

## Hawks Report

February 2015

**Career Day:** La Center Middle School hosted a Career Day on February 3! This day gives students a chance to learn about 4 different careers. Our goal for the Career Fair is for students to broaden their perspectives about future options. When students think about future careers, they are more likely to be motivated in school and set goals for their futures. Our keynote speaker was Dr. Jeromy Dixon from Smiles Dental, and other presenters included state patrolmen, parks and recreation, engineer/entrepreneur, travel, FBI, nurse, baker, fashion design, interior design, health coach, massage therapist, CEO, deputy coroner and homeland security. Thank you to Kristin Krem for her detailed effort and organization of this event.

**Family Watershed Festival:** On February 12<sup>th</sup> our middle school hosted this fun family evening where participants were able to test water, look at little stream bugs, touch animal pelts and skulls, and learn more about how to keep our streams and wetlands healthy. There also was a special presentation on the upcoming three year project for restoring the La Center Bottoms. This evening was sponsored by the Washington Dept. of Ecology, the city of Vancouver Water Resource Education Center, the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership, Clark County Environmental Services, and Sound Native Plants.

**History Bee:** Based on last month's history bee exams, the following five students have qualified to compete at the regional level on March 14<sup>th</sup> at West Hills Christian School: Chase Paris, Loren Brown, Charles Williams, James Carmona, and Max Hendrickson. Congratulations to these students.

**Academic Improvement Breakfast:** On February 10<sup>th</sup>, we held a celebration breakfast for 32 students and their families to note the academic improvement of these students. To qualify, the students improved their GPA by .6 points or more from last year second semester to this year first semester. A very large thank you and shout out to the Soske family, for volunteering their time, energy and the breakfast itself for this celebration. This is at least the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row they have provided this service.

**Interim Smarter Balanced Assessments:** We are beginning to pilot the interim tests with selected small groups of students, to better know about what to expect for this spring's summative state assessments. Both math and ELA (English/Language Arts) assessments are online, and we are learning from the sample group of students with hopes to best be prepared for this new form of state testing in May. Later, the interim assessments will be given to classes of students to expose all of our students to the new format and expectations.