



# Highlights

On Wednesday January 19, 2011, the board highlighted:

## Panther Wrestlers Honor “Coach Willie” at Dedication of New Wrestling Room

On January 12, 2011, the new Snake River wrestling room was unveiled for public viewing and appropriately named the “Keith L. Williams Wrestling Room: Built on Tradition, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.” Coach Willie, as he was affectionately known for 33 years, became legendary as he never knew a losing season on his way to a staggering 403-68-6 record. Coach Williams was asked how many individual state champions he had coached over his 33-year run at Snake River. He replied, “They are all champions!” A crowd of more than 300 patrons came to the dedication and enjoyed seeing Coach Williams and the new facilities.



## Board Meets with Library Board for Idaho Education Network Demonstration

The Trustees and the Snake River School/Community Library Board members met in the Library’s technology computer lab which has been set up as an Idaho Education Network facility for a demonstration of this program. Garry Lough, IEN Communication Director, led the interactive discussion from his office in Boise. He was joined by Andy Lanning, IEN’s teacher and staff trainer; Linda Flager, Idaho Commission for Libraries School Library Consultant; and Shirley Biladeau with the Idaho Commission for Libraries Continuing Education. Mr. Lough said Snake River had one of the best layouts to take advantage

of the IEN opportunity because the community library is shared by the Snake River High School. The IEN has grown over the past 1½ years as the business and training opportunities have been expanded and as the network’s equipment and infrastructure has been installed. IEN is very consumer oriented and there are many ways it can be leveraged: i.e., as a local training facility for teachers, local businessmen, police and firemen; to offer community members continuing education opportunities; to enable students to take courses from a highly qualified teacher located in another district or to get a dual high school/college credit; or for elementary students to have “interactive” virtual field trips with NASA, the Smithsonian Institute and other schools around the world. The IEN concept has worked very well for more than 10 years in Wyoming because of its scattered, rural population and they have been using it in Utah for many years to offer dual credits to students. Mr. Lough said the IEN system is geared to serve from “K to Gray.”

## Elaine Asmus Named Teacher of the Year by Veterans of Foreign Wars

The Idaho VFW chose Elaine Asmus for their Teacher of the Year award because she has led her students in numerous efforts to help area veterans and others in recent years. The award honors high school teachers who promote civic responsibility and patriotism. Elaine now qualifies for the national competition. Mrs. Asmus said she was humbled to receive the honor, but said it should really go to the students who assist her with the volunteer work each year. “I’m accepting the honor on their behalf,” she said. For several years, Elaine and her students have raised money for veterans and others who need assistance in the community. With the help of the Elks Lodge they’ve raised more than \$10,000 to benefit veterans in Pocatello. They also volunteer to serve food during the annual Veterans’ Day dinner at the American Legion in Blackfoot and they take shifts ringing the bell and manning the red kettle for the Salvation Army during the holiday season. Elaine says she enjoys serving in the community and simply extends the opportunities to the students who are eager to help.

## Chamber Singers Get Grant for Traveling Sound System

Mrs. Casperson wrote a grant for a traveling sound system for Chamber Singers and was awarded \$2600 of the \$6600 requested from the Bistline Foundation. With the \$1500 received from the District, we still needed to raise another \$2500 to meet our goal. We also received a generous donation of \$1500 from Jim Everson, owner of Digital Imaging Systems from Pocatello, which left \$1,000 more to be raised. Jim came forward once again and donated a laptop computer for a Christmas raffle which raised enough for us to reach our goal! Our community is certainly generous. Thanksto everyone who supports us in our musical endeavors to help us strive for excellence in all we do.

Chamber Singers, with the assistance of Belle Voce, had a very successful Broadway Nights this past weekend. Great Broadway music and TONS of talent at SRHS! Mike & Nicky Larsen spearheaded the WONDERFUL meal that was served with the show along with our famous "Death-by-Chocolate" dessert.

## Highlights (2)

### Riverside Elementary

The Riverside students and staff returned to school following a wonderful Christmas break, ready to do some serious learning. Our students are currently taking the IRI tests, hoping to show big gains.

We held our hoop shoot after school on January 4<sup>th</sup>. The top 3 shooters in each age group, boys and girls, will be representing Riverside at the local hoop shoot. We know they'll represent our school well! We appreciate, Tyler Watt, a volunteer parent, for organizing this annual event. He had help from other volunteer parents and also George Katseanes, a longtime hoop shoot organizer in the district.



