

## Hawks Report

April 2015

Students of the Month for March and April:

### 6th Grade

Cailyn Broten  
Marty Hiivala  
Irving Alvarez  
Sammi Spritzer

### 7th Grade

Aaron Blanshan  
Isabelle Grimes  
Will Phillips  
Alison Brown

### 8th Grade

Sierra Harris  
Charles Williams  
Lauren Puyleart  
Robert Nava-Ramirez

Focus School Status:

At the end of March, we were notified that LCMS would not be a Focus school for the 2015-16 school year, based on test scores compared to the rest of the state. This is great news! A huge shout out for all of our teachers and students that work so hard to do their best. A special thank you to the following staff for spending this year as a member of our 'Focus Implementation Group', spending extra time to study data, create action plans, and complete requirements of being a Focus school: Laurie Cripe, Kayla Kooiman, Lynn Cooke, Andrea Austad, and Kristin Krem.

Knowledge Bowl:

Knowledge bowl had a successful season for the middle school. We fielded three full teams (12 students), which competed in four meets. Overall standings are not officially kept, but our teams did well and learned a lot as the season progressed. In our best showing, our top team placed 2nd out of 9 teams. We beat all three Henkle middle school teams at that meet. This is

the first time that has happened in more than 10 years! We placed second in one other meet as well. Our stand out player this season was team captain Loren Brown.

On to Pompeii:

On April 22<sup>nd</sup>, we have 75 students and 10 chaperones (including two teachers) heading north to Seattle to view the travelling Pompeii exhibit at the Pacific Science Center. Taking a full bus and four vans, they will view unique artifacts unearthed at the site of Pompeii in modern Italy. They will also get to see an Imax movie "Greece: Secrets of the Past". Both of these experiences line up to the history curriculum currently being taught in sixth grade so this is an excellent extra-curricular field trip opportunity for enrichment. Thank you to Warren Westerberg for his efforts to bring this fun experience together.

Choir:

Our 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade choir travelled to the new auditorium at Ridgefield High School on April 15<sup>th</sup> to participate in the annual regional LCRMEA middle school choral festival. Singing three songs, How Can I Keep?, Ubi Caritas, and Amani, our choir achieved two number ones (1) which is a superior rating. They scored a perfect 10 on choice of music and appearance and had very high marks and positive feedback on their quality of sound, technique and musicality. Congratulations to Rhonda Slinkard and her 63 students for their continued hard work and amazing performances.

State Testing:

Beginning April 28<sup>th</sup>, grades 6, 7 & 8 will take the new SBAC state test (Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium) for English/language arts (ELA). Students will be testing within their regularly scheduled language arts classes with their regular teachers. This should give students a more comfortable testing environment than what they've had in the past. This test will be electronic and we will use Chromebooks.

Then on May 12<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will take the familiar MSP science test during a morning block of time. This test will be done by paper and pencil as has been done in years past.

Finally, beginning May 13<sup>th</sup>, grades 6, 7, & 8 will take the SBAC state test for math. Again students will be taking the math portion within their regularly scheduled math classes with their regular teachers, using Chromebooks.

There's a lot of newness to this year's testing and our teachers are working hard to be prepared to make testing as smooth as possible for our students. We look forward to seeing how everything turns out and to see how well our students perform.