

Elementary Board Report

May 2016

The theme for the month of May is diversity. The following shares some collaborative efforts to improve upon our campus for our learning community:

Collaboration to Improve Upon Our Campus

You know about changes coming to the elementary in regards to two new portables and a new bathroom and storage area for our preschool. We thought you might also want to learn a little more about some of the efforts from our landscape leadership team, community members and student body.

Picnic Tables, Trees and Blueberries, Oh, My!

As you know, our landscape leadership team has been working on and planning improvements to



our campus. One of their plans included the addition of three picnic tables to the field side of campus, along with two trees and blueberry bushes. Our PTO and other community members have been working hard to help us with this. Brandi Petersen (on our PTO Board) has worked with Parr Lumber to acquire nearly \$600 worth of cedar lumber and



hardware to build three picnic tables. Two of the tables have been built and pictures are above.

The third table will go in a small grassy area next to our track (pictured to the left). This picnic table will be designed and built this summer. It will face toward the field and be convertible (folding) between a bench and a table with a bench. This table will be placed between two trees (another donation being worked on by our PTO). Blueberry bushes will be planted around the same area under the trees.



Our high school woodworking class also donated a cedar table that we placed under our play shed. We

moved a weather-resistant table from the play shed to the field side. The high school table is pictured to the right. It was made from cedar trees that were taken from the field side when the land was cleared.



Chip Supervising & Weeding

Our landscape leadership is always looking for ways to support our campus. Two of our landscape leadership members have taken on regular maintenance roles.

Vanessa Lamkin has started a chip supervising crew. We tend to get larger holes under swings and slides. As students use them, chips are kicked out with normal use. The holes/cavities can get large enough to be unsafe or even make it harder for some of our not-as-tall students to reach the swings. Vanessa and her crew check on them once a week, cone off the needed areas, and rake chips back in to level out the areas.



Sydney Sloniker has started a weeding crew. Plants, including weeds, grow well on our campus. Sydney and her crew work on different zones of our campus once a week to rid the areas of weeds. These areas include raised flowerbeds, standard beds and areas under fences. We certainly do appreciate all the efforts.

A Zip Line!

You may remember that our students, families and community members worked hard and raised over \$15,000 during our Bobcat Walk/Run. Students have voted and an order has been placed. We plan to work with volunteers this summer to install the pictured zip line on the field side. There should be plenty of fun for years to come.



Community Member(s) of Mystery

Our May Community Member of Mystery has worked to help keep us healthy for four years. She has worked in her given area of expertise for 23 years after getting her degree from Clark College. La Center has been her home for 18 years, the same amount of time she has been married to her husband Jason. They have four boys ages 12-17. Our Community Member of Mystery has many interests. She feels she is always at the soccer field, but also enjoys camping, going to the beach, riding quads, restoring furniture, painting anything she can get her hands on, and flower gardening. She is also an active member of the La Center Lions. Who do you think our May Community Member of Mystery is?

Our April Community Member of Mystery has worked at the elementary school for 17 years. She grew up in Juneau, Alaska. Later she met Jack, and they have been married for 25 years. They have lived in La Center for 17 years, the same amount of time she has worked at our school. Together, they have four children, two boys and two girls, who are all grown up. They also have five grandchildren. Our April Community Member of Mystery likes to get a good coffee each morning and can often be spotted in town picking it up before reporting for work. She enjoys baking and decorating cakes and traveling to places like the beach and Disneyland. Who do you think our April Community Member of Mystery was?



If you guessed Tammy Swanson, playground teacher, you are correct.