

Shadow Butte Elementary School Board Update



Shared by Jodie Farnsworth



February 2026

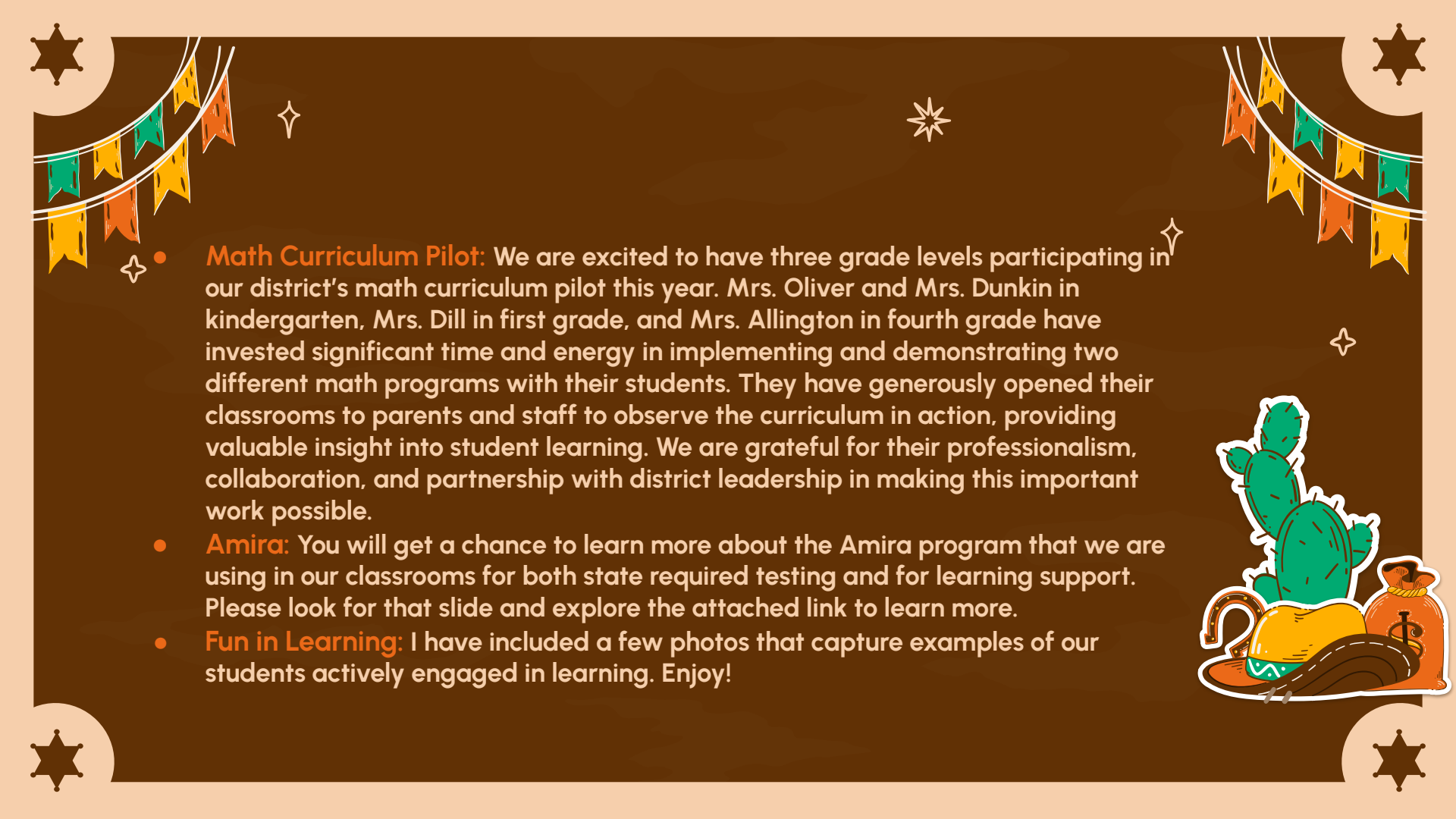


Most Wanted Staff: Teresa Zufelt is a remarkable leader and an invaluable member of our school community. As our Reset Room Lead and After School Programs Coordinator, she brings a rare blend of calm expertise, disarming humor, and genuine kindness to every interaction. Teresa is someone our teaching team can consistently rely on to support students who are struggling, meeting them with patience, understanding, and thoughtful guidance exactly when they need it most.

