitment to our school community of teachers, support staff, students, parents, and others is do my best to continue to have a school where we all work together to help children, and that we can be proud of here at Indian Hills," Principal Bruce Bourget said. "We look forward to welcoming our new friends in September."

LADD ACRES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Francesca Sinapi

We are well into fourth quarter, and the pace of learning and enrichment at Ladd Acres hasn't let up for busy students and staff.

The eagerly anticipated school carnival will be May 30. Organized by dedicated parents and staff from PTA, it's an evening of family fun and food that's always well attended.

PTA also paid for the third and final major assembly in April. Under the auspices of Young Audiences of Oregon and SW Washington, Grupo Condor presented "Somos La Musica," traditional Latin American music reflecting Native American, European and African influences.

Sixth graders are looking forward to a graduation trip to Oaks Park on June 11, and their parent-organized graduation breakfast on June 12.

Recent highlights at school include Math Night on May 8. Parents learned ways to support their children's math skills at home. The Parent Partnership Committee hosted the night, and also held a Literacy Night in

February.

The fifth and sixth grade music program was such a success during the evening performances in March that it was also performed during the school day for the entire school. Entitled "Joust: A Mighty Musical," students paid musical tribute to the legend of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table. Music teacher Lana Christensen expressed appreciation to everyone who helped with props and costumes and to photographer Tom Beach.

Also an audience pleaser was the first and second grade evening music program entitled "Baby Beluga" on April 15.

The annual Science-O-Rama (science fair) was a huge success with students at all grade levels participating. Sponsored by Synopsys, the event culminated in an evening display of projects on April 24 that included Hillsboro Water and Reptile Man.

The Hillsboro Hops presented an assembly entitled "Stand With Barley Against Bullying" in April. Students are nominating fellow students as All-Stars—students they've seen say or do something to take a stand against bullying. Selected All-Stars will be recognized on the field at the Hops game on June 23.

Kindergarten Orientation was also May 8, and it was an exciting event for families and staff. Whether they're first-timers or old-hands, it's an emotional time in parents' lives when their child enters kindergarten. And for staff, it's a joy to see the bright and curious faces of our future students.

REEDVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Robin Farup-Romero

As said by the late Nelson Mandela, "If you talk to a man in a lan-



Ladd Acres sixth grader Marvin Madarang starred in the music program "Joust A Mighty Musical"

guage he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart."

Reedville first implemented its dual language program in September 2012, for kindergarten through second grade students. This year, the program expanded to serve kindergarten through fourth graders, totaling approximately 130 of 250 students.

Upon walking into a dual language classroom, one would find native English and Spanish speaking teachers and students working together. This collaboration creates an atmosphere of mutual respect and appreciation for both languages and cultures. Students work together to navigate Spanish and English, allowing them to become confident in their ability to read, write, speak, listen and think in both languages.

The Hillsboro School District recently hosted Drs. Thomas and Collier, renowned researchers in dual language instruction. Teachers from Reedville were able to attend the inspiring presentation, which reinforced their commitment to dual language education. The research of Thomas and Collier shows that both native English and Spanish speaking students in a two-way dual language program will outperform their peers on state testing. Not only will these students benefit in the present, but also the future, as biliteracy skills will make them more competitive in applying to colleges and seeking career placement.

In addition to dual language, the school is also working with the University of Colorado to learn and implement the latest research-tested literacy practices. This is the second year of using the Literacy Squared model. As a result, students are continuing to build their skills, as seen in last year's ODE school rating level increase to a 3, and meet their growth target for their state assessment for the 2013-2014 school year.

Another goal for the school is that students attain multicultural competency. One

way to achieve this is with the Ballet Folklorico group.

Reedville is committed to providing students and their families with these opportunities, and the staff looks forward to the continued success our programs will bring to the school.

If you are interested in enrolling your kindergarten or first grade child in the Reedville Dual language program, contact Reedville's principal, Robin Farup-Romero at 503-844-1570.

Written by Maxine Jennings, Megan McIrovin Mc-Mahan, and Raquel Lemus, Reedville teachers

TOBIAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Steve Callaway

As a STEM school, one of the things Tobias recognizes is that the brains of creative problem solvers are not just developed through the sciences, but also by music. This year we continued to add that extra "M" on STEM as we increased our music options and opportunities. Tobias' fifty-member band performed their second annual concert at the Venetian Theatre on Tuesday, April 22. Later this month, our students will be presenting the musical "Aladdin Kids." This will be the first time Tobias students have performed a musical in many years.

Tobias students were an appreciative audience when the concert band, jazz band, and concert choir from a high school in Abbotsford, British Columbia, performed for them during an all-school assembly on Friday, April 25. Among staff we called it our first



Over 80 Century High School students who are enrolled in the Human Resources Focused Program of Study and who are taking the PAC classes (PAC I: Professions Assisting the Community; PAC II: Politics and the Community) were out at Frances Street Park on Wednesday, April 23, 2014 working with Hillsboro Parks and Recreation to clean and improve the park.

International Music Festival!

As we look back on our music experiences this year we're reminded that music can take us to places, literally and figuratively, that we could never imagine and that the creativity, discipline, and resilience we learn through our musical experiences will serve us well regardless of our career path.

BROWN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Principal: Koreen Barreras Brown

Brown Middle School Student Council receives top honor for outstanding student achievement.

R.A Brown is one of 10 high schools and seven middle schools receiving recognition as a high achieving leadership program. The award, sponsored by the Oregon Association of Student Councils (OASC), sets high standards for student councils and leadership programs, and honors them if they can reach or exceed these goals.

The leadership programs set goals in the fall and actively participate in leadership activities and events throughout the year. In order to receive the award, programs must create and encourage activities that promote inclusivity among all students at the school and provide a series of events that includes a variety collection of different areas/disciplines in the school. Along with involvement in the school, they must also demonstrate that they are gaining valuable leadership and professional skills they can take with them outside the school.

"Student leaders have the opportunity to make

a tremendous impact on their school's climate and the academic success of their student body by the activities that they create and sponsor," Sara Nilles, Executive Director for OASC, said. The schools were recognized at OASC's annual Spring Conference, which was held at the Holiday Inn Portland Airport on April 27 and 28.

The Oregon Association of Student Councils is a non-profit member association, founded in 1949, which provides leadership development for middle schools and high schools across the entire state of Oregon.

CENTURY HIGH SCHOOL

Principal: Ted Zehr

Over the past month, Century High School has had two teachers and one student group receive distinguished awards.

Athletic Director Kris Welch was named 6A Oregon Athletic Director of the year. Kris is passionate about athletics and making sports participation a positive experience for students. Not only does Kris manage athletics at Century, he works with the city of Hillsboro to organize playing facilities for youth leagues, and coordinates some of the largest wrestling tournaments in Oregon. Kris serves on numerous OSAA committees and will be the Executive Director of the Oregon Athletic Directors Executive Board next year. Kris is a strong advocate for Unified Sports, and as a result Century has its first Unified Soccer Team on which students with special needs and general education students play together on one team.

Tim Morley was awarded Oregon Career and Technical Education Teacher of the year. Tim teaches multiple classes within the technology focused program. Students use multiple tools such as computer-aided drafting programs, vinyl and laser cutters, and 3D printers that require them to design, create, invent, and trouble-shoot to solve real-world problems. Examples include: laser-etched awards for the athletic program, construction of 3D house models, and collaboration with local schools to design a flywheel. Students were called on recently by the University of Alaska to advise them on scanning and printing a 3D model of a bird. Tim has been a resource for multiple teachers in the state, working to further develop their engineering and drafting technology programs.

Century Student Government was recently awarded their eighth National Gold Council award. Thanks to the city of Hillsboro, the School Board, and the Chamber of Commerce for their support of the school's bid to host the NASC National Leadership Conference in 2015 or 2016.



Reedville students and staff marching in the Latino Cultural Festival in downtown Hillsboro on April 13, 2014.



Glencoe

FEEDER GROUP

FREE ORCHARDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Becky Brauer

Things are hopping in the Free Orchards library. Mrs. Upton is inspiring students through her love of art and of books.

