

# LIND-RITZVILLE COOPERATIVE SCHOOLS COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

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LIND-RITZVILLE GRIT

APRIL 2025

## SUPERINTENDENT MESSAGE

As we head into spring break, I want to take a moment to highlight the exceptional work happening across our schools and thank our staff, students, and families for their continued partnership.

Our students continue to shine—in classrooms, competitions, and beyond. From critical thinking projects at the middle school to state and national qualifications in student clubs, we're seeing the results of hard work and strong instruction. Our teachers and staff have embraced professional development with great energy, applying new strategies to engage students and support their learning. This growth mindset is truly inspiring.

On the fiscal and legislative front, we've been actively advocating for rural school funding, childcare infrastructure, and local priorities. As the state legislature works through budget proposals, we remain focused on ensuring our schools are positioned for long-term sustainability. I'm especially grateful to those who have joined in these advocacy efforts—we're stronger when we raise our voices together.

Finally, we continue to work at keeping our community informed about the proposed shift to a 4-day school schedule. We're committed to making sure all stakeholders are well-informed and heard. More information and dialogue opportunities will be coming soon.

Wishing you a restful, safe, and joyful spring break. We look forward to finishing the school year strong—together.

Don Vanderholm  
Superintendent  
dvanderholm@lrschools.org

## UPCOMING LRCS DATES

- April 2 - MS Honor Society Induction
- April 3 & 4 - Spring Conferences (NO SCHOOL)
- April 7-11 - Spring Break
- April 14th- LRMS Group Photos
- April 16 - Money Live (LRHS Seniors)
- April 16 - LRHS FFA State Poultry
- April 17 - LRHS SAT Testing (11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Grades)
- April 18 - Coffee w/Superintendent / LRMS / 8:00-9:00AM
- April 19 - LRHS State Trapshooting / Wenatchee
- April 22 - LRHS FFA State Horse Evaluation
- April 23-26 - FBLA State Conference / Bellevue, WA
- April 25 - LRHS FFA Livestock at the SEWLS
- April 26 - Undeberg Track Invite / Ritzville
- April 28 - School Board / LRHS Collaboration Room / 6:30PM
- April 28 - May 2 - LES Scholastic Book Fair
- April 29 - LRHS Running Start and Dual Credit Parent Night
- April 30 - May 2 - LRHS FFA Spokane Jr Livestock
- May 1 - School Principals' Day
- May 3 - LRHS Sadie's Dance
- May 3 - Lind Alumni Banquet / LRMS Gym
- May 7 -9 - FFA State Convention
- May 8 - RGS Muffins with Misses
- May 15 - LES Pastries with Parents
- May 21 - 5th - 12th Grade Band Concert / LRMS Gym / 6:00PM
- May 24 - Ritzville Alumni Banquet / Gilson Gym
- May 26 - NO SCHOOL (Memorial Day)
- June 7 - LRHS Graduation / Gilson Gym / 2:00PM
- June 9 - Last Day of School (Early Release)

\*\*Dates & Times Subject to Change

## COFFEE WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT



Here's a chance for Lind-Ritzville Cooperative Schools' parents and community members to informally meet and chat with Superintendent Don Vanderholm to discuss matters related to LRCS.

Friday, April 18 / 8:00 - 9:00 AM  
Lind School District office  
Located at Lind-Ritzville Middle School  
Please use main doors at LRMS



## LRCS CALENDAR UPDATE

Due to the emergency school closure in October,  
the last day of school for LRCS will now be

**Monday, June 9  
(Early Release)**

**SPRING CONFERENCES**  
**APRIL 3 & APRIL 4 - NO SCHOOL**

**SPRING BREAK**

**APRIL 7 - 11**

**BACK TO SCHOOL ON MONDAY. APRIL 14**

# GREAT THINGS HAPPENING AT LIND-RITZVILLE COOPERATIVE SCHOOLS



Mrs. Gingrich & Mrs. Weishaar's 5th Grade classes participated in Wheat Week! A trained Wheat Week educator brought fun and interactive science lessons and taught the students about soil, water, DNA, and energy.

We are thankful that this program is brought to us free of charge through our local Conservation District and the Washington Grain Commission!



Congratulations to the LRHS FCCLA students that competed at State! These students will go on to the **NATIONAL** competition in Orlando this summer!

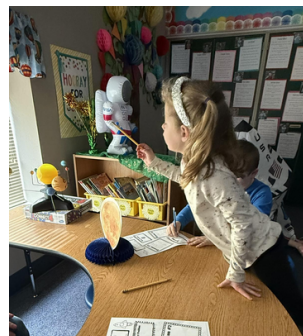
- Fredy Granados-Lopez - Repurpose & Redesign - SILVER
- Wednesday Curlee - Interior Design - SILVER
- Olivia Balfe - Impromptu Speaking - SILVER
- Cicely Herrera - Baking & Pastry - BRONZE
- Elijah Jacinto - Baking & Pastry - SILVER



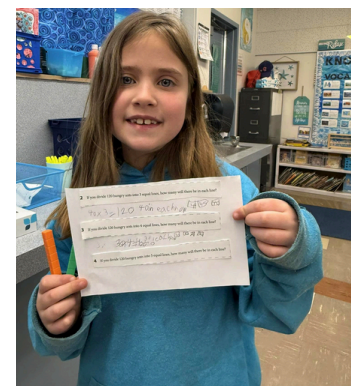
During their "History of the Earth" unit, Mrs. O'Neill's first grade class at LES, made their own fossils and wrote interesting facts about fossils on their fossil crowns. They also made models of the earth with clay, showing the 4 layers in different colors and had treats that also showed the layers of the earth.



Last month, eight Lind Ritzville Middle School FFA members attended the Washington FFA Leadership Conference in Moses Lake. Students completed workshops about teamwork, communication, and being a leader for the chapter, school, and community. It was a great event and offers more opportunities for middle school members!



At RGS, Mrs. Wellsandt's 1st Grade class finished their CKLA unit on Space and Astronomy. To show off what they learned, they had SPACE DAY complete with painting planets, creating their own constellations and more!



The LES 2nd grade class has been diligently working on multiplication and division concepts to get ready for 3rd grade!



The Bi-County Honor Band is an all-star band comprised of talented high school and middle school musicians from various schools in the Bi-County area. Students have to audition to be in honor band and choir. This year they performed at the First Interstate Performing Arts Center in Spokane. LRCS had fourteen HS and twenty MS students participate in Bi-County Honor Band & Choir!



LR FFA Agronomy Team earned 1<sup>st</sup> Place at STATE! They will represent Washington at the **NATIONAL** FFA Convention in Indianapolis this fall. LR FFA also had the top 6 individual placings in the contest!

LR FFA has been busy with district and state contests! These are the results from state events that have already taken place. FFA members will also be competing at the State FFA Convention in May!



AG Tools & Materials - 1<sup>st</sup> Place at State



MS Environmental and Natural Resources Team 1 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place at State



Agronomy Team 2 - 4<sup>th</sup> Place at State



Floriculture Team - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place at State



MS Environmental and Natural Resources Team 2 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place at State



Intro to Horticulture 4<sup>th</sup> Place at State

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