Teresa is truly a gamechanger for so many students who need something extra—extra time, extra coaching, and extra care. Her ability to build trust, nurture growth, and help students reset and reengage has a lasting impact on both their school experience and their success. We are deeply grateful for the heart, skill, and dedication she brings to our students and our staff every day.

- **Getting to Know Staff:** Please enjoy getting to know a little bit about our school counselors, Clarissa Weideman, and look for a slide highlighting some of the jobs she does in our school.





• **Math Curriculum Pilot:** We are excited to have three grade levels participating in our district's math curriculum pilot this year. Mrs. Oliver and Mrs. Dunkin in kindergarten, Mrs. Dill in first grade, and Mrs. Allington in fourth grade have invested significant time and energy in implementing and demonstrating two different math programs with their students. They have generously opened their classrooms to parents and staff to observe the curriculum in action, providing valuable insight into student learning. We are grateful for their professionalism, collaboration, and partnership with district leadership in making this important work possible.

• **Amira:** You will get a chance to learn more about the Amira program that we are using in our classrooms for both state required testing and for learning support. Please look for that slide and explore the attached link to learn more.

• **Fun in Learning:** I have included a few photos that capture examples of our students actively engaged in learning. Enjoy!

MOST WANTED TEACHER



MRS. ZUFELT

WANTED FOR:

TERESA ZUFELT IS A REMARKABLE LEADER AND AN INVALUABLE MEMBER OF OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY. AS OUR RESET ROOM LEAD AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS COORDINATOR, SHE BRINGS A RARE BLEND OF CALM EXPERTISE, DISARMING HUMOR, AND GENUINE KINDNESS TO EVERY INTERACTION. TERESA IS SOMEONE OUR TEACHING TEAM CAN CONSISTENTLY RELY ON TO SUPPORT STUDENTS WHO ARE STRUGGLING, MEETING THEM WITH PATIENCE, UNDERSTANDING, AND THOUGHTFUL GUIDANCE EXACTLY WHEN THEY NEED IT MOST.

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Clarissa Weideman
The Elementary School Counselor

MANAGING BIG FEELINGS

Whether it's a case of the "Monday Blues," a mid-recess disagreement, or test anxiety, I help students identify their emotions and find healthy ways to calm down and reset.

FRIENDSHIP & SOCIAL SKILLS

I help kids learn the "superpowers" of sharing, empathy, and kindness. I hold small groups to help students build confidence in making friends.

CLASSROOM LESSONS

I'm often in the classroom helping to teach lessons from Sources of Strengths, where they learn to use the strengths they have around them to get through tough things.

WHY DO KIDS WANT TO SEE THE COUNSELOR?

Changes at home (new sibling, moving, or loss)

