



Highlights

On Wednesday, December 18, 2013, the board highlighted:

Moreland Elementary

As always, great things are happening at Moreland. These past four weeks students have been working hard in classrooms to master their learning targets that have been aligned to the Idaho Core Standards. Teachers are working on the 3rd nine week assessment pieces which also align to the standards. Students have had outside the classroom experiences as well. The kindergarten had an event which taught students about Thanksgiving. Moreland PTA helped each child at Moreland decorate an ornament for our school tree. Students will be able to take home their ornament before Christmas and save as a keepsake from their school year here at Moreland.

Snake River Chamber singers came and performed holiday songs for the students. One of our retired teachers, who had come back to help substitute, was chosen by a Chamber singer, whom she had taught in first grade, to participate and be decorated like a Christmas tree. It's great to see that relationships from teacher to student continue on through-out the years.

We have a special guest coming to our school on December 19th. He will have every child sit on his knee asking the question.. "Have you been a good boy/girl this year?" The PTA will take a picture of each child and send it home in January to the parents as a keepsake.

We talk about "reflective practice" in education. As we reflect upon our year, we have seen great educational successes take place, and we plan to have many more educational successes in the future. We will be constantly learning and constantly changing.



Deanna Mickelson was decorated as a Christmas Tree!



Singing with Lily (Kindergarten)
She will be in the Scrooge play.

Riverside Elementary

To help get in the holiday mood, the PTA provided each student with an ornament to make and decorate our school tree. The students also enjoyed the Christmas program the Snake River Chamber Singers performed for us. Our 2nd grade students will be performing their program "Christmas Alphabet" for their parents and the 3rd grade students.

Riverside Staff was recently trained on the importance of using learning targets in their instruction. A learning target is based on an education standard and helps the student understand what they will be learning in any given lesson, why it is important, and what mastery of the target looks like. This helps to engage students more effectively. Teachers were invited to use one of several strategies to help students understand learning targets in their instruction. Melanie Gardner modeled one of these strategies brilliantly during a recent classroom observation.

Also at Riverside, Rose Larson, the district psychologist, is teaching a Love and Logic parenting class. Classes are held on Tuesdays from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in the Riverside Conference Room. This is a great opportunity for anybody interested in learning this effective parenting approach.

We wish to thank our School Board and patrons for all their support this past year and hope you have a Merry Christmas!



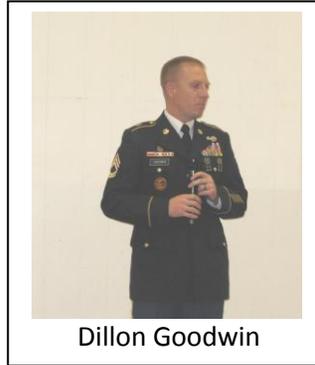
Krew Polatis, Matthew Thomas,
Abby Gilbert, and Aubrey Cameron.
Hoop Shoot Winners

Highlights (2)

Rockford Elementary

We had a wonderful Veterans Day program on November 11th. The students started our program with a wonderful patriotic song that Mrs. Winder taught them. Dillon Goodwin, father of Brock Goodwin, talked to the students about his service in the military. We so appreciate him coming and sharing with our school. We then had a short presentation with pictures of our student's relatives who have served in the military.

The High School Orchestra came on November 20th and played for us. They always do a wonderful job and the students really enjoyed listening to them and looking forward to their high school years.



Dillon Goodwin



High School Orchestra with Mrs. Winder

On November 25th, the Rockford PTA came and helped us with the Elks hoop shoot. We are so grateful for parents that are willing to help us with our activities. Our winners in the 9 year old girls group are: 1st Caselle Howell, 2nd Rebekah Baxter. In the 9 year old boys group they are: 1st Keegan McCraw, 2nd Drew Hansen. Our 10 year girls winners are: 1st Ashley Prado, 2nd Kyleigh Hudson. The winners in the 10 year old boys group are; 1st Nate Goodwin, 2nd Kason Palmer. These students will now go to the district hoop shoot in January at the Blackfoot High School. We wish them luck.



