La Center Middle School Hawks Report

March 2014

Students of the Month were:

January:
6th grade:
Drew Kangas
Jackson Lester
7th grade;
James Carmona
Lauren Puyleart
8th grade;
Alyssa McKnight
Cody Ballard

February:
6th grade:
Hailey Grotte
Josiah McSwain
7th grade:
Caleb Stenberg
Crystal Austin
8th grade:
Dustin Deschamps
Kaitlyn Stabell

Project Success is a mentoring program set up by our counselor Kristin Krem. High school students are paired with 5-6 middle school students, and come down to the middle school to work with the students on an individual basis about once a week. During this time they will check grades on Skyward, organize binders and lockers, work on specific classwork, and give general support to our middle school students. Currently we have 6 high school students working with 32 separate middle school students. Overall, this has been a very positive experience for both the high school and middle school students.

Peer Mentor Program: We had 30 middle school students first semester and have 32 students second semester who work with our elementary students during one period per day. Each mentor is working with at least 3-5 students per day, serving our younger students as their teacher sees fit. The middle school students are required to journal about their experiences each week, which contributes to their grade for the class, which is monitored by Katie Kipp. This has been a great example of a win-win educational experience for all students involved. Our elementary teachers have been most complimentary of the work done by our middle school students.

Janice Broten, Language Arts and Leadership Adviser, has been selected as the 2013-2014 Washington State Middle Level Adviser of the Year. This award is selected by the Washington Association of Student Councils and the Association of Washington Middle Level Principals. She was recognized at our student of the month assembly at the end of February, and will be formally recognized in mid-March at the Washington Activity Coordinators Association in Kennewick. We are really proud of her and her work with our students.

On March 6, 2014 we held a celebration breakfast for students who improved their GPA by .7 or higher. This breakfast was donated and served by Josh, Chris and Eliza Soske. We were able to recognize 39 students and had about 75 people attend the breakfast. Students were given a certificate and it was really great to see how proud some of these students were, not to mention their parents. A genuine thank you to the Soskes.

We also had 204 students named to the first semester honor roll. Their names were published in the Reflector and the students were recognized at an assembly where they were called down individually to receive a certificate and a mini candy bar.

We held Doernbecher's week, during which time our students had the goal to raise $5,500 to donate to the Children's Hospital. They raised money through activities such as Crush/Fanta sales, Candy Cane sales, Dolly's for Doernbechers sales, Copper/Silver War, holding a Dance on Friday after school, and collecting individual donations throughout the week. The students raised just over $4,600 as of this writing, falling short of their goal. I believe there will be a last minute effort to reach their goal because they are motivated to see their principal "kiss a pig", as promised if they raise the $5,500.