

GET THE
UPDATE

FROM MEDICAL LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 326

March 2010



THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY FOR PASSING THE RECENT BOND ISSUE

from Dr. Pam Veltri, Superintendent

As we move into the second half of the school year, we have exciting things going on in the district. On February 9, 2010 the citizens of our community passed a bond issue to complete the following projects:

- Add six classrooms onto Hallett Elementary School and make it a kindergarten through 5th grade building
- Add twelve classrooms and a gymnasium onto Medical Lake Middle School and move the 6th grade to that building, making it a 6th grade through 8th grade middle school

Board of Directors:
Rod Von Lehe - President
Julie Albright - Vice President
Peggy Schweikhardt
Kelly Fouts
Ron Cooper

Since the passage of the bond, we have been very busy hiring an architect to design the additions. We requested proposals and interviewed three firms for the job: ALSC, Design Northwest and Architects West. The School Board used criteria to interview and select Architects West. We had our first construction meeting on March 3, and began working on design and a construction schedules. The construction schedule is aggressive, but we have completed preliminary planning and are ready to move forward.

Assistant Superintendent, Ralph Headlee, has been working with a committee of parents, teachers, and administrators to review the research on the best approach for serving 6th grade students in a Middle School setting. The committee will complete their work by the first of April and make a recommendation to the School Board.

Construction Schedule for Medical Lake Middle School and Hallett Elementary School

February 2010: Advertise and select architects and construction management.

March 2010: Begin educational specifications to determine best use of the space for educating children, and hold committee meetings with parents, teachers, staff and administration to determine the best approach for serving 6th grade in a Middle School setting.

April 2010: The committee will make a recommendation for the most effective, research based approach to serving 6th grade in a Middle School setting, and complete the design development of the additions at both schools.

June 2010: Sell the bonds to fund the construction projects.

July 2010: Advertise for contractors for the construction projects.

August 2010: Select the construction firm.

September 2010: Begin construction.

August 2011: Complete the construction and move into the new additions.

We are keeping our fingers crossed for another mild winter. If the weather cooperates, we believe we will be moved into the new additions in September of 2011. The staff of the Medical Lake School District thanks you for the opportunity to serve the youth of our community. We appreciate the support our community continues to extend to our schools.



Grasshopper Biology at Michael Anderson

from Ryan Grant

Students at Michael Anderson Elementary have been working on a biology unit where they have dissected a grasshopper, a series of eyeballs and a starfish. This has helped them to learn more about the inner workings of various body systems. Christina Michener, a 5th grader in Mrs. Vasquez's class, is shown working on a grasshopper.

Hallett 6th Grade "Math is Cool" Team

from Wendy Gilbert

We are proud to announce that this is the third year that the Hallett Elementary 6th grade "Math is Cool" Team has made it to state competition. The team will compete in Moses Lake on May 22. They placed 2nd in the regional competition at Mt. Spokane High School. Also, Jeremy Ryan took first place and Taylor Benroth took 9th place in our division.

The team is as follows: Alex Garza, Colten Miller, Isiah Farmen, Taylor Benroth, Dara Abournorinejad, Jeremy Ryan, Ryan Doffek, Stephanie Basilian, Emma Davis, Haley Brown, Kayla Pruitt, Rayann McIntyre, Emma Ransom, Tyler Castro, Maddie Kellogg. Not Pictured: Jayln Musser



Middle School Second Step Classes

by Lisa Prewitt

In January, Mrs. Prewitt began teaching the Second Step Program to all 7th grade students during history class. This program is a classroom guidance curriculum that builds on social skills that are important during the middle school years. These skills include:

- * Empathy
- * Communication
- * Perspective Taking
- * Respectful Disagreement
- * Negotiation and Compromise
- * Emotion Management
- * Coping with Stress
- * Decision Making

Second Step enhances the above mentioned skills using group work, role plays, and other multimedia to keep students interested. The purpose of the program is to reduce risky behaviors such as bullying, aggression, and substance abuse while improving school success. Second Step in 8th grade classrooms will begin in March. If you have any questions about this program, please call Lisa Prewitt at 565-3304.

Java and Jazz Night

from Gail Phillips

Join Windborne Choir and Jazz Band on Friday, March 19 in the High School cafeteria from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and you come and go as you please. The cost is \$5.00 per person (pre-purchase is preferable, but you can purchase tickets at the door) and it includes desserts, drinks and great music. Hope to see you there.



FFA News for January/February 2010

by Randy Williams

Medical Lake FFA members are picking up the pace this winter by participating and preparing for career development events. Upcoming competitions include the JR Ranch cattle evaluation in Othello on March 19, and the Emtman TTT Angus cattle evaluation contest in Davenport on March 26.



