Primary Board Report

A Learning Community Works Together and Supports Together

We are a caring community of learners that works hard to support those in our community and outside our community. Our efforts to support the children and families in Haiti went well. Those pennies do add up, and in just one week we were able to raise a total of $2067.17 for our Pennies for Port-au-Prince fundraiser. The majority of the money will go to the Red Cross efforts in Haiti.

Our students are very important to us and we want to celebrate their successes. Karen Harris and Shannon Stabel led our efforts to provide a warm and hearty scrambled eggs, sausage, fruit, bagels, breakfast bars, and juice breakfast for our fine January students of the month. Students were able to enjoy their breakfasts and celebrate their accomplishments for the month. We look forward to four more student of the month celebrations with our students this year.

We strive to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of those in our learning community. Some of those we recognize may not attend our school. An example is that of the efforts by Mrs. Schrock's second grade class. Students have created a published book to honor those who are serving and those who have served our country in the military. Each student wrote a biography and created a visual about veterans, officers, and enlisted people tied to our community, 22 in all. The created work was then sent to a publishing company and hardback books were created. These books are being shared with the subjects of the biographies, including copies being sent over seas to those serving in such countries as Iraq and Afghanistan. Copies will also be sent to the Portland and Vancouver VA Hospitals.

Capacity, Collaboration, Contemplation

Our January 22 early release provided examples of capacity building, collaboration, and contemplation. Each grade level team worked together, and with Amy Barber, math consultant. Fourth and fifth grade teams each spent half the morning working with Amy. Grades K-3 split up the afternoon working with her. Each worked with Amy on areas they had deemed as critical to our math efforts. All remaining time was spent working as teams to improve our abilities to support our students in their math learning. An example included work by many to implement the effective math facts practice program, XtraMath. This program was created by a former Microsoft programmer and is being shared free of charge with our elementary students. It can be accessed through the internet from school and home. Many students and families are choosing to utilize this program.