Caselle Howell, Ashley Prado, Kyleigh Hudson, Rebekah Baxter
Girls Hoop Shoot Winners



Keegan McCraw, Kason Palmer, Nate Goodwin, Drew Hansen
Boys Hoop Shoot Winners

Snake River Middle School

The 5th grade Colonial Day was a great success! The social studies students especially enjoyed the Farm Bureau presentation. They ground wheat to make pancakes, wrote with quill and ink, played marbles, and watched a demonstration on spinning and weaving.

The 5th grade science classes made edible cell models to share as a culmination activity.

The swish program has been replaced by a fluoride sealant program. Each student has received an oral examination and the opportunity to have the sealant application.

December 4th and 5th: The 6th grade program, "Christmas Showstoppers," was a huge success. The performance included vocal and dance numbers by the choir as well as a strings and band concert.

December 18th and 19th: The 5th grade will present their Christmas play, "Santa Can't Face Christmas." It was written by Julie W. Martin. Dress rehearsal will be at 9:30 a.m. and parent performance at 1:30 p.m. on both days. Wednesday's Cast A will include the following classes: Mrs. Davison, Mrs. Simmons, and Mrs. Cade (1/2). Thursday's Cast B will include the following classes: Mrs. Capson, Mrs. VanOrden, and Mrs. Simmons (1/2). Choir performance: Cast A will sing prior to Cast B's performance and Cast B will sing prior to Cast A's performance. The community is invited.

We welcome Mr. Bombard to the Middle School as the P.E. Specialist. He brings a variety of physical activities to enhance learning. In the 6th grade: Math classes have been creating original math games to share their knowledge of mastered math skills. Social Studies classes are learning the Spanish language to go with their unit on Mexico. Interactive Notebooks have become a fun way to reinforce grammar and reading literature skills in Language Arts classes. Hands on activities enrich Science classes as they learn about elements on the periodic table.

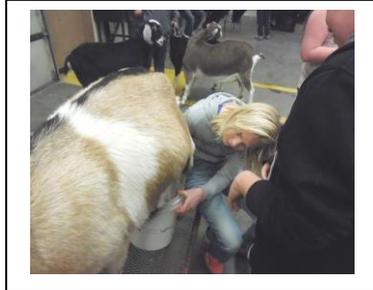
Highlights (3)

Snake River Jr. High School

Blackfoot firefighters, Ben Hirschi and Tommy Nickerson, were the teachers for Mrs. Thompson's home economic classes last Tuesday. They spent an hour teaching the students about kitchen safety, fire safety and prevention, how to operate a fire extinguisher, first aid, along with CPR and the Heimlich maneuver. The firefighters do presentations like this every trimester in Mrs. Thompson's classes before the students can cook. The students were engaged and motivated as they comfortably interacted with the firefighters.

The students in Laura Gabrylczyk's Introduction to Ag Class got to milk a goat and then make soap with the milk! The students providing the goat are also active in 4H. Shylo Anderton, Brandy Hernandez, Jake Lish, and Colton Wells. Helping make the soap were Mackenzie, Marisol, Hailey, Bo, McCoy, and Baylor.

Local runners competed in the Footlocker Cross Country Championships. Sixty-two runners and five coaches from Southeastern Idaho traveled to Walnut, California to represent Idaho in the West Regional. The championships featured a full day of cross country action, with 16 races on the slate. Highlighting the championships for Team Idaho were performances by Derek Thomas (Snake River Jr. High School 8th grader) and Quincy Van Orden (Snake River High School senior). Thomas covered the two mile course in a record setting pace of 9:32 to win the 7th/8th grade boys race. Van Orden ran a personal best time of 19:18 to place second in the Junior/Senior three mile girls' race. Other outstanding performances included: Joseph Van Orden (Snake River High School sophomore) 17th place in the All West Freshman/Sophomore 5K boys race with a time of 17:16; Mailee Van Orden (Snake River High School freshman) 33rd place in the Freshman/Sophomore three mile girls race with a time of 21:04; and Breanna Fuller (Snake River High School sophomore) 90th place in the Freshman/Sophomore three mile girls race with a time of 22:35.



Goat Milk Soap



We milked the goats to get the milk needed for the soap.



I am really looking forward to food science; we might tour a cheese factory. It will be fun!