Shelby Murray, Riley Shines, Amber Six, Ashley Holznagel, Chad Schluter, Kayleen Oliver, Sammi Williams and Breianna Baka finished 2nd in District V agricultural issues competition held in Davenport. Students chose the issue: "Should animal confinement regulations be enacted in Washington State?" While qualifying for state competition in May, the team must also build a portfolio and hold a series of public forums to share their issue with several industry groups. To date, students have presented their issue to the Spokane County Fair Board of Directors and the Spokane County 4-H horse leaders group. In addition, Katrina Hofer finished 4th in the District job interview contest. Twenty-three members will also be exhibiting beef, sheep and swine at the Spokane Junior Livestock Show coming up on May 4 through 9 at the Spokane County Fair and Expo Center.

Students are currently conducting a candle fundraiser. Members who reach their sales goals will be rewarded by golfing at the Spokane Country Club or by having a fun-filled time at Silverwood in May.

Our annual FFA plant sale begins Monday, April 19 during school hours at the high school greenhouse. We have a great selection of zonal geraniums as well as beautiful hanging baskets and cedar planter boxes that include supertunias, calibrachoa, bacopa and cascading geraniums.

Help for Homeless

Students who become homeless may receive assistance to remain at their school as well as receive other assistance. Please contact the school counselor or the Educational Support Services Director, Scott Blasingame at 565-3408.

Preschool Screening

Medical Lake School District provides an ongoing preschool screening for those who live in the Medical Lake School District. The screening will be offered at no cost to all children, birth through five years of age, in order to prepare for their future educational needs. Please call 565-3408 to set up an appointment.

Truancy/Becca Bill and Compulsory Attendance

In Washington, youth between the ages of 8 and 18 are required to attend school every day. Attendance is important for academic success, and unexcused absences may be an early warning sign for unaddressed problems with school and future dropout. When youth fail to attend school, they are considered truant. Washington state law, [RCW 28A.225.030](#), sometimes referred to as the Becca Bill, requires school districts take specific actions when youth are truant.

When youth have two unexcused absences, schools are required to initiate a meeting with the students and parents to improve the students' attendance. After five unexcused absences in a month, families and schools must enter a contract to improve youths' attendance. Districts may file truancy petitions with the Juvenile Court when students have accumulated seven unexcused absences in one month or ten unexcused absences in an academic year.

Zach's Third Time at State

by Gail Phillips



Senior, Zach Empkey will be representing our league at the state solo contest in April at Central Washington University. This is his third time going to state playing the classical guitar. Zach has also played his guitar on the radio for music fest. His other interests include running cross country and knowledge bowl. After high school, he plans to attend a university and attain a PHD in music. He would then like to become a professional guitarist and teach at a university.

In February, sophomore Peter Loeffler and 7th grader Stephanie Burris won the audition to attend the all state band in Yakima. Peter plays the trumpet and Stephanie plays the clarinet. Congratulations to you all.

Dollars for Scholars Super Yard Sale

from Janeen Van Slyke



The annual Dollars for Scholars "super yard sale" fundraiser for MLHS scholarships is coming up on Friday, May 8, from 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 9, from 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. If you have any gently used items you would like to donate please contact Dan Dorshorst at (509) 299-5478.

"THANK YOU" to everyone who supported our silent auction this winter. Many of the donated items were assembled into gift baskets and over 90 items went up for bid. A total of \$2500.00 was collected for senior scholarships.



National Junior Honor Society

by Courtney Strozyk

Medical Lake Middle School has started a chapter of National Junior Honor Society. On February 18, 2010, 7th and 8th grade students were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society during a



ceremony at the Middle School. Dr. Veltri came to speak, and the Cougar Choir sang a beautiful song. Four members from the High School Honor Society came to induct the new charter members. Students along with their families were honored for their high accomplishments in the area of scholarship, service, leadership, citizenship, and character. Students were invited to apply based on their accumulative grade point average being a 3.5 or higher. They then completed an application showing how they have contributed to the school and community in the areas of service, leadership, citizenship and character. The sixty new inductees will be working this spring to write new by-laws for the Medical Lake Middle School National Junior Honor Society as well as completing service projects throughout the community.

The eighth grade charter members are: Tristan Armitage, Journie Ash, Kristen Benitez, Emily Bonsant, Dylan Boyd, Connor Cranston, Samantha Davenport, Hannah Knotts, Jordan Lohr, Abigail Morrison, Robert (Max) Morrison, Eric Munson, Matthew Peterson, Jesse Pruitt, Xyomara Ramos, Ali Rolstad, Molly Ryan, Ashleigh Schultz, Yae-Rang Schumacher, Cameron Tinsler and Cody Walden.

Nondiscrimination Rules in Effect

The Medical Lake School District complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or religion. This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities and district employment opportunities. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school districts Title IX/RCW 28A.640 compliance officer and or Section 504/ADA Coordinator: Pam Veltri, Medical Lake School District, PO Box 128, Medical Lake, WA 99022, Phone: (509) 565-3100.



