



Highlights

On Wednesday, January 28, 2015, the board highlighted:

Moreland Elementary

Kindergarten standards made fun: Learning the alphabet names and sounds is an essential standard in Kindergarten. “P” week is always one of my favorite weeks. Students make connections with real life applications. Kindergarten students have a Picnic and are able to bring any food item to share that start with “P”. They also get to wear Pajamas to their Picnic. This has become a tradition on “P” week. This activity is definitely a memorable highlight for students.



Title 1 assistance at this level is such a necessity. We have amazing Title 1 staff that assist in skill based instruction, support and re-teach practices to help students make the gains and learn the standards that are expected at their grade levels. Our Title paraprofessionals attend all team meetings and student success meetings with valuable input and data to share about student achievement. We love our Title 1 paras and couldn't obtain the level of student success without them.

Our ELL students are fortunate to participate in the Imagine Learning Program. Students work at their level using listening, speaking and assessing on the computers. Students are given practice and support in 9 specific areas. Some of those are: Phonological awareness, vocabulary, listening comprehension, reading comprehension, and letter and word recognition. The program is very engaging for students and has proven to be very effective in strengthening language skills.



This is benchmark testing month. We are close to being finished with the IRI and STAR Early Literacy. We will take that data and compare to teacher assessment classroom data, to make adjustments if necessary in student instruction. With this being the first year of STAR Early Literacy testing, we are trying to learn and understand the implications of the testing Data. Sherrilynn Bair has scheduled a visit to an Elementary school in Idaho Falls who is using the STAR Early Literacy test. We are going with some “How”, “What”, “Why” questions to help us learn, understand and use the data to better serve our students and our teaching instruction.

Riverside Elementary



Our character focus this month is responsibility. We are learning that when there is a job to do that we are responsible for, we do it – no excuses! A great lesson for us all.

We hosted the Elks Hoop Shoot early in January. There were several parent volunteers who supervised the competition. The students who represented our school on the local level were Taylee Carlson, Reese Baldwin, Chaz Villegas, Hal Clement, and Marcus Coombs.

A new Facebook page has been created for Riverside Elementary. It is gossip-free and the purpose is to arm our patrons with knowledge and understanding of what we are working on as a school and as a district. Riverside hosted a Parent University last week. We learned more about one of our district goals, that being Professional Learning Communities. Kelly Tolman explained the “new evil ways” that math is being taught, and Sherrilynn Bair trained parents on how to access some new student reports from the STAR program. Parent University is a great opportunity for parents and the community as a whole to really understand our focus as a district and how we are working to ensure our students are prepared for the 21st Century (not the 20th). Riverside teachers are working with Angie Godfrey, an ISU math specialist, to improve our knowledge and understanding of instructional strategies and conceptual math skills. She recently instructed our staff on several strategies for teaching math facts and explained how research has shown that the more strategies a student knows for solving math problems, the longer they retain those facts.

Rockford Elementary

December is one of our favorite months at Rockford. We started out with the PTA bringing ornaments for the students to make. They all turned out wonderful. We want to thank our wonderful PTA parents for all their help throughout this school year, so far. They are the best!

Claudia Tremmeling, from Idaho Power, came and taught the students about salmon. She always does a wonderful job and the students learn so much.

The Chambers from the High School came and shared their musical talents with us. They did a super job! Our Christmas program, "The Christmas Journal", was a big hit. The students did a great job and it goes along with what they were learning in reading about plays, as well as, Idaho history. We are so grateful for Mrs. Winder and her help in choir getting the student's songs ready for the program. This group just loves to sing and we love listening to them.

Last, but not least, we did the bread in a bag. The students learn about wheat. They learn how it is grown, processed, etc. They get to make bread from scratch and it is cooked before they go home. Again, we would like to thank our parent volunteers. We definitely couldn't do these activities without them.



Snake River Middle School

The 5th and 6th grade Christmas Programs were a wonderful success. These programs provided our students with the opportunity to share their accomplishments in music and public speaking.

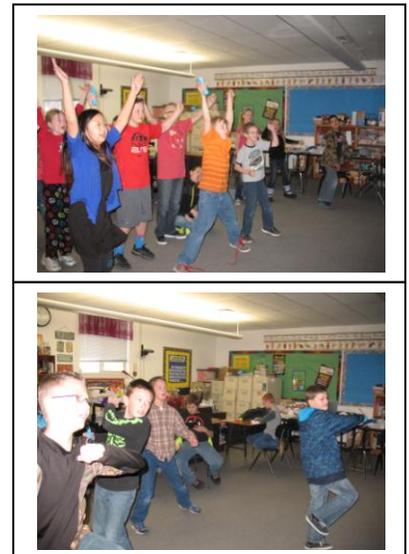
The Elk's Lodge Hoop Shoot was held December 23rd and 24th. The winners in the 10 and 11 year old age group were Conner Fitzgerald, Nate Goodwin, Reagan VanOrden, and Ethany Allmon. The winners in the 11 and 12 year old age group were Mitch Lindsay, Trey Poulter, Hailee Vanorden, and Sage Stimpson. We would like to thank those who participated and congratulate the winners.

