La Center High School
January 19, 2011

Curriculum- Credit Recovery is now available for our students that have previously failed a course and therefore not on track to graduate. With the requirement of 24 credits to graduate for this year's freshman and sophomores, students don't have room in their schedule to make up credit during the school day. Therefore, the credit recovery courses (17 to choose from) will assist our students to get back on schedule for graduation. We've purchased 10 block seats that will revolve, allowing for multiple students to use throughout the year, with Aventa Learning Inc. Each half credit class will cost $100 or $50 for students on free and reduced lunch. This price is less than the $126 per class families have been paying for credit recovery in the past. To assist students, school computers and an adult mentor will be available both before school (7:00 – 8:00am) in the Career Center and after school (2:45 – 4:00) in the library. Also, the online course is available to students 24/7 from any computer, so they can complete work at home as well.

The high school Spanish and German clubs have combined to form one International Club. This new club will be attending the World Languages Day in Seattle at the University of WA on Friday, March 4, 2011. This is a unique opportunity for high school juniors and seniors to experience the value of world languages and cultures. Students select up to four classes at the workshop from a list of 60 different language classes offered. The various workshops feature music, art, food, dance, stories of the countries, and opportunities to understand how language impacts other cultures. Mrs. Newman and Mr. Zylstra will take a group of students to this event. Students attending will bring back materials and share out their experiences in the Spanish and German classes the following week.

Athletics & Activities- Knowledge Bowl has had a great season thus far. Our varsity team is currently ranked first out of 11 in our region! Honor Society is preparing for their book drive to be help in April. These books will be donated to a local Juvenile Detention Center. Science club tours the Goldendale Observatory on January 21st which houses the largest public telescope in Washington. Our high school Bands and Choir will perform on January 24th in the high school commons starting at 7:00 p.m. Also, the ASB will host their first "Quarantine Game Night" on March 5th which is only for high school students and should be a LOT of fun.

We are having a stellar winter athletic season . . . when the weather cooperates! The Dance Team opens with first competition on January 29th at Union HS. The boy's basketball team is currently 5th in league but the rest of the schedule looks promising. If the girls basketball continues with their current success, 3rd in league, they have a good chance of taking over 2nd in league or challenging for the title. La Center's high school

wrestling team has achieved many successes this year. The wrestling team is currently 10-3 in head to head matches and has won 2 tournaments (La Center Invite and Forks Invite) as a team.

Teachers- Mr. Don Landes-McCullough wrote a charming adaptation of the play the "Wizard of Oz" which the drama students performed January 13, 14 and 15. What a creative and entertaining evening. The use of costumes, lights and scenery demonstrated the ingenious ideas that came from our students and teacher. Each student had to construct and create their own costumes including additional accessories and make-up. From munchkins dressed as clowns to umbrellas swirling as tornadoes, the entire show was colorful and creative. All ages attended the performances and the show was well received. I so appreciate Mr. Landes-McCulloughs encouraging words to his students that give them the courage to create a character, attend demanding rehearsals and present their work. He brings out the best in so many of our students. A big "Thank You" goes to Don for all his time, energy and creativity he brings to our students and community.

I would also like to thank Mr. Jim Mulholland for his time as our instructor in the metal's shop. Mr. Mulholland is leaving at semester and we wish him the very best.

Students- Many of our seniors are beginning to receive acceptance letters to colleges and universities of their choice. This is an exciting time for our students as they see the benefit of working hard all these years in school. Several students are continuing to apply for scholarships made available from our counselors and Career Center. Students are sharing with staff and administration the scholarships that are coming in, grants and other opportunities to help them meet their personal goals. As the former Elementary Principal to many of our high school students, it is very exciting to see them come full circle, accomplishing their dreams and being ready to continue their journey on their pathway.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Patton
Principal