



Shadow Butte Elementary School Board Update




Shared by Jodie Farnsworth



April 2026

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- **Most Wanted Staff:** Mrs. Pirc and Ms. Anna are our Most Wanted Staff for this month, and we couldn't be more grateful for the impact they have on our school community. They bring positivity, patience, and a wonderful sense of humor to their work each day, supporting every student with care and commitment—no matter the challenge. As trusted thinking partners, they collaborate closely with teachers and consistently offer creative, thoughtful solutions that make a difference for both students and staff. We are lucky to have them on our Special Education Team! (This year staff are selecting from their colleagues for the "Most Wanted Staff" award.)
 - **Getting to Know Staff:** Before our school selected Stephanie Pirc as our "Most Wanted Staff," I had already planned to highlight her in this month's update—making this recognition especially fitting. It's important to me that you have the opportunity to learn more about the many specialized roles that support our students each day. I invite you to read further in this report to learn more about Stephanie's impactful work in special education and the difference she makes in our school community.






Literacy Night: Our “Glow Read a Book” Literacy Night was a wonderful success! This year’s peaceful and playful theme created a calm, inviting atmosphere that families truly appreciated. The low lighting, glow sticks, black lights, and glow-in-the-dark touches made the evening feel both magical and relaxing. Students and families enjoyed a variety of engaging, literacy-focused activities like Bingo of Books, Campfire Reading, and Highlighter Glow Games, along with many others. To top it off, we were thrilled to provide a taco dinner at no cost, making the event both meaningful and accessible for all. It was a special night celebrating the joy of reading together!

- **100th Day of School:** Our 100th Day of School celebration was full of fun and imagination as many Shadow Butte students seemed to age overnight! In honor of 100 days of growth and learning, students came dressed as their “100-year-old” selves, bringing lots of laughter and creativity to the day. It was a joyful way to celebrate how much our students have learned and grown, and we hope you enjoy seeing these much older (and very wise!) versions of our amazing learners.





1st & 3rd Music Concert: Our 1st and 3rd grade students delighted audiences with their “Music Memory Lane” concert, beautifully directed by Mrs. DeWitt. The performance took us on a joyful stroll through classic songs, showcasing both talent and enthusiasm. Mrs. DeWitt did a fantastic job involving so many students in solo and small group parts, giving them meaningful opportunities to shine. Through this experience, students not only deepened their musical understanding but also built confidence and developed leadership skills within their roles. It was a memorable and inspiring performance!

- **Writing Project:** Our annual schoolwide writing project is a wonderful example of how we come together to support student growth. While writing is part of every school day, this special effort gives each grade level the opportunity to focus on a shared prompt and use a common rubric to guide and strengthen writing skills. It also provides our older students with valuable practice as they prepare for the upcoming ELA ISAT. We are proud of the hard work and progress our students have made and be sure to look further in this report to enjoy some of our grade-level writing standouts.



MOST WANTED STAFF



MRS. PIRC



MS. ANNA

WANTED FOR:

MRS. PIRC AND MS. ANNA ARE OUR MOST WANTED STAFF FOR THIS MONTH, AND WE COULDN'T BE MORE GRATEFUL FOR THE IMPACT THEY HAVE ON OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY. THEY BRING POSITIVITY, PATIENCE, AND A WONDERFUL SENSE OF HUMOR TO THEIR WORK EACH DAY, SUPPORTING EVERY STUDENT WITH CARE AND COMMITMENT—NO MATTER THE CHALLENGE. AS TRUSTED THINKING PARTNERS, THEY COLLABORATE CLOSELY WITH TEACHERS AND CONSISTENTLY OFFER CREATIVE, THOUGHTFUL SOLUTIONS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR BOTH STUDENTS AND STAFF. WE ARE LUCKY TO HAVE THEM ON OUR SPECIAL EDUCATION TEAM!

Stephanie Pirc & Anna LaDue- Special Education

I would simply love to share my love for education and my love for the Emmett Community with all of you. I consider it a blessing to work beside a wonderful administrator and MDT Team. (and all of you)

Special education is an amazing opportunity to create opportunities for students to grow and become their best selves despite academic challenges or behavior challenges. The challenges that students may face grant me opportunities to help them realize the wonderful gifts they have. I work with students who have academic, behavioral and emotional challenge that they face each day. It is an honor to work beside them.

I have been in the field of special education for 30 years. I am ready to enjoy a few more before retirement.

I work beside Anna La Due and she is fabulous in supporting students within the classroom and deeply cares for every student .

Our special education team teaches all levels of academics in reading, writing and math. We support emotional/social learning and help students with self regulations skills as well as help them build their “:Toolbox” of strategies for behaviors that interrupt their learning and the learning of others.

When our teaching day is done, we move to our documentation work such as data organization, and IEP writing for individual goals for each of our students. This IEP's also contain accommodations to help in the general education classroom. We spend time with general education teachers looking at modifications and supports that can enhance their learning and we like to touch base with each teacher daily in order to support them in their classrooms.

When not teaching and at home I simply love being outdoors!

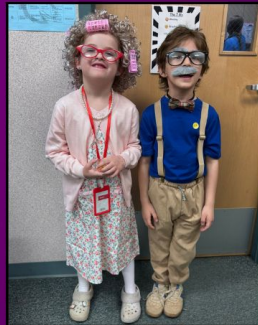


Literacy Night

* Glow Read a Book *



100 Days of School





Music

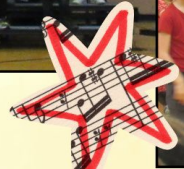
Concert



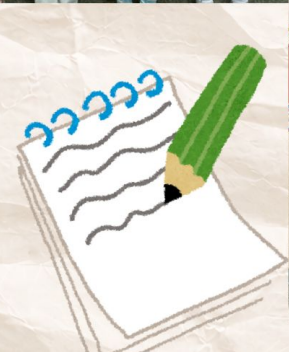
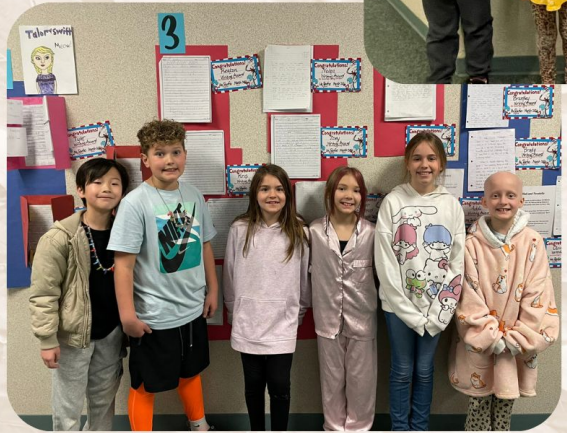
1st Grade



3rd Grade



WRITING PROJECT



Mark Your Calendar:

April 1 & 2 - Parent/Teacher Conferences

April 9 - Kindergarten Registration 4:30-7 pm

April 10 - Kindergarten Registration 10am-2pm

April 17 - Spring Dance/PTO Art Auction 5:30-7:30 pm

April 21 - PTO Meeting

April 23 - Class Birthday Celebration, 3:00

April 28 - May 7 - ISAT Testing

April 27 - Idaho History Music Concert- 4th grade

Looking Ahead:

May 3-9 - Staff Appreciation Week

May 11-28 - AMIRA Testing Window



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.