The first Battle of the Books took place this spring as fourth, fifth, and sixth graders formed 18 teams, read all the books, and then met in the library at lunch to compete. Through a double elimination bracket, the teams answered questions on the details of the books they had read.

Third graders demonstrated their love of reading by joining lunchtime book clubs. After Mrs. Upton announced the lunch clubs, she was surprised by the response. She had to extend the clubs to a second session, as there were so many students who wanted to read and talk about their books.

The sixth grade art club meets with Mrs. Upton and Ms. Colon on Tuesday afternoons after school. Students focus on a different artist each week and emulate his or her work. At this point, they have experienced Picasso and Rodin. They will also take a trip to the Portland Art Museum and to an active art studio later this spring.

To support the use of technology in the classroom, the PTO has recently allocated \$7000 for iPad minis for the students. Teachers will be able to check out the set of iPads and integrate apps into the mastering of standards. Technology integration is named 83 times in the Common Core State Standards. To achieve these standards, and to be ready to meet the demands of this ever-changing world, it was also decided to use school funds to purchase a classroom set of Chromebooks. Using Google apps, students will be able to collaborate with each other and with their teacher in sharing their work.

JACKSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: David Lee

This year marked the second year of Jackson's participation in the Oregon Battle of the Books competition. OBOB is a statewide voluntary reading motivation and comprehension program sponsored by the Oregon

Association of School Libraries in conjunction with a Library Services and Technology Act grant. Students in third through twelfth grades, regardless of ability, are exposed to quality literature representing a variety of styles and viewpoints. The mission is to encourage and recognize students who enjoy reading, broaden reading interests, increase reading comprehension, promote academic excellence, and to promote cooperative learning and teamwork among students. Students read books and come together to demonstrate their abilities and test their knowledge of the books they read. The competitions are similar in style to the TV series Family Feud or Whiz Kids. However, the structure and format of the competitions may vary depending on the needs, resources, and personal preferences at various school sites or at county/state competitions.

After months of preparation during lunch, recess, library time, and silent reading, Jackson held its school competition. Teams of students battled each other while parent and teacher volunteers acted as judges. The school finals were held in the gym, where the 'Einsteins' won the sixth grade competition. The Einsteins advanced to the county competitions, where they took home first place. The win qualified them for the statewide competition, held April 12, at Chemeketa Junior College.

At the state competition the Einsteins were ultimately beaten in the final round of the remaining eight schools in the state.

Lincoln Street Elementary School

Principal: Sonta Thompson

LINCOLN STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Sonta Thompson

It's a wonderful time of year to be a student and community member at Lincoln Street Elementary School. Spring time is abundant with new programs designed to support students and boost confidence in the classroom as well as provide educational resources for parents.



Jackson's Battle of the Books team, the "Einsteins," won first place in Washington County.

The school is proud to announce it is working in collaboration with Family University (FAMU) to offer a valuable program that provides families language classes in both English and Spanish, a fitness class inspired by Zumba, computer courses, and learning-based child care. These programs help families connect with the school and enhance personal skills as well.

Staff is also excited to provide after-school tutoring to students via the After School Academy and migrant program. These programs target individual student needs and boost confidence in the classroom. The school has seen great success on state testing scores already and is committed to raising student achievement and creating great memories along the way.

Another program offered to families is called Incredible Years. This weekly parenting group aims to improve child-rearing decisions and strengthen families. Studies show that the program reduces children's aggression and behavior problems, and increases social skills. Life-works Northwest provides Incredible Years groups in Spanish for parents of children 5-12 years of age.

Lincoln Street Community Information Night will have Officer Victor Castro (Hillsboro P.D.) present effective strategies and resources to keep children from joining gangs. Parents will be shown warning signs and behaviors when it comes to gang involvement. Hillsboro Police Department provides this resource in both English and Spanish for adults only. Please contact the school office for more information.

W. VERNE MCKINNEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Interim Principal: Christy Walters

On the evening of April 24, McKinney Elementary held its annual Science and Invention Night. The event capped off a week of fun filled science activities and experiments in the building, featuring over 40 mind

games and puzzles that lined the hallways. Each grade level also conducted their own experiments that students demonstrated to families.

McKinney is also pleased to welcome its new interim principal Mrs. Christy Walters. We are excited for the energy and enthusiasm that she brings to the building.

NORTH PLAINS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Karen Murphy

Leadership Team Promotes Community Service.

North Plains Elementary has a student leadership team made up of students from fourth, fifth, and sixth grades. To be in leadership, you apply and write an essay about how you would make a good leader. The teachers and the counselor look at your essay and your behavior record to make sure that the people on leadership team will set a good example. The primary kids really look up to the leadership kids so it's really important. There is a limit of 21 students.

Leadership team tries to make the school a better place and promotes school spirit through spirit days and fundraisers. The team stays after school on Mondays to plan school fundraisers and activities for both the whole school and for the leadership team.

Ideas have to be reviewed by Mrs. Richter and Mrs. Murphy to make sure that they are appropriate for everyone in the school. Leadership team tries to keep in mind activities that are inclusive, not exclusive. They try to be encouraging and to not hurt people's feelings, and use a friendly tone to connect with the students in the school. For example, during spirit week the team said, "If you have it, try to wear green," instead of, "You have to wear green."

Every year, the team does "Be Kind to Animals Week" in February during Valentine's Day week. They coordinate an all-school friendly fundraising competition between classes. A goal is set and if the whole school makes it, they get a prize. Money is raised for the Bonnie L. Hays Animal Shelter in Hillsboro, which is a no-kill shelter (which the team thought was important). This year, \$406.54 was raised and the team presented a large check to a representative of Bonnie L. Hays in front of the whole school.

The other really important thing that leadership does for the community is to coordinate the school canned food drive with the Hillsboro Elks Lodge. Classes bring in canned food and line it up in the hallway to see if cans can reach all the way to the office.



Currently, an ice cream/popsicle sale happens every Thursday until the end of the year to raise money for Leadership Team to do a fun service project that benefits the school or the community. The team decides on the project based on how much money can be earned; at the next meeting



On March 6, members of the North Plains Leadership Team presented Field Supervisor Randall Covey of the Bonnie L. Hays Animal Shelter with a check for \$406.54.

the team discusses the ideas, then makes a democratic decision. Mrs. Richter lays out the blueprints, then the team builds on the idea. The team might add more plants to the school garden or invest in more technology. One time, money was donated to a family in the community who had a fire. Last year, \$300 was donated to buy books for the school library – that’s a lot of popsicles!

Written by North Plains Leadership Students

PATTERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Jonathan Pahukula

As the gymnasium darkened in preparation for the start of the musical, a mom leaned over to share the results from the State Chess Tournament, held earlier that day in Portland, with the principal. She informed Mr. Pahukula that the team had won third place, then beamed about the second night of the musical and exclaimed, “It’s a great day to be a Patterson Panther!” Mr. Pahukula’s reply was that it was a great *month* to be a Panther.

The excitement kicked off with student ambassadors hosting local business, community, and school leaders who read to and encouraged students in celebration of Read Across America Day.

The student

ambassadors were selected by their teachers to represent the school. The celebration of reading, science, math, and the arts continued throughout the month. All the young scientists in grades four through six participated in the school science fair. Sending electricity through pencils, building a model hurricane generator, and rotting food were just a few of the many experiments that made the event a circuitry of smashing, smelly success.

“Seussical the Musical” then took center stage for a two evening run, with two casts totaling over eighty students, performing for nearly 600 people.

The Oregon Battle of the Books club almost doubled this year. Teams competed amongst one another and the staff team for the right to represent Patterson at the regionals in Portland.

Seventeen students who enjoy the challenge of deep math problem solving joined the Math Olympiad team and competed monthly with students across the nation.

The Yearbook Club worked diligently all year taking pictures, writing summaries, and interviewing schoolmates to pull together the final edition.

Finally, students and classrooms competed to see who could log the most reading minutes in the first ever Great Reading Race. Over a five week span, Patterson students logged 266,440 minutes of reading, the equivalent of 185 days!

