La Center Middle School Hawks Report

January 2014

Student of the month recipients were:

November 2013

6th grade: Jaclyn Abernathy, Wyatt Webberley
7th grade: Hayden Larkin, Meredith Seppanen
8th grade: Robert Balduc, Taylor Entenman

December 2013

6th grade: Kaitlin Boyle, Hunter Ecklund
7th grade: Loren Brown, Madisyn Deam
8th grade: Jackson Leslie, Emma Freeman

In December our 8th grade students were able to take a field trip over to Tigard, Oregon to see the Real Life Exhibit, produced by Medical Teams, International. This was a powerful walk-through museum that demonstrated real living conditions for people of many countries that have faced or are facing devastating disasters, including tsunamis, famine, war and/or poverty.

Drama: 7th-8th grade drama students performed the one-act plays- "Spaced-Out Christmas", "Picture Perfect", "Gingerbread Men", and "The Christmas Doubters" for elementary students and two evenings for parents. They are currently working on Monologues for their state assessment known as classroom based performance assessments (CBPA's).

Band and Choir Concert- another successful production enjoyed by many community members and all of our middle school students. The choir concerts were a big success and we were honored to have the high school choir perform with us as well (and join us on our annual "middle school alumni song" which has been a tradition now for 14 years). I am amazed at the quality of performance by our students and give a big shout out to both Mr. Calabrese and Mrs. Slinkard for their leadership and direction.

Second Semester Changes to Schedules

Our 7th and 8th grade classes are large classes in general and we will be making a couple of changes for second semester in an effort to reduce these class sizes. We will be adding another section of 7th grade science, 8th grade science and 7th grade math. These sections will be taught by our regular teachers, who are giving up their prep period in order to accommodate the needs of our students. Thank you to Mrs. Cripe, Mr. Ecklund and Mr. Shucka. This means that some students will have a schedule change and we will be sure to communicate that as soon as we have our new schedule worked out.

Another change is that we are turning one PE section into an Outdoor Education section, which will give 7th and 8th grade students another option for their elective choice. I have gone to each elective class and shared this with the students and those that are interested are signing up so we can work on their potential schedule change. If you know your child wants to make this change, feel free to call the office and put their name on the list.

The last change for second semester is that we are adding another section of Math A in place of one of our regular 8th grade math sections. Our math teachers have identified enough students that have high

MSP scores and that they feel are ready for a higher challenge in math, that we will be making this change. We feel really good about the opportunity this will provide for our higher end math students.

Buses

The transition after the winter break of moving the buses to the backside of the building has been very successful. So much so that the buses, which have been departing the school at 3:10 pm, will now be able to depart at 3:05 pm. On the front side of the building, the car traffic seems to be working out well enough, other than there continues to be a line for those wanting to make a left hand turn out of the campus, particularly between 8:13 am – 8:20 am. The patience and attention to student safety is appreciated.