Mya VanOrden



Hoop shoot winners:

Top L-R: Joseph Anderson, Jett Shelley, Gracie Jones, Lili Togiai, Bottom L-R: Jake VanOrden, Gus Murdock



Cal Morgan of the Blackfoot Elks delivers dictionaries to each 3rd grade student.

Our students are working hard on their math facts. The ultimate goal, after passing off a total of 18 timed math fact skill tests on addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, is to have a pizza lunch with the principal. Mr. Salmon recently hosted the first pizza lunch with 15 of our top math students. All other students are working diligently to pass off their facts.

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students are the lucky recipients of individual dictionaries. The Elks Club recently came to our school and presented each student with their very own dictionary. We appreciate the Elks' service to our school and community.

***CAN'T HIDE THAT RIVERSIDE PRIDE!***

### Rockford Elementary

We had a very full and fun December. We started out with the Bread in the Bag. The students study about wheat and then have the opportunity to make bread. It is so enjoyable to see how proud they are of what they accomplished when they see their finished product and it tastes so good.



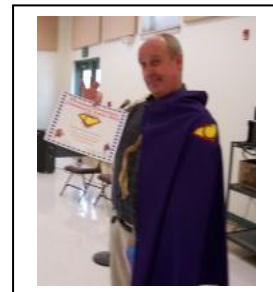
The students performed for their parents in our annual Christmas program. Parents, grandparents and friends came to see the students sing and dance. They did a wonderful job and we appreciate the teachers, especially Mrs. Atwood for their hard work. The Chamber singers came and performed for. We enjoy them so much and it gets the students excited for what they can do when they get into the High School.



### Moreland Elementary

It's great to be back from the holiday break! Moreland has jumped right in with a quick review of skills and on to teaching new ones. Every child was given an Aimsweb probe to assess gains in student reading achievement. Teachers will use this information in the form of a whisker graph to send home with parents at PTC, or with the student along with the child's report card.

We are still seeing those everyday hero's here at Moreland; Students who are doing good things every day even though they might be hard or a little scary. Teachers are letting those everyday heroes wear their hero capes to recognize the good things happening in their classrooms. We recognized our Community Super Hero at our Character Counts assembly this month. Steve Schellenberg was our Community Super Hero. We recognized his hard work and "behind the scenes" efforts which make such an impact at our school.



Our students were recognized this month for their great progress in the area of RESPONSIBILITY. The parents and families are always so good to support our assemblies. We recognized the 100 chairs purchased by our PTA fundraiser. We used them for the first time at our assembly. It was so nice to have chairs to use rather than lunch tables!

## **Highlights (3)**

### **Snake River Middle School**

On Wednesday, January 5th, the Middle School hosted a Medieval Fair for the Gifted and Talented students from Rockford Elementary, the Middle School, and the Jr. High School, to celebrate the culmination of their Middle Ages Unit. Under the direction of Jill Munson, Mavis Nelson, and Lisa Norman, the students and their parents participated in a variety of activities which included a feast, a market, special presenters, and a play. Students attended the event dressed in period costumes, displayed projects completed during the first semester, and learned about weaving, making soap, magic, sword fighting, and dancing. The Jr. High presented an original play based on the book "Robin Hood".

The annual 6th Grade Geography Bee was hosted by Mrs. Ellen Jones and Mrs. Jill Munson. The students are asked questions that range on a variety of geography topics. There were thirty students that were pared down to ten. First place went to Brayden Wehrli; second place to Brayden Mangum; and third place to Justin Bench.

Intramurals are in full swing. Both 5th and 6th grade students are playing floor hockey. As always, good sportsmanship is a part of our "Character Counts."

The Independent Reading Activity for the second nine weeks will be held on January 24th. We have an Indoor Field Day planned.

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on the January 27th from 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

### **Snake River Jr. High School**

A "Safeguarding the Future of Hispanic Students" seminar is being planned for March 18, 2011 at the Jr. High School. This free training will be open for teachers, paraprofessionals, counselors, and administrators and anyone working directly with students and/or parents. This is part of the school improvement grant and the area of emphasis will be on parental involvement, academic transitions, cultural competency, cultural awareness, substance abuse prevention and cultural sensitivity. It is sponsored by the Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs and will be held on a district in-service day.



**"Coach Keith Williams"  
Dedication of new Wrestling Room 2011**