Yet, even with all that was accomplished, if students were asked what they enjoyed the most about the third quarter, it usually came down to meeting their goals for the Box Tops for Education Challenge and earning the privilege to see Mr. Wear, Mrs. Gurske, and Mr. Pahukula get slimed!



The Hillsboro Hops have gotten very involved with our schools, sending mascot Barley to do assemblies on anti-bullying and recently announcing plans to construct a turf field at Evergreen.

EVERGREEN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Principal: Rian Petrick

The Hillsboro Hops (@HillsboroHops) announced on April 18 that they will launch a campaign via the Hillsboro Hops Fund to raise money to resurface Evergreen’s main athletic field!

The team launched this campaign with an inaugural benefit on Saturday, April 19, at the Tuality Health Education Center. Members of the 2014 Hops coaching staff, including Manager J.R. House, Pitching Coach Doug Drabek, Hitting Coach Mark Grace and Special Consultant Ben Petrick, were in attendance and former Evergreen student turned current Principal, Rian Petrick, spoke at the benefit to garner support for the effort.

With partners at the Hillsboro School District and Hillsboro Park & Recreation, the Hops identified Evergreen for installation of an artificial turf field. The field will play host to youth baseball and softball, while being accessible for school physical education activities, after school programs, and general recreational usage. Since the budget shortage started in 2008, the fields at Evergreen have not received maintenance at a level that would make them playable for youth sports.

“In historically challenging budgetary times, the Hillsboro Hops have stepped up to provide our students with a community resource that we otherwise could not provide,” Evergreen Principal Rian Petrick noted. “The field will provide a safe and more accessible experience for thousands of Hillsboro School District students and their families.”

“The Hillsboro Hops strive to be an invaluable asset in the eyes of baseball fans, businesses, community leaders, and the general public,” Hops Co-Owner and President Mike McMurray said. “Too often we hear that youth baseball games are cancelled due to weather. This is a deterrent to instilling interest in our marvelous game among new generations,” he explained. “We want to help reverse this trend by installing new, all-weather fields that will permit play during our days of liquid sunshine.”

In addition to receiving the artificial turf athletic field, a group of local organizations has also worked with the Hillsboro School District to get the football/soccer field functioning irrigation, and are planning on restoring that grass field.

People wanting to contribute to this effort may donate online at hillsborohops.com and clicking on the Community tab. They can donate by cash or check at the Hops front office or at any home game by visiting the customer service table.

As the school year rapidly comes to a close, the opportunity to celebrate academic successes for the 2013-14 school year is here. During Tide Week in May, celebrations will include the following students and groups:

Team ShockWave washed out the competition winning the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Oregon City District Competition. In addition to winning against the 34 teams present, ShockWave also won the Pit Safety Award and FIRST’s most prestigious honor, the Chairman’s Award, for outstanding performance and community service. Glencoe is now ranked first in the Pacific Northwest, and traveled to St. Louis, MO, the last week in April, contending at the world competition.

Glencoe High School valedictorians and salutatorians were announced this week. Congratulations to valedictorians: Kaitlin Barger, Anna Janczak, Christiana Logan, Rachel Simon, Collin Vanderzanden and Benjamin Verney. Additional congratulations go to our salutatorians: Courtney Clayton, Faviola Padilla, Mason and Miles Rouches.

Glencoe sent 59 students to the Cesar Chavez Leadership Conference held on the campus of Western Oregon University. The following students presented their experience and hopes to the Glencoe teaching staff recently, and now serve on the 2014-15 Principal’s Student Advisory Council. Advisory members are Ashley Lopez-Sanchez, Maria Valenzuela Medina, Heidi Gonzalez, Sandra Nolasco, Chelsea Alvarez, and Gisell Alfaro.

Glencoe’s Speech and Debate team will send 10 students, including this year’s district champions, to the state competition. The team includes: Lorena Colcer, Maricella Magdalenom Ashwin Datta, Ryan Barger, Marcus Trinidad, Karissa Pavlik, Haley Inman, Alexis Lopez, Kaliee Lionberger, and Emerson Shinnick.

The Crimson Tide Choir also qualified for state competition.

Glencoe Theatre will be representing Oregon at the International Thespian Festival in Nebraska with its state-winning one-act play. In addition to their Oregon first place finish in one-acts, the group earned second and third in stage management and fourth in the tech team challenge. Actors in the one act include Riley Gibson, Sammy Sagar, and Dhan Cabalitan. Amanda Kishlock took second and Sammy Sagar took third in stage management, and the fourth place tech team included Manny Contreras, Jesse Donnelly, Melissa Hampton, and Ali Strelchun.

Three students were named as National Merit Scholars for the coming year. These students are in the top five percent nationally. Congratulations to Michael Heninger, Megan Lince, and Eric Rief.



District Updates

COLLEGE AND CAREER PATHWAYS UPDATE

In the fall and winter editions of “A Look Inside Hillsboro Schools,” we introduced the District’s College and Career Pathways Project, which aims to strengthen and standardize offerings at our schools to ensure students are aware, eligible, and prepared for options after high school.

In this issue, we will talk about the expansion of dual credit opportunities and the launch of Naviance, a web-based system that will help students navigate, explore, and prepare for those next steps.

Dual Credit

Hillsboro School District is a member of the Oregon Metro Connects All Students to College Consortium, which is led by Portland Community College and also includes Mt. Hood Community College, Portland State University, the Multnomah Education Service District, and Beaverton, Centennial, David Douglas, Forest Grove, Gresham-Barlow, Parkrose, Portland and Reynolds school districts.

The consortium was one of three in the state to be awarded an Eastern Promise Replication Grant by the Oregon Education Investment Board (OEIB) and Oregon Department of Education (ODE); the grant award was \$445,000.

The consortium aims to use the grant to:

- Expand dual credit offerings in math and college success courses so students can earn college credits while still in high school.
- Create transfer degree maps to decrease time to degree completion by aligning degree requirements.
- Establish Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) to improve college access between high schools, the education service district, community colleges and universities.
- Create a “College Going Culture Workgroup” to serve populations that historically attend college at a low rate to help them see college as a viable option.
- Form a Regional Resource Network for students and their families to support their college objectives.

Specific goals for the 2014-15 school year include:

- Certify an additional 65 teachers to teach dual credit math and college success courses.
- Have nearly 80 district, college, university and education service district employees participate in PLCs.

- Enable 2,200 high school students to earn dual credit in math and college success offerings.
- Add approximately 6,400 dual credits for high school students in math and college success courses.
- Engage more students and their families in services and activities.

“The grant fits perfectly with efforts already under way in Hillsboro to expand partnerships and offerings with our local colleges and universities,” notes Assistant Superintendent Steve Larson. “This is a win for our staff who want to provide more opportunities for students and for the students they serve.”

Naviance

In an effort to provide the best informational tools for our students, Hillsboro School District has invested in the Naviance program. Naviance is a web-based resource for middle school and high school staff, students, and parents that encourages and supports post-high school career and college planning.

Naviance has resources such as college match search tools; a comprehensive listing of local, state and national scholarships; and includes partnerships with Road Trip Nation (a video interview archive to assist in career exploration) and Strength Finders (a personality assessment for career exploration).

This year, our school district counselors have gone through professional development training on how to use the system, and our middle and high schools have customized their Naviance accounts to be school-specific. All sites are now active, ready to use.

A unique feature of the program is that your student’s account will follow them throughout their secondary educational experience. For example, if a seventh grader chooses Portland State University as a favorite school and looks for the scholarships specific to that school, when they are a senior, a new search will not be necessary. The information will be saved to their profile and can be referenced at any time.

Is your student uncertain about what career would be the best fit for them? They could use the career interest inventory on Naviance as a guide and then watch a Road Trip Nation interview about that career. Maybe your student wants to attend a school for mechanical engineering, but does not know which schools offer that program. They could enter in their desired major, de-

sired location and other key information into the “Super Match” college search and find the schools specific to what they want. Need help financing college for your student? Your student can use the national scholarship database powered by “Sallie Mae” or search the list of locally-provided scholarships. Or maybe your student was tasked with creating a résumé for a class or their first job? Naviance has a template that will take the entered information and put it into an acceptable format.