Snake River School/Community Library

Riverside students and teacher wrote nice notes and made a banner thanking the library board for their generosity in giving books to kids. The banner is hanging in the lab and the cards are in an envelope at the front desk. Stop by if you have a minute and see the nice messages from the teachers and kids.

November Family Learning Night was a big hit. Emily Perkes and Rachel Grimmett plan Learning Nights, but it takes the whole staff to make a successful event. Two students were the winners of the Kindle Fires.

The trivia contest included adults and students and this time the students prevailed.

Our next Family Learning Night will be February 10th. Save the date and come see what the library has to help you and your family. Become life long learners.

Each student in the Snake River District will receive a free book, courtesy of the Snake River School Community Library Board. Each librarian either has or will have purchased books and developed a way for students to get a book of their choice, to keep. That's one way to get books into kids' hands. Research shows that students who own books and enjoy reading at home score better on tests and find more success in school.



A Thank You Banner from Riverside Students



Santa Story Time!

Highlights (4)



Snake River High School



Charity Week

The Snake River High School has been having a lot of fun this Christmas season. Just like every year, we all participated in charity week. During charity week, we raise money for families that are in need. The students and staff get the opportunity to help families in our community while still having a good time. Some of our charity week traditions include Survivor, candy canes, Penny Wars, making wishes, and of course our annual charity assembly. Through all of our efforts, we made approximately \$6000.00 when counted.



Arts

The art department has gotten into the Christmas spirit by decorating our hall with depictions of the teachers. In the hall by Mr. Coles' room, everyone that passes by can see the paintings. They were painted by our AP Art class. The paintings are set up to be a live story. When you open Mr. Coles' door, you see the paperback Mr. Jackson swinging on a huge Christmas ornament with other teachers below.

Basketball

Our boys' basketball has gotten kicked off this month. Recently, there was a big game against Blackfoot at home. Students and staff showed up to support the team. It was a very close and intense game with one of our biggest rivals. However, the boys pulled through and won the game by only a few points.

Snake River High School Choir

We have a LOT going on right now. These kids are pumped and it is certainly showing. Here are our highlights:

#1 - The Choir Program at SRHS is gearing up for our production of "Scrooge, A Musical Christmas Carol," running from December 17th through December 21st with a 3:00 p.m. matinee on Saturday. Tickets are only \$5 + a can of food for the Idaho Food Bank. I've attached a picture that was taken at our last dress rehearsal for "Scrooge, A Musical Christmas Carol" as well as a publicity poster. I hope that some of the board members will want to attend - we would love to have them see what great things are happening at the high school. It could not happen without their support of the fine arts. For their service and for the district office's service, we would like to offer a ticket to each of you. Just please let me know which performance works best

#2 - All-State Choir - Students are waiting to hear back to see if they have been selected for the Idaho All-State Choir. Students auditioned by submitting an online recording of two vocal exercises and a song in the hopes to be selected for this prestigious choir. This year's All-State is being held in the Boise area in the spring.

#3 - I have arranged with Rich Broadcasting to come out to record Young Women in Harmony and Chamber Singers as part of a radio contest. Choirs who submit a Christmas recording by Dec. 21st are in the running to win \$600 worth of recording equipment. One of our department goals this year has been to record our groups by ourselves this year - it is costly to keep hiring someone to come out. I think we have a great chance at winning. Keep your fingers crossed for us.

#4 - Up next: Barbershop Festival in Rexburg - Woohoo! The kids love it and so do I. I particularly like the festival because of the following reasons:

- 1) It is provided free of charge by the Barbershop Harmony Society to high schools in the area. We have been involved in this festival for several years. *We even traded a day off of our tour to get to do this one.* They also give us all of the music for the festival.
- 2) They bring in two internationally renowned clinicians to work with the kids.
- 3) One of those clinicians will come to Snake River during our classes to pre-teach techniques and songs before the day of the festival.
- 4) This year two world-class barbershops (international champions) will perform for the students - this is absolutely an awesome private concert for the festival. (They will also perform at BYU-I for a variety of other venues)
- 5) This year, my students are working hard in small groups in the hopes of being selected to be on stage - I believe that I will have at least two groups selected. The groups are coming up with a name, their outfit, their song, etc. They are shooting to impress.



The Cast of "Scrooge, A Musical Christmas Carol"