MAE's Jump Rope for "Sean's" Heart Event

by Sandy Zimmernan

On February 24, the students at Michael Anderson Elementary School wrapped up our Jump Rope for Heart program with a huge celebration. We began the festivities with a slide show of the participants followed by a special poem in honor of Sean Dunn and an amazing performance of advanced short and long rope jumping activities which included a surprise performance by our teachers and staff. Kristina Mitchener was our top fundraiser this year, bringing in a whopping \$322.00. Our

"spirit award" went to Sean and Rory Dunn. Here are a few words from Sean's JRH web page: "I was born with a heart condition that meant I would not survive without heart surgery. I suffered neurological damage during surgery. I guess God wanted me to be extra special. The doctors told my mom and dad that I would never walk or talk. I knew better. I walk and talk, sometimes I try to run, but I can't jump. My brother Rory, the best big brother on the planet, is going to jump for me."

A huge "thank you" to the parents, base community, teachers and staff that helped to make this year's Jump Rope for Heart Program a great success. The 141 record number of participants this year at Michael Anderson Elementary School were able to present a check to the American Heart Association for a stunning \$5,309.40. We are extremely proud of our students and all the hard work and sacrifices they have made to help fight the number one killer in the United States, heart disease and stroke.

Linda Sexton Honored

By Silvia Campbell

In February, West Plains Chamber of Commerce honored Linda Sexton as "Best of the West Plains Educator of the Year" (for grades six through twelve). Mrs. Sexton has been an exemplary science teacher at Medical Lake Middle School since 2003. Her passion for teaching shows in her ability to connect with her students. Students often say that she makes science fun and they learn a lot in her class. Congratulations, Mrs. Sexton, we are proud to have you as part of our staff.



Online and Mall Shopping for High School Booktalkers

By Pam Wilcox-Mann

The Medical Lake High School Booktalkers Club is having their spring book fair at Barnes and Noble Northtown and at the Barnes and Noble Inc. web site on Saturday, May 8. You also can purchase items online at bn.com/bookfairs using our account number 10147270 from May 8 through May 12.

If you visit the store that day, we'll have the high school Jazz combo performing from noon until 1:00 p.m. So, come enjoy the musical talents of our students, and do your Mother' Day shopping while supporting our book fair. Proceeds go towards the purchase of books for the high school library. If you participate at the store, you can clip out the attached voucher, or pick one up from the Booktalkers at the table in the children's section of the store. Please give the voucher to the clerk as you make a purchase at Barnes & Noble or Starbucks that day. Thank you for supporting our book fair.



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Supporting

MEDICAL LAKE
BOOKTALKERS
Saturday, May 08, 2010
1000AM - 600PM
Northtown Mall
4750 North Division Street

Please present this voucher prior to making your purchase. A percentage of the net sale will be donated to your school/organization.*



10147270

*The purchase of gift cards, Barnes & Noble memberships, text books and magazine subscriptions are not included in bookfair totals. Our discount purchasing program may not be applied to bookfair purchases.





Princess Myryda

Congratulations to Myryda Johnson, who was selected as a princess to the 2010, Freedom is Not Free, Spokane Lilac Festival Royal Court. Myryda and six others were selected to serve on the Court on January 31, at the Spokane Masonic Center from 13 candidates representing high schools throughout all of Spokane County. Each Court member is awarded a \$1,250 scholarship to be used for continuing education. Myryda will spend the next year as an ambassador of the community to various festivals throughout the Pacific Northwest, as well as making public appearances in Spokane culminating in the Armed Forces Torchlight Parade, held in downtown Spokane at 7:45 p.m. on May 15.

(Photo Courtesy of Green Gables Photography)

VACCINES REQUIRED FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE, GRADES K-12ⁱ

July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011

GRADE VACCINE ⁱⁱ	Kindergarten – 2 nd Grades	3 rd – 6 th Grades	7 th – 12 th Grades
HEPATITIS B	3 Doses (or 2 Doses for adolescents)		
TDaP/DT/Tdap/Td	5 Doses (or 4 Doses depending on when vaccine was given)		
POLIO (IPV/OPV)	4 Doses (or 3 Doses depending on when vaccine was given)		
MMR	2 Doses		
VARICELLA	2 Doses	1 Dose	Recommended (not required)

Month, Day & Year are required documentation of all vaccines.

ⁱ To attend public/private school or licensed child care in WA State, each child must present a signed **Certificate of Immunization Status form** showing proof of 1) full immunization per the 2008 Recommended Childhood Immunization Schedule (see <http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/Immunize/schools/vaccine.htm>), 2) an initiation of a schedule of immunization, 3) a medical exemption (with health care provider signature), **OR** 4) personal or religious exemption (with a parent/guardian signature).

MEDICAL LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT
PO Box 128
MEDICAL LAKE WA 99022

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