Naviance not only provides a standard set of excellent career and college tools, but parts of the site have been built specifically for students by counseling staff members at their school. On the left hand side of the Naviance home page there is a location for links and pages your counselors have deemed important. Links will take you outside of the Naviance interface (e.g., a link to the Collegeboard site for SAT information), while pages will keep you inside the Naviance site (e.g., a guide on how to use MyVUE). There is also a personalized welcome message, your student’s school contact information, and a banner where staff can place important dates such as an upcoming college visits or test dates for EXPLORE/PLAN/ACT.

This dynamic tool officially will be used in 7th-12th grade classroom guidance lessons in the 2014-15 school year. However, student accounts are now active—counselors can provide students with details, including their unique registration code; after initial registration, students will need their District computer username and their student ID number. Parent user codes will be coming this fall!



CONNECTING KIDS FROM CLASSROOM TO CAREER

When Hillsboro youth have opportunities to help others and achieve excellence in their own lives, it makes the community stronger. From the recent creation of Hillsboro’s first career exploration event, Youth Invasion, to the Hillsboro Police Department Cadet Program, Hillsboro has provided meaningful youth engagement programs.

Hillsboro has prioritized youth initiatives such as the Youth Advisory Council (YAC), which provides Hillsboro’s high school stu-

Continued from **PAGE 1**
Math Adoption

Study Team: Do they adopt a series of text books or adopt open source materials that can be accessed through technology?

To help them make an informed decision, the team decided to ask the Board to approve an action research project in which teachers from each of the high schools would pilot the effectiveness of teaching with open source materials by equipping students with Chromebooks—Internet-enabled personal computers. The Board approved the request, which involved using \$50,000 of the allotted \$400,000 for the adoption, at their meeting on March 18.

Letters were sent home to parents of students in the pilot classrooms informing them of the project and letting them know their student would be issued a Chromebook for the remainder of the year. The purpose of the study would be to determine what a successful technology-enhanced classroom would look like in a high school math program by collecting data on the ease of use and learning style impact, the effect on student engagement, the logistical reality of deployment and use, and the value added by the methodology.

A district’s curricular materials must be approved by the Oregon Department of Education (ODE), and in most cases districts will select from a pre-approved list of textbooks, online textbooks, or other materials. However, because we are exploring the possibility of using open source materials, we are participating in what’s called a “facilitated adoption.” Mark Freed from ODE has been helping the Team identify materials to pilot and if they prove to be effective, will help get the materials on the approved list.

This is an exciting time for our high school math teachers and students and we are very grateful to everyone involved on the Study Team and in the pilot project!

Our Community Partners

dents with leadership opportunities. The mayor and city council went one step further in partnering to provide college scholarship opportunities to students who will attend Portland Community College (PCC) through the Future Connect program. But we aim to do more.

This summer, Hillsboro will launch a new internship program that will introduce more students to public service. It will open up their future career options and create another direct connection between city of Hillsboro employees and the youth they serve.

The selection process is already under way for the first year of the program. Five students from YAC and five students from PCC Future Connect will serve as interns assisting city departments such as Planning, Fire, Parks & Recreation, Information Services, Human Resources, and the city manager's office.

In future years, the program will expand beyond YAC and PCC Future Connect students. Previous Hillsboro interns have come from local colleges and universities.

Having a strong connection between elected leaders, city employees and the youngest generation of residents serves several purposes. This internship program will give youth an earlier opportunity to explore career choices, learn hands-on, and help their hometown. It also will fill a city need for bright, young interns who creatively solve challenges and make the city of Hillsboro an even better place to live.

LESSONS FROM WASHINGTON, DC: YAC STUDENTS VISIT THE NATION'S CAPITAL

High school road trips often involve time at the beach or pool, but six members of the City of Hillsboro's Youth Advisory Council (YAC) recently headed east to see the nation's elected leaders gather for the National League of Cities Conference (NLCC) in Washington, DC.

For the second straight year, YAC members were invited to apply to take part in the trip that puts them in touch with local and national leadership. For high school students Rachel Simon, Lorena Colcer, Sokleap



Members of the City of Hillsboro's Youth Advisory Council (YAC) during their recent trip to Washington, DC.

Tan, Huitzil Zamudio, Shirley Araiza, and Ali Giza, the experience proved life changing.

Accompanied by two chaperones, and joined at times by Hillsboro Mayor Jerry Willey, the six YAC members participated in

youth delegate workshops and attended NLCC sessions featuring a variety of guest speakers, such as MSNBC newscaster Andrea Mitchell.

Huitzil Zamudio's favorite break-out session was a discussion of the impact guns and violence have on society, while Shirley Araiza fondly remembered sitting in on a House of Representatives voting session, then, afterward, shaking House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi's hand.

Beyond watching presentations and listening to speakers, the group had the chance to speak with Oregon Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley, and Representatives Suzanne Bonamici and Earl Blumenauer, asking them questions and discussing Oregon's future.

Between sightseeing, meeting with politicians, and networking, YAC members stayed busy in Washington, DC. Lorena Colcer left feeling "a passion for government and admiration for our elected officials," while Ali Giza said, "It was thrilling to be able to experience such rich history."

HILLSBORO PARKS & REC SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Remember those epic summer childhood adventures: Building forts, having squirt gun fights, exploring the backyard-turned-pirate ship or princess castle? Hillsboro Parks &

Recreation offers these same experiences for your children, with the added benefit of adult supervision and a myriad of activities designed to keep kids entertained, active, and safe.

This summer, Hillsboro Parks & Recreation has put together many different summer day camp options to appeal to a child's interests, including Camp Amp, with guitar, bass, drums, vocals, and concert production—perfect for kids interested in music and performing onstage.

SHARC Aquatic Camps are open for all levels of swimmers, and Science Camps full of experiments are sure to appeal to any curious 5-7 year old.

For kids who have more varied interests, Sizzling Summer Day Camp (grades K-6) is an eight-week camp jam-packed with great games, terrific field trips, sizzling sports, and amazing arts and crafts. The Zone Adventure Day Camp is a great option for students entering grades 6-9 because every day of the week, kids have the opportunity to visit a new outdoor adventure destination.

For parents or grandparents wishing to bond with their children, the Nature Exploration Day Camps offered through the Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve provide intergenerational camps. Parents and children can bond over discovering a diverse wetland population together—spotting beavers, deer, and eagles along the way.

More artsy children may be drawn to the classes offered at the Walter Cultural Arts Center. Classes will incorporate a large variety of mediums, with everything from performing art, sketching and painting to sculpting, each offering kids instruction and freedom to explore their creative potential.

For a lower-key, informal summer experience, bring kids to The Outpost at Shute Park, open weekdays, 10:30 am to 1:30 pm, from June 16 to August 15. Free lunch and activities are provided for kids 18 and younger.



Art projects, science experiments, playtime with sports equipment and more are offered to create a fun environment for kids of all ages. For more information and to register your child, visit <http://www.hillsboro-oregon.gov/index.aspx?page=1245> or call 503-681-6120.

COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE HELPING TO SHAPE OUR FUTURE! HAVE YOU HAD YOUR SAY?

The Imagine Hillsboro 2035 process is now in full swing with participation from nearly 2,000 community members! A wide range of ideas are being offered for the new community plan, which will update the Hillsboro 2020 Vision and help guide our city over the next 20 years.

Community members are envisioning a bigger Hillsboro over the next 10-20 years—one that is still family-friendly, yet full of enhancements.

Some of the most popular ideas so far include:

- Expanding family recreational activities (teen centers, water parks, a downtown gym/rock climbing wall)
- Strengthening schools and school-based programming
- Building on the strengths of Hillsboro's diverse populations
- Creating mentorship and internship opportunities for youth
- Increasing small "mom and pop" businesses
- Creating unique shopping in various districts (esp. downtown)
- Emphasizing safe, walkable neighborhoods with sidewalks and trails
- Growing the arts (murals and public art, performance types and venues)
- Expanding and improving public transportation service

Have you added your idea to the mix? Visit hillsboro2035.org or text a comment to (971) 205-1005, by July 19, to participate and help with growing great things in Hillsboro!





BROOKWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Ken McCoy

With culminating projects, the change to warmer weather, field day, a talent show, field trips, a newly invigorated science garden, special events and the first steps toward transitioning to a new grade, springtime is a very busy time of year.

Brookwood is fortunate to have a dedicated staff that puts forth constant effort and long hours to make this school a great place for students. They are working harder than ever to make the commitment that “Every Student Matters Every Day” ring true for everyone. As they work to finish the 2013-2014 school year strong, teaching staff are continuing the move to the Common Core State Standards and the shifts in teaching that come with those standards. Halfway through the four-year process, they are also continuing efforts toward a clear plan for continuous school improvement as an Oregon Focus School. With all their efforts to make Brookwood the best school it can be, the staff is to be commended.

Students, too, are working hard to exceed expectations and take on new academic challenges. All Brookwood students are exceptional and capable of doing great things when they give their best effort. As Brookwood continues to work toward creating and maintaining high levels of Passionate Purpose, Energizing Engagement and Real-Life Rigor, the staff expects to find, as a result, each adult and student in the community invested in these efforts, knowing that doing their absolute best really does matter, and that mindset is truly exciting.

FARMINGTON VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Roger Will

After graduating from Western Oregon University, Katie Selby was unsure of her next journey. She entertained the idea of entering the Peace Corps. But because she had some reservations about the two-year commitment, she chose instead to apply for an AmeriCorps position.

In Washington County, Partner-

Hilhi

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ships for Student Achievement is an AmeriCorps program hosted by the Forest Grove School District. The mission of PSA is to increase student academic achievement in Washington County schools.

The objectives tied to any school hosting an AmeriCorps member include providing one-on-one and small group tutoring 50 to 80 percent of the day; developing, implementing and assisting extended school day activities; recruiting, coordinating, training and/or recognize parent, community or student volunteers; and organizing parent engagement project(s) that address a targeted need.

Ms. Selby facilitates nine small targeted groups of students in either reading or math. Students selected for her groups must be below benchmark in reading or math. She currently tutors students from kindergarten through fifth grade. Having an enthusiastic AmeriCorps member like Ms. Selby allows students who need targeted interventions to receive them from a trained professional.

In addition to tutoring, Ms. Selby supports Farmington View by leading an after-school academic club for 20 students; completing the Farmington View parent directory; facilitating the Mindset book chat for parents; partnering with FV's parent volunteer coordinator to recruit volunteers for events/activities; and completing a Global Youth Service Day activity of painting Farmington View's garden shed.

When asked what she likes best about being an AmeriCorps member, her answer was simple: “I love working with the children.” When a student was asked what she likes best about Ms. Selby, she replied, “She's helping me read more fluently and she's really funny.”

From her very first day at Farmington View, Ms. Selby has made a positive impact on students, parents, and staff.

GRONER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Scott Schinderle

What do you get when you put families, science, engineering, technology and math together? A Family STEM Night full of engaging, hands on experiences and STEM Learning! Groner Elementary School celebrated Earth Day by inviting all of its families to participate in Family STEM Night. The gym, hallways, classrooms and Learning Garden were active learning centers for one and all!

Students' science and engineering projects were displayed in the gym where at-



Students at Groner's Family STEM Night made aluminum can flowers for the school's Learning Garden.

tendees could talk directly with the scientists and engineers. Students showcased their latest discoveries and prototypes.

Hallways included community partner booths. These partners—Tualatin Nature Park, Usbourne Books, Master Recyclers and Rice Rock Museum—share Groner's vision of Think, Act, Impact.

Students led parents into learning and discovery through hands-on experiences. Choices were plentiful. One could build with 3D polydrons and explore force with dominoes in the kindergarten classroom. Jeweler's loupes were used to practice close observations and scientific journaling. Straw rockets were engineered and tested! Mix recycling, ART, and engineering and you got beautiful floral STEAM creations that went directly to enhance our Learning Garden. Cantilever domino structures, communication, tangrams, and marble runs could be explored in the science/engineering lab. Exploration about the physics of flight was happening, too!

The evening culminated with tours of Groner's Learning Garden led by Garden Coordinator, Chris Caputo. A little rain didn't dampen the STEAM spirit that was thriving during the entire event! We are an Options school, come grow with us!

W. L. HENRY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Alison Paulus

Henry is one of seven elementary schools in Hillsboro that is a Right Brain Initiative partner school. Right Brain brings artists together with schools to infuse art into the curriculum to increase student engagement and deepen understanding of core subjects.

This is W.L. Henry's first year of partnership with Right Brain, and fifth grade classes, led by teachers Ben Fong and Shelly Panayiotou, recently completed the school's pilot artist residency.

Right Brain artist Caitlin Shelman worked with students four times over the course of a few weeks as they studied U.S. History and the Declaration of Independence. During their first session, students discussed their social studies unit and learned about print-making and collagraph printing—which basically involves making a print out of a collage.

At the second session, students created self-portrait print plates in the format of a collagraph, cutting cardboard shapes to make their faces.

The third session involved students printing two images from their self-portrait plates: one white print on black paper and one black print on color paper.

At the final session, students reviewed their essays and selected key quotes they wanted to share in the culminating project, which is a mural composed of each student's self-portrait print and a selection of quotes in both English and Spanish, bordered by a key phrase from the Declaration of Independence. Ms. Shelman worked with volunteers to install the mural in the school library for all students to appreciate and enjoy.

As part of the introductory year, a handful of W.L. Henry teachers have been participating in Right Brain professional development, learning how to integrate arts into all curriculum. Next year, every class at W.L. Henry will participate in an artist residency.

MINTER BRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Mary Mendez

The dual language program at Minter Bridge is based on the idea that students help one another navigate between the two languages and, at the same time, receive high-level literacy and content instruction.

Minter Bridge is in its seventh year of implementation of the program. After experiencing a few years of long waiting lists to enter the program, and having evidence of its success, Minter Bridge expanded its offerings two years ago. Currently, all students in grades kinder through third are invited into the program, and there is also one class in each of grades 4 through 6 that receives dual language education in English and Spanish.

This year, Minter Bridge will celebrate the first group of dual language students who will continue on to middle school with the opportunity to become bilingual, bi-literate and bicultural.

With Minter Bridge's dual language model, native English and native Spanish speakers are emerging bilinguals who spend approximately 50 percent of their day in each

language. This creates a special opportunity for all students to be the experts, tutoring their peers in their language and culture. Students learn to truly appreciate each other, valuing the language skills of all students.

Research shows that dual language programs also have a positive effect on intellectual and cognitive growth, providing the most effective way for students to acquire a second language and supporting high academic achievement in all areas.

This spring, Minter Bridge held a Spanish Spelling Bee, where one representative from each of the grades 4-6 qualified to compete at a much larger Spanish Spelling Bee with several local participating schools. This Spelling Bee was held on April 18 at Beaverton High School. Representing Minter Bridge were: Diego Velasco (fourth grade), Elena Kitchens (fifth grade) and Jackie Halpern (sixth grade).

Providing a multicultural education is accomplished in many ways: through whole school activities such as Multicultural Night, and also at the individual classroom level, where teachers specifically provide opportunities to compare and contrast different cultures in a meaningful way.

Minter Bridge's Spring Fiesta was held on Friday, May 9, where students expressed their appreciation for different cultures through traditional food, dance and music. If you would like to find out more about Minter Bridge and the dual language program, please contact the school at 503-844-1650.

Written by Lindsay Garcia

ROSEDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Mike Strande

This year, Rosedale focused its fundraising efforts on collecting enough money to increase technology throughout the building. The Parent Group organized the recent Fun Run event and doubled last year's fundraiser proceeds.

