La Center High School February board report 2010

Curriculum- Having completed our 4th health curriculum adoption meeting and having our 5th scheduled for early March. We are currently reviewing the new edition of the Glencoe text that is our current adoption and a Prentice-Hall edition. In addition there is a "Human Sexuality" supplement that is part of both of these adoptions. These supplements have been previewed by our students and they feel that they both meet their needs. As a result we will finish evaluating these two sets of instructional materials against the state standards and our local needs and hopefully be ready to make a recommendation to the IMC in May. Our committee has looked at the general scope and sequence of the health class in relation to the number of weeks in the course and then prioritized the topics and timeline for what is covered and in what depth. We are currently reviewing two texts for adoption, the new copyright of our current text from Glencoe and the current adoption from the Evergreen district from Prentice-Hall.

We are up to nine instructional math videos on the web for our parents and students and going strong!

The 6-12 science teachers and administrators met last week to review transition issues and scope and sequence of our current curriculum. This was a very good beginning to opening lines of communication that will result in a more seamless transition to high school for our students. In addition connections were made to try out a lab classroom group between buildings in the same discipline. I expect we will all learn from this endeavor and hopefully be able to apply what we learn to our cross-grade multiple discipline groups.

6-12 math teachers and administrators also met last week for the same purpose as our science group. There were many key issues that our 9th grade team learned this fall from our transitioning freshman that needed to be shared and discussed with the 6-8 team. As with science this was a great opening conversation but needs continuation and consistency which the entire team supports.

Athletics- Our boys wrestling team placed 2nd in league and 4th in the regional championships sending 7 wrestlers to the state tournament. The girls have one alternate that qualified. The boys basketball team completed their season with a loss to

Castle Rock last Friday. They had a much improved season in terms of growth and spirit. The highlight of the season was back to back wins over rivals Woodland and Kalama which we haven't had in many years. Our girls team

Teachers- Mr. Zylstra and his global studies classes raised money to buy chickens for a family in a third world African nation. Now that you've digested that sentence, this was a great way for the students to learn of the societal and economic issues in that part of the world and experience a form of service and giving. The project was done through Heifer International. Nice job Mr. Z and students.

Mrs. Morris and the project study class just received 10,000 salmon eggs for their project to bring a salmon run back to Breeze creek. Now they just have to tend to them through the spring.

The Drama department is currently performing Beauty and the Beast. Mr. Landes-McCullough adapted the script just for our production. I have been able to watch their rehearsals and they are doing a great job.

Mrs. Bounds' US history classes just completed a major project titled "Whose Responsible" which requires students to research the 6+ million civilian deaths from WWII. Students must assign responsibility to countries, political leaders, religions, etc. and give concrete evidence to back up their reasoning. They have produced presentation boards to tie all of this together. Many are on display around school and in particular up stairs in the lounge area if you are interested in taking a peak.

Amy Nieman has done a great job working with our science department to polish our scope and sequence while confirming alignment to the state EALR's and GLE's. They have met on their own time to complete this work and we have now scheduled a 6-12 science meeting the week of February 8th to work on transition issues with the middle school staff.

The math department has a similar meeting scheduled that same week to work on Math transition issues.

Congratulations to the counseling department who wrote and received a "Target" grant that will pay for buses to take our entire sophomore class to LCC this spring for a daylong career fair.

Students- Our student forum group will be taking representatives to the middle school next month to work with Mr. Cooke and the 8th grade class on harassment and bullying issues. The 8th graders involved in the forum have identified this as a current concern and see it as a concern as they transition to the high school next year. Thank you to Mr. Cooke for allowing both the high school and the middle school students to own this issue and giving them the time, forum and support to resolve it.

The general ASB has worked for the past two years to raise monies in a variety of areas in order to afford an expansion to the student lounge. The addition of another couch and a table were delivered this week. Nice job!

Congratulations to our ASB class, and thanks to the generosity of our students, parents and community, we were able to deliver two whole vans of toys to Neighbors helping Neighbors over the holiday break to help families in our community.

Lastly, our Life Skills students enjoyed lunch at the Last Frontier this week as a learning excursion. Thank you to the Last Frontier for donating the lunches. The students learned how to order off of menus, calculate prices, in some cases figure sales tax and tip amounts and practice good etiquette in a public setting, which they did wonderfully. Thank you to Larry Fawcett for helping set up this opportunity.