La Center High School
October 18, 2011

Curriculum - Mr. Johnson's physics class has begun the challenge and adventure of learning about robotics. Students are learning basic engineering skills as they construct their robots. Soon they will be into programming to see how their designs perform. Three teams of students will test their prototypes this coming Friday. Students are working together, gleaming ideas from each other while using higher cognitive levels of learning to create their robot. We shall see how successful they are!

As part of the Wildcat College Tours, Amy Fernandez from our Career Center took a group of students to the University of Western States, located in OR, to check out the chiropractic, massage therapy and sports medicine programs. Our students attended a workshop from a professor on massage therapy and sports medicine. The topic primarily dealt with muscles and the muscular structure of the human body. Students also went into the cadaver lab, where all the bodies were covered, and got to see the muscles that had been discussed in the leg. I spoke with several students after they arrived back at the school to hear how excited they were about potential careers. Several students also spoke of having a clearer understanding about the Pathway they've chosen, including classes that will be beneficial to help them become successful in their careers.

Athletics & Activities-

Football:

- JV celebrated their first win against Toledo (Wahoo!). Varsity traveled to Ridgefield and brought back another win.
- JV suffered a tough loss against the Spudders while the varsity served the Fisherman from Ilwaco a decisive loss.
- JV played well against Ilwaco and came away with another victory while the Varsity managed to outscore Castle Rock 12-7 in a well fought game.
- JV squeeeeeaked out a 15-12 win against Castle Rock and the Varsity continued their quest for the league title with a 34-8 win over Stevenson.

Volleyball:

- JV and Varsity continued their winning ways by beating Ilwaco in 6 games on Tuesday. Their outing to Castle Rock failed to be as fruitful on Thursday.
- Competed with an evenly matched Stevenson team but lost a heartbreaker in a best of 5 match that took all 5 games. We bounced back with a sweep of White Salmon on Thursday.
- Coasted through both league matches against Kalama and Toledo this week on their way to battle the goliaths of SW Washington at the RA Long Invite. We managed to take 1st in the lower bracket beating Kelso and Evergreen on our way.

- Varsity played Ridgefield to a 4th game before losing. Wildcats showed promise in this loss taking the team that is expected to play for the title to four games. Then they traveled to the beach to make beat Ilwaco on Thursday. Junior Varsity competed in the Hudson's Bay invite. They finished the pool play undefeated but lost the first tournament play match to the eventual champions…Union.

Soccer:

- Both teams played very well on Tuesday against Stevenson and managed to eek out wins. JV tied the visiting panthers from Washougal while the varsity made quick work of Seton Catholic.
- Varsity made quick work of King's Way on Tuesday and both teams played well in their wins versus the Toledo Indians on Thursday in their own stadium no less.
- Both teams beat Castle Rock soundly on Tuesday. Thursday we were tested by the best team in the league. Junior Varsity managed to win by 2 and the varsity lost by one to the league leading Spudders.
- Varsity played Seton Catholic on the plush artificial turf of Camas High School and came away victorious. Both JV and Varsity beat Kalama at home on Thursday.

Golf:

- Placed second out of 3 teams on Tuesday beating Elma by 12 and falling short to Ridgefield by 12. The match against Rochester on Thursday was much closer but we came up 3 strokes short.
- Continued their streak of finishing second to Ridgefield and besting Hoquiam on Tuesday. On Thursday we proved to be the best on the course beating the other two schools by a minimum of 16 strokes.
- At the fear of sounding like a broken record…our golfers came in second in both matches this week to Ridgefield but beat all other competition.
- Had this week off to prepare for the league and district tournament on 10/17 and 10/18 at Riverside Golf Course in Chehalis
- At the time of this report 5 of our 6 golfers qualified for the second day of the tournament. The top 15 on day 2 qualify for the state tournament

Cross Country:

- Both the boys and girls teams won their meet at Ridgefield on Tuesday. On Saturday the boys won their division and the girls came in third at the huge Seaside Invitational.
- Again dominated the meet at Kalama with wins in both divisions.
- Cross country won the Ridgefield league meet and both teams placed 5th at the Fort Warden invite in Port Townsend. This is their 6th consecutive undefeated season in league meets!
- Both teams finished 5th at the Hockinson Finn Hill invite on Friday. The League meet will be on October 18th at Columbia High School.

Cheer:

- Is doing a great job rooting on the fall sports and are preparing for their annual youth camp next week.
- Hosted their cheer camp this week with the little cats purr-forming at half time of the varsity football game. The girls did GRRREAT!

- is getting ready for the homecoming game on October 28 and dance on October 29th.

Activities:

- Knowledge Bowl will be hosting a home meet on November 2nd beginning at 3:30

Teachers – Our new metals and wood shop teacher, Jim Neiman, is busy getting the two shops into top notch working order. He has two outstanding volunteers working beside him, Bill Watts and Jarrett Rubelt, which are volunteering countless hours to help repair machines, clean the shop and work with students on particular skills. Each volunteer brings special skills to the classroom. Our students are very fortunate to have so many people put in the time to give them incredible opportunities and individual attention. Mr. Neiman is also learning the various skill levels of our students. He has spent many hours reviewing and implementing safety skills and rules in both shops. If you would like to come by the shop, Mr. Neiman will make sure you have safety glasses on!

Four LCHS teachers and one of our substitutes attended the Olympic Park Institute at Lake Crescent this past weekend focusing on the removal of the Elwah Dam. The purpose of the workshop was to see how the restoration of the salmon habitat is taking place with the Federal Government in collaboration with the Elwah tribe. The Department of Native Americans is being given the choice to restock the river with hatchery fish or native fish.

Amy Neiman, Teri Newman, and Bob Hill will apply their learning into the science classes. Students will learn about the dams relicensing across the state and how decisions are being made to get the salmon runs back into our rivers. The teachers are also working to get Mr. Dean Butterworth from the Olympic Park Ranger for Educational Outreach services to come to LCHS to give a workshop to our students and community.

Students- I am enjoying seeing the progress many students are making this year in both academics and with the many additional opportunities available. Students are getting involved in their classes and taking ownership in their own learning. Psychology class is starting in the peer mediation training which is a great help to our student body. These students help mediate student issues and the mediators understand when it is important to bring a concern to an adult. Many issues throughout the school year are dealt with by these students.

We also have been having great success by opening the gym during lunches. Students have an opportunity to get rid a some energy by playing basketball, volleyball and/or

whatever nets are up for PE classes at the time. It gives students time to exercise, have fun and get mentally ready to go back to a positive learning environment.

I'm also very pleased that we have had few cell phones discipline related issues in class. Teachers are finding ways to incorporate the use of cell phones by using the technology so many of our students use daily. Discipline issues this year are at an all time low!

Cheers to the Pep Band. They are a young group of musicians that are coming together with their new teacher, Mr. Dell. The band continues to improve at each sporting event. The transition has been rather smooth and the students are enjoying working with our new conductor.

Students in the Yearbook class are busy selling advertisements. If you or anyone you know is interested in purchasing an ad please contact Mr. Zylstra and/or a student from yearbook. We would be happy to have your business in our book of memories!

Lastly, I would like to express how much we enjoyed hosting a home to the preschool students. Students and teachers commented how much fun it was to have the preschoolers in the building. We wish them well and look forward to seeing our future Wildcats in about 9 years!

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Patton
LCHS Principal