With the money raised, Rosedale was able to purchase enough MimioTeach Whiteboards to supply each classroom with one. MimioTeach can be used on dry erase boards to create a full-featured interactive whiteboard, fostering student collaboration and engagement. Mimio will be training the teachers on how to best utilize this product.

The school community realized the importance of increasing its technology resources to enhance student engagement, and working together made this fundraiser quite a success!

WITCH HAZEL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Grant Corliss

As spring continues to blossom, the Witch Hazel dual language program and

Spanish literacy classes are in full swing, with kids from a variety of diverse backgrounds growing their bilingualism. Staff are proud of their classrooms and excited to expand the program into second grade next year.

In honor of diversity, the school will host the second Annual WHES Cultural Fair the evening of May 29.

Kindergarten Orientation and Family Night was held the evening of April 24. It's exciting to meet new families and support them with this transition.

Families will have the opportunity to sign up with Ready Rosie, which is an app/daily email all families will receive on how to support learning for their 0-7 year olds at home. The email will be accompanied with videos and vocabulary lasting only two minutes and available through smart phones or home computers. Videos come with instructions on ways to make activities easier or more challenging in English and Spanish.

Other exciting happenings include field trips to the Agriculture Festival at Hillsboro High School, and trips to South Meadows Middle School for seventh grade fly up. Staff have also been working hard to get kids excited about their future beyond Witch Hazel, so each teacher and specialist is celebrating their alma mater with door decorations. And our AmeriCorps member, in collaboration with the local boys scout troop, is working to create a mu-



ral on the playground and conduct a campus clean up.

Thank you Wolves!

SOUTH MEADOWS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Principal: Becky Smith

The past few months have proven once again what amazing students there are at South Meadows.

First, the SMMS Chess Team won third place in the Chess for Success State Tournament in March. Members included Daniel Kitchens, Nick La Mora, Adam Gallina, Shalkar Wilkins, Leanna Mohlman, Adrian Pantoja, Emmanuel Moncada, and Nate Lamora. The individual third place trophy went to eighth grader Daniel Kitchens. Two weeks later, some of these students were able to compete in prestigious Oregon Scholastic Chess Federation State Tournament in Seaside. There, Daniel Kitchens

earned a fourth place medal. These accomplishments are especially notable as the team has only been in existence for two years.

Each year, the Hillsboro Optimist Club honors students and staff for their citizenship and community service. This year, the honors went to Vincent Felder and Adrian Calderon Aguilar from seventh grade, and Logun Corbin Smith and Naomi Johnson from eighth grade. The teacher award went to Ellie Prpich, who is a science teacher in the dual language program, and the leader of SMMS Unity Team.

On April 7, South Meadows held its annual Spanish Spelling Bee, in which 15 students participated. Seventh grader Timothy Kuskie and eighth grader Javier Gonzalez took first place in each of their respective grades. These students represented SMMS at the state competition on April 18 at Beaverton High School where Timothy went on to place second overall.

Sadie Melendez, Leanna Mohlman and three students from Minter Bridge, meeting after school on Mondays, decided to take on a scientific challenge learning about extreme



From left: South Meadows' Destination Imagination team (including students from Minter Bridge), chess team, and great Spanish speaker Tim Kuskie.



environments. They chose a topic they knew little about: War. They spoke with a professor from West Point and veteran of the Afghanistan war, watched documentaries and read books. They chose Hiroshima and the dropping of the nuclear bomb as the topic of their presentation. They competed at a regional Destination Imagination Tournament at Century High School in February, and took second place out of eight teams. They were invited to compete in the state tournament in Corvallis against the top nine teams in the state and placed third. They also won the top award given by Destination Imagination called the Da Vinci Award. They were the only middle school team out of teams competing in six categories to receive the award, which is given to those "who clearly demonstrate that spirit of adventurous risk to reach truly new and unique destinations." They won for a spoken word poem their team wrote and performed, and a

montage they created and used in their presentation. The judges praised them for their maturity and the way they dealt with such a complex topic.

South Meadows Thespians seventh graders Isaac Ellingson and David Van Dyke are in the STAGES Performing Arts Youth Academy production of Schoolhouse Rock Live during April and May at the HART Theatre.

Finally, with the help of parent Geri Claxton and every person who volunteered their time, South Meadows held its third annual College and Career Day on April 10. Over 30 professionals and 20 Pacific University students came to present to students about their college and career path.

HILLSBORO HIGH SCHOOL

Principal: Arturo Lomeli

"Hilhi's Magic Kingdom" May Fete takes place the week of May 19, 2014.

The History of May Fete

According to annuals dating back to the class of 1916, Hilhi has been celebrating May Day Festivities since 1915, and tied the celebration in with the end of the Annual County Spelling Contest.

The larger-scale May Fete celebration that we know now began in 1965, when Hilhi teachers Ron Clark and Debbie Van Roeckel suggested that teachers recognize students through a ceremony and week of activities.

Today, May Fete lives on for Hilhi Spartans. Student courts are selected from each class based on scholarship, athletic and activity participation, service to school and community, awards and honors, and character. The week begins this year with a formal assembly during which students will be presented with academic awards and the class courts will be recognized. During the week, student talent will be highlighted through one-act plays, an art show, a talent show, an acoustic showcase called Unplugged, and a car show. The week will end with a celebration called SpartQuake. At SpartQuake, clubs create carnival-type booths that line the pit, offering food and activities for students and staff to enjoy. Pitstock also takes place Friday, where student bands, music and DJ's will perform in the pit.

The goals of May Fete are:

1. To recognize outstanding student achievement and to celebrate the diversity of abilities and interests among the Hilhi student body.

2. To involve students and staff in the planning process and to gain active involvement by the entire student body during the week.

3. To sponsor a school-wide service activity that increases school unity, models volunteerism, and aids the local community.

4. To create an environment that increases school spirit, and allows staff to reward student and class achievement.



EASTWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Kona Williams

32 + 20 + 10 = Technology in the Hands of Eastwood Students

With funding from the school's Title One budget and grants, Eastwood has an additional 10 new laptops, 32 iPads and 20 Google Chromebooks.

Eastwood Elementary students have been fortunate to be the recipients of almost \$15,000 worth of technology grants sponsored by First Tech Credit Union, Hillsboro Schools Foundation, and the Hillsboro School District this school year. Currently, an additional 14 Google Chromebooks and 20 iPads are being used to enhance technology learning through various apps like Geoboard, supporting math learning, and Educreations, serving as an individual interactive white board.

Some students have benefitted from using Dragon Dictation, where they verbally share a story. The application then writes their story for them. This application supports students who may struggle with writing and typing on a computer, and helps them feel successful.

Recently in Mrs. Burkhardt's first and second grade blended classroom, students worked in teams of 3-4 students with Learning Resource Teacher Ms. Wierdsma. The teams were directed to draw one portion of the *Scholastic News* informational article "How to Make Toothpaste" using the Kids Doodle app on their iPads. The first and second graders loved drawing and labeling their pictures and connecting reading comprehension skills with technology.

During lunch recess, some sixth grade students from Mrs. Godfrey's class use iMovie for the Eastwood Eagle Live news. Students learned to design a framework for news stories, implement videography skills, then edit their video to make a movie showcasing key stories about the school.

This spring, library assistant Ms. Mackall plans to provide technology time for classes



Eastwood students' access to technology has increased exponentially this year, thanks to generous grants.

Liberty

FEEDER GROUP

to use Moby Max, Fun Brain, and Star Fall using the Google Chromebooks. Teachers will also integrate Chromebooks into research and writing opportunities for students.

In a time where technology is a critical part of educational learning, the students at Eastwood have benefited from the generous grant donations of community partners in education.

LENOX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: John Matsuo

Lenox Elementary School may not be titled a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) school, but it doesn't mean that those fields are not highly valued or taught here.

The volunteer-run Science Fair was held on Thursday, April 24. Besides the myriad of student science fair projects that were on display, there were hands-on experiments led by parents and students from Liberty High School. There were robots moving about, a flight simulator, astronaut suits to try on, and paper rocket launching with NASA and the Evergreen Air Museum. If you came, you saw and occasionally touched reptiles, collected rocks, explored fire trucks and became a crime scene investigator with Washington County Sheriff's deputies. You experienced an array of other science-based activities that had children of every age fully engaged. You might have even taken home some well-tested "Flubber" or "Oobleck."