Our students enjoyed a Privilege Activity on January 14th. Privilege is new this year. It offers our students the opportunity to participate in an activity based on hard work and dedication to completing assigned work in core classes. The afternoon was a great success. We wish to thank Mrs. Simmons for organizing this event. There were a variety of activities to test their skills in fitness, eye-hand coordination, and dexterity.

It is time to start thinking about our "Dine and Donate Night." McDonalds is again offering a fund raising opportunity for our school. Faculty and staff will be manning a variety of stations on the evening of February 17th from 5:00 – 7:00. McDonalds will donate a percentage of the money earned that night back to our school. The more money generated by sales the larger the percentage given back to the school. We would appreciate support from district patrons. We hope to see you there!

6th grade students completed a dodge ball tournament with Mrs. Martin's homeroom class taking first place honors. 5th grade classes are learning the skills of dodge ball during intramurals. They will finish with an up-coming round robin tournament.

Parent Teacher Conference was held on January 21st and 22nd from 4:30 – 7:30 in the evening. We wish to thank the PTA for providing a treat for our parents. 5th and 6th grade students are finishing their benchmark testing this month. We have been able to celebrate the growth of our students in Math, Language Arts, and Reading as they move toward academic excellence.





Snake River Junior High

On December 22nd our Honor Society had their first activity. Headed by Mrs. Thompson they went bowling to Pindale Lanes. They were able to bring food items and money to help families in need. To make the Honor Society students must have a 3.5 GPA or better. We currently have 44 seventh grade Honor Students and 53 eighth grade Honor Students.

We are very excited to have our 'Student of the Month' display finished and put up on the wall by the office. Thank you to our maintenance crew and all they do. Make sure to check it out when you are visiting.

The Junior High 8-in-6 students are working hard to earn high school credits. They will be signing up for new classes in January.

Math Department update: we currently have Angela Godfrey, an ISU math specialist, assisting our math department to help us help students grow in their math reasoning skills.

Snake River High School

2015 East Idaho Honors Orchestra

On January 17, 2015, eleven orchestra students from Snake River High School participated in the First Annual East Idaho Honors Orchestra at ISU. It was held in the Stephens Performing Arts Center under the direction of Dr. Grant Harville, director of the Idaho State Civic Symphony. The students spent six hours rehearsing music together and in sectionals, and then performed in the Jensen Grand Concert Hall. The students that went were Elora Peterson on the bass; Savannah Jenkins and Landon Delaney on the Cello; Kaeley Shawver on the viola; and Mary Baxter, Hunter and Megan Haroldson, Maddie Hoge, JayCee Lewis, Randee Wayland, and Wyatt Williams on the violin.



Thrift Shop Dance

The Snake River Leadership group held a Thrift Shop Dance on January 24th, after the boys' basketball game against Kimberley. In coordination with the Crisis Center Thrift Shop, the decorations came from the thrift store, which students then could buy if they felt the desire to do so at the dance. The admission was free, and pictures were two dollars. Concessions were available, and there was a grand prize for the person who dressed up in clothes you would most likely find at a thrift shop.

Spectacular Wrestling Season

This wrestling season has been going great. Snake River placed second at both the Bonneville duels and the Dahlke Tournament. Tiger Grizz tournament was January 23rd and 24th. Treyton Nilsson captured 1st place for the second year. The team was 7th out of thirty. There are five freshmen on the varsity at the moment: Fabian Chacon, Jose Aguirre, Andrew Cook, Tristen Hutchings, and Ceaton Howell. Congratulations to the wrestling team.

Blackfoot/Snake River Community Service Project

The Blackfoot and Snake River student councils have been meeting together to make a service project that will affect the community. They decided on a project to put a "Hall of Fame" memorial rock on the grounds of Jensen's Grove. The names on the memorial will be of people who made a difference in the community.

High School Accreditation

The AdvancED accreditation team visited Snake River High School last week. We are happy to report that the visitors really appreciated what they saw and heard. It was a positive experience for all. Thanks to the staff at the high school for all the time spent on the project.