La Center High School
March 20, 2013

Curriculum - Students have completed this year's HSPE testing for reading and writing. Testing took three days for our sophomores and those students that needed to retake the test. Passing the HSPE is part of the graduation requirements. Results will be posted this coming fall.

Mock Interviews - This year we tried a new idea for the junior class during HSPE testing. Our Navigation Captains and Mindy Payne, Career Specialist for the Student Service Center, designed mock interviews for all the juniors. The teachers prepared students for the mock interviews with question/answer techniques, resumes, and interviewing skills. Mrs. Payne organized a panel of interviewers over the three days, giving every student in the junior class an opportunity to experience what an interview looks like. Thank you to the Board members, district employees, and community members that helped our students over the three days. It was a fantastic experience for our students . . . and one student even managed to get a job with the individual that interviewed him!

Coping with Adolescent Stress and Depression workshop -
Mary Jadwisiak