The Art Literacy program is on a world tour this year. Led by Randi Soot and a team of parent and community volunteers, this year's group has taken students on an artistic journey to Turkey with Turkish marbling. They then moved on to Japan, where they studied about Ikebana (flower arranging), and Origami. Their next stop was to Oaxaca, Mexico, to learn about folk art sculp-

tures of fantastical creatures called alebrijes. They are currently in Ukraine creating Pysanky or Ukrainian eggs. All students from grades K through six participate and explore along the way. Students learn about the region, and the background history behind each project. Almost all art literacy projects over the last few years have been earth-friendly, using recycled or repurposed items when possible, since Lenox is a green school.

Finally, on a different arts-related note, the school has been fortunate to have a community member, Mr. Mike Rouse, each Thursday playing acoustic guitar in the cafeteria during lunch. His mix of various genres of music from flamenco to pop is a perfect addition that makes the Lenox experience even more unique. It may even have a slight calming effect, which is certainly welcome during lunch. Students do remind each other that they want to listen to the music. During his brief two-week hiatus, students were inquiring about Mr. Rouse. His return on May 1 was a thrill for us all.

MOOBERRY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Brian Haats

The month of May will be a month of celebrations at Mooberry. On the afternoon of May 24, the school will hold a 50-year anniversary celebration, and that evening will hold the Annual Student Achievement Showcase.

The anniversary celebration will kick off with an assembly from 1 to 2 p.m. Presentations and performances by current and former Mooberry students, parents, and staff members will be offered. Following the assembly will be an open house. Visitors are welcome to tour the building and view displays. Refreshments will be served. Please join us! This event will be open to the public.

The Annual Student Achievement Showcase will also be held on the evening of May 24. This event is for current Mooberry students and families only. The format will be Open House, so please join us anytime between 5 and 7 p.m.

Students will share work samples, test scores, writing pieces and artwork with their parents. This is a chance for them to celebrate their achievements and set goals for next

year. Teachers will be available to answer any questions, and Spanish translation will be provided as needed. We look forward to seeing you.

ORENCO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Lisa Aguilar

Orenco Elementary is a school based on family, friendship and community. I don't mean to brag, but I feel very fortunate to be able to work at such a wonderful school.

My position at Orenco allows me to be a part of just about everything this school has to offer. I am amazed on a daily basis by the genuine compassion that each staff member has for each other and the students, as well as the incredible generosity from parents and the community.

We have parents who are so involved it is not uncommon to see them here all day, every day. Just last week I was talking with a mom who volunteers here every single day during her 30-minute lunch break.

We are so incredibly appreciative of all the amazing volunteers and parent involvement. On May 2, we held the second Annual Jog-A-Thon. Each student was asked to raise a certain amount of money in order to reach the school goal of \$30,000 (all of which will towards improving the technology at Orenco).

Last year, the school nearly reached that goal. This is just one of many ways the school community pulls together to accomplish amazing things.

Written by Paraprofessional Haley Sprecher

QUATAMA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Janis Hill

Do you have a fixed mindset or a growth mindset? The growth mindset person is one



Quatama students employ a growth mindset to push themselves to do their best.

who knows how hard work, persistence, and effort helps grow your brain and make you even smarter.

Quatama fifth graders are experiencing the advantages of approaching learning with a growth mindset! Based on the book "Mindset" by Carol Dweck, students have been studying "Brainology" in class, learning about the brain and how it works. Add the artists from My Voice Music collaborating with teachers around key concepts and standards and voilà, you have joyful engaged children really using their growth mindsets!

My Voice Music is a nonprofit organization that engages youth in music and performance in order to promote self-esteem, social skills and emotional expression. It is also a part of The Right Brain Initiative, an organization committed to bringing the arts into all schools. This year My Voice is the artist in residence organization working with all levels at Quatama.

As a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics) school, Quatama teachers plan carefully with the artists to integrate the arts into students' learning of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Kindergarten students rocked the alphabet while engineering free-standing letters and creating their own alphabet songs. First and fourth graders experienced sound waves from the inside out and back again. In second grade, students' work with birds was integrated with instruments and sounds. Santigie Fofana-Dura, a My Voice artist and arts educator, took the lead in the planning.

With the help of Santigie and My Voice Music, Quatama fifth graders want to remind teachers how a growth mindset works! Not only did they write and perform a song, but they recorded the music they composed using drums, keyboards, and guitars. Here is some great advice from fifth grade:

"When you come into a stressful situation, your brain jumps headfirst into action! Adrenaline pumps into fight or flight. Your body reacts with all its might. Just learn to breathe and be prepared. With these techniques you don't have to be scared. Keep it positive, change your inner voice. Make a plan for success; it's always your choice!"

People say you can't get smarter, we say just work a little harder! Just let go of your fixed mindset and push yourself to do your best!"

WEST UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: John Allen

It's an exciting time to be a Wolverine! West Union is going to grow and prosper with the addition of many new students. The recent boundary changes made this opportunity possible and what a great chance to welcome students to the school community.

West Union received the terrific news this spring that it will become a Right Brain school. The Right Brain Initiative was developed to bring arts-integrated learning into every classroom. Students already have a deep appreciation for art thanks to an amazing

group of parent volunteers who teach art literature throughout the school year, but our new partnership will offer a great chance to integrate the standards with different art mediums.

This has been a year filled with old traditions and new beginnings. The West Union Community Club has been instrumental in making sure teachers and students are well supported. Intel has also provided some excellent volunteers who have become a vital part of the learning community.

POYNTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Principal: Greg Timmons

Every year, Poynter hosts after-school activities where teachers volunteer to help. Most middle schools have the average school sports and other clubs. Unlike other schools, though, about four years ago Poynter's dedicated custodian, Mr. Sarrazin, began the Bike Club.

The Bike Club set out to help kids learn how to make bikes and about mechanics and engineering in a real life setting. Since starting the club, Mr. Sarrazin has sparked the imagination of many kids and helped them discover talents they didn't know they had. Every kid who joins the Bike Club receives the training and mentorship they need. At the end of the process they get to take home the bike they constructed with their very own hands!

At first glance, the Bike Club might not seem that academic, but it does much more than just teach kids about mechanics. As Mr. Sarrazin points out, "Bike Club helps kids with math and solves transportation problems for many families."

Because of his phenomenal work with the Bike Club, Mr. Sarrazin received a Hillsboro School Foundation grant last year to continue funding his program.

Students at Poynter see Bike Club as a unique learning experience. Every student who joins gets the opportunity to make his or her own bike. Mr. Sarrazin noted that one of his students even created a stereo that he mounted to his bike!

Last year, students also went to the science fair to show off their innovations and their wheels. The bike they took had been



The Poynter Bike Club received a Hillsboro Schools Foundation grant for the 2012-13 school year, which allowed Mr. Sarrazin to purchase bike stands, welding equipment, safety gear and other tools for the program.

designed by students to run by engine. Mr. Sarrazin has created a marvelous program that has helped kids who need a little something more in their lives.

Written by leadership students Britney Garcia, Issabel Nunez, Cassady Morgan, Kate Opager, Mateo Placito, Jennifer Kim, Malia Hemphill and Evan Kwiecien

LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL

Principal: Gregg O'Mara

Together We're Better!

It is hard to believe that June is almost here and graduation is right around the corner. Seniors had the opportunity to pick up their commencement tickets starting May 12 in the bookkeeping office. The limit is 8 per



Ramona Toth's Health Services students at Liberty High School have, for the past two years, partnered with Lenox Elementary School's PTA to participate in Lenox's Science Fair. Here, some chemistry students perform experiments at the event on April 24.

graduate. Tuesday, May 20, was the annual Senior Project Night which gave the community an opportunity to view seniors' capstone projects.

Freshmen were busy presenting at our annual Latin America Project Fair the week of April 16. Presentations on display included a wide range of multi-cultural topics, history and cuisine.