Trouble making or keeping friends

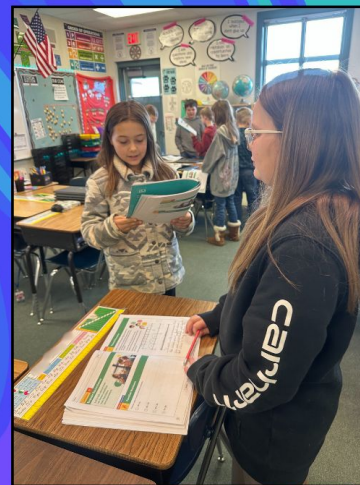
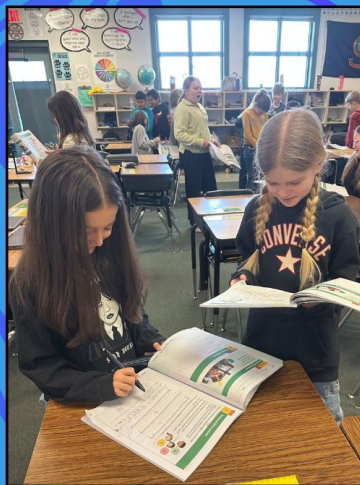
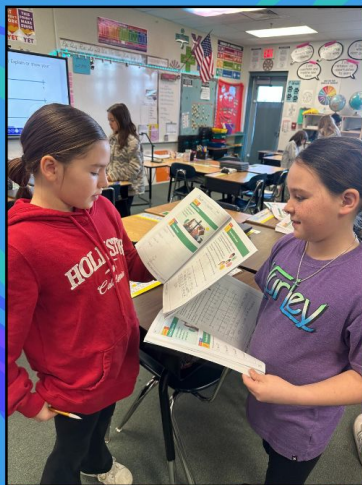
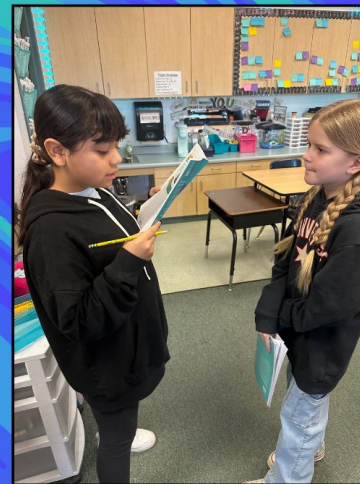
Sudden changes in behavior or school avoidance

Just needing a 5-minute "brain break" or a high-five



4th Grade

4th Graders
trying one of
our Math Pilot
Curriculums





Idaho's Reading Indicator (IRI) Assessment Fall - Winter - Spring K-3 Benchmark Test & Intervention Platform

Amira Learning is an AI-powered, evidence-based reading tutor designed to improve K-3 literacy by acting as an intelligent, conversational agent that listens to students read aloud. Research reports that AMIRA Learning accelerates reading growth by providing 20-30 minutes of personalized tutoring weekly.

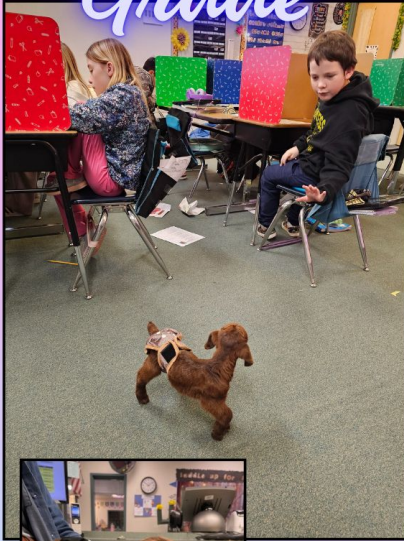
AMIRA is new this year and we are excited to see our IRI growth and results.

Key Components:

- Evidence-Based & Scientifically Grounded: Amira is built on the Science of Reading, focusing on phonological awareness, decoding, and fluency. It is validated by independent studies.
- AI-Powered Personalization: The platform utilizes voice recognition technology to listen to students, assessing and tutoring them in real-time.
- Comprehensive Assessment & Instruction: The [Amira Reading Suite](#) provides one, cohesive system that connects assessment (Amira ISIPTM), instruction, and tutoring. Click on the link to explore this program.



4th Grade



Classroom Visitor

2nd Grade



Working on story problems and playing komodo to build word recognition for higher grades.



1st
Grade

SHADOW DRAWING



Mark Your Calendar:

February 2-6 - National School Counseling Week

February 3 - 1st Grade Parent Night 6-7

February 14 - Valentine's Day

February 15 - 20 - Random Acts of Kindness Week

February 17 - Random Acts of Kindness Day

February 17 - PTO Meeting 4:15, Library

February 17 - Presidents' Day

February 22 - School Bus Driver Appreciation Day

February 24 - Wagon's Ho - 4th Grade

February 26 - Breakfast with Buddies 7:30 - 8 am

February 26 - Class Birthday Celebration, 3:00

March

March 2 - 1st & 3rd Music Concert Memory Lane 2:20,

Doors open 2:10

March 12 - Literacy Night - "GLOW" read a book 5:30 - 7:30



Thanks!



Thank you for your significant commitment of time and energy to our schools and district. I recognize that you are busy people with many opportunities to volunteer. Your decision to partner with our schools is truly valued and makes a direct impact on our students.