In the past month, Band, Choir and Art students had an opportunity to "show their stuff" at the Northwest Oregon Conference (NWOC) competitions. Choir finished second and earned a score that qualified them for state, but at press time it was not yet known if they had been accepted to compete at the State Choir festival. Art students had their best showing at the NWOC art show with Maryana Kuznetsova, Sadie Wagnell, Annalisa Kulick, Morgan Adams, Tessa Moody, and David Clift all earning honors. And, as of press time, the Band performed at their highest level but could not report a score.

Congratulations to Liberty Leadership students who have been awarded a 2014 National Gold Council of Excellence Award by the National Association of Student Councils. This is the seventh year in a row they have won this award.

The girl's Golf team is a strong contender for another league title with junior Stephanie Miller and senior McKenzie Oster leading the charge. The Equestrian team had three state qualifiers: Kendall Cablao, Keira Mitchell and Delaney Bacon.

There have been a few bumps in the road with ParentVue, but please continue to email and call with issues around this program. You are the best resource to improving communication regarding your child's academic progress.

INDEPENDENT TRANSITION SERVICES
WORK EXPERIENCE COLLABORATION

Taught by Terri Nickens and LaDona Hughes, Independent Transition Services (ITS) is a Hillsboro School District program available to students who have received special education services while in high school. The focus of the program is to provide additional instruction as students take their first steps into young adult life.

For most students, the world of work is a brand new experience, so the focus of this program is to provide direct instruction in work skills while students gain real-world work experience.

Among the most successful partnerships has been the collaboration between ITS and the Hillsboro School District Nutrition Services and Facilities Departments. Nutrition Services Director Cindy Longway and retired Facilities Director Don Lavoie have been able to provide hands-on opportunities for students to work alongside staff in school kitchens and with head custodians. These staff have been able to provide the training, coaching, and mentoring

necessary to build the skills, self-esteem, and confidence to ensure the students develop the work skills, habits, and attitudes necessary to be successful in the workplace.

Thanks to the experiences provided through these programs, many students have gone on to become successful employees within the school district and at various business in the community.

Without the support of the Nutrition Services and Facilities Departments, these work experiences would not be possible. ITS would also like to thank the Human Resources, Health and Safety Departments, and Substitute Services at NWRESD for all of their hard work to make this collaboration possible.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR TOP ACHIEVERS

Each year at this time we take a moment to recognize the students who have given all they've got to their studies and have risen to the top of their class: our valedictorians and salutatorians. As is our tradition, we will be pulling these top achievers together for a cel-

ebratory lunch on Thursday, May 29, where they will be addressed by Hillsboro Mayor Jerry Willey, Chamber President Deanna Palm, Hillsboro Argus Editor Tom Maurer, Superintendent Mike Scott and Board Chair Kim Strelchun.

The most intriguing part of the lunch, however, is always listening to the students introduce themselves, share their plans for the future, reflect on a favorite memory from their K-12 experience, and give a piece of advice to younger students. Last year that advice ranged from: "Dreams don't work unless you do," to "Don't be afraid to challenge yourself—the harder path is often the more rewarding," to "Have fun with high school and be involved."

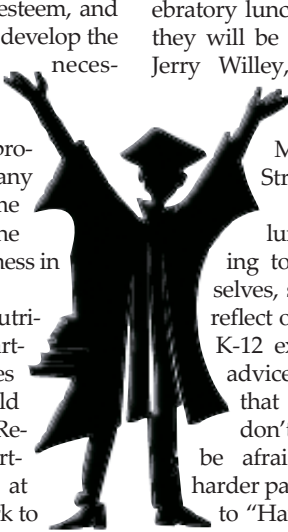
Here are the valedictorians and salutatorians for the Class of 2014:

Century High School

- Ashley Chen – valedictorian
- Clara Dunlop – valedictorian
- Kamran Hetke – salutatorian

Glencoe High School

- Kaitlin Barger – valedictorian
- Anna Janczak – valedictorian



- Christiana Logan – valedictorian
- Rachel Simon – valedictorian
- Collin Vanderzanden – valedictorian
- Benjamin Verney – valedictorian
- Courtney Clayton – salutatorian
- Faviola Padilla Miranda – salutatorian
- Miles Rouches – salutatorian

Hillsboro High School

- Tim McSpadden – valedictorian
- Kelly Royster – valedictorian
- Logan Stugart – valedictorian
- Justine Stalnaker – salutatorian
- Andrew Peterkort – salutatorian

Liberty High School

- Matthew Langbehn – valedictorian
- McKenzie Oster – valedictorian
- Tia Collins – valedictorian
- Tiffany Couch – valedictorian
- Hayley Gardner – valedictorian
- Ryan Knippel – valedictorian
- Sadie Wagnell – valedictorian
- Alice Yan – valedictorian
- Kiley Bonin – salutatorian
- Carly Elwood – salutatorian

Hillsboro Online Academy

- Gaven Denning – valedictorian
- Lauren Schlangen – valedictorian

Sincerest congratulations and best wishes to all of you!

Continued from **PAGE 1**
SUPERINTENDENT

On March 17 and 18, the District underwent a Communications Audit by the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA).

Aside from extensive up-front research on our District, which included reviewing all current communication channels and products, the main source of information for the auditors was feedback received through focus groups.

Twenty different focus group sessions were held with various stakeholder groups—parents, students, community members without students currently in school, teachers, support staff, administrators, the School Board, and more. Questions centered on the effectiveness of current communication efforts as well as perceptions about our District and how both could be improved.

We look forward to receiving the full audit report (expected just after the press deadline) and modifying our communication efforts to ensure we are efficiently and effectively providing information to people in the manner that works best for them, and working to build positive perceptions of the District in our community and beyond.

Hillsboro

OPTIONS SCHOOLS

MILLER EDUCATION CENTER (MEC)
MEC MIDDLE SCHOOL (6-8)
MEC HIGH SCHOOL (9-12)
MEC OPTIONS

Principal: Stan Esselstrom

Harkins House is a program of MEC that provides educational services to adjudicated youth. Students in the Harkins House program recently received books valued over \$4,000 from the non-profit organization Judith's Reading Room.

Students participate in a daily group reading experience by reading books, summarizing the chapters, discussing characters, setting, plot and various other literary aspects.

During the months of February and March, students read "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett. Students found some of the language in this book difficult to understand, but the events in the book grabbed their interest and students were proud to have finished all 524 pages. Students discovered that

reading out loud in a group helped them with patience, fluency and comprehension.

Much gratitude goes to Judith's Reading Room for their support. More information about Judith's Reading Room can be found by visiting their website at <http://www.judithsreadingroom.org>.

HILLSBORO ONLINE ACADEMY (HOA)

Principal: Linda Harrington

April 17 marked the first ever Science Fair for elementary students at Hillsboro Online. Teacher Margaret Kellar led her crew of fourth, fifth and sixth grade students through the path of designing and implementing a science project. Elementary science students displayed their projects for parents, and top projects moved on to the district science fair in May.

Spring means that graduation, the end of the school year and summer vacation is on everyone's mind! Seniors are busy putting fi-

nal touches on senior projects and staff are making plans for the graduation ceremony on June 3.

Forecasting classes for next year takes place at Hillonline this month, with new courses coming on board for fall as the academy continues to expand its online options. The latest class under consideration is an AP computer science course that would be offered by mathematics instructor Susan Kaller. Stay tuned for more information.

This spring features an "Art Night" for students sponsored by instructor Sarah Coyle and the student group, Project HOA.

Elementary students visited OMSI on Wednesday, May 7, in support of the science work they have done this year. Weekly face-to-face opportunities for online students led by instructor Margaret Kellar have focused on science topics.

Finishing its second year, Hillonline continues to refine its program to meet the needs of students, their families and the Hillsboro community. Hillsboro Online Academy is a blended online school with onsite staff to support its fully online curriculum. It is located at 452 NE Third Street, just blocks from Hare Field and downtown Hillsboro. Contact us at 503-844-1050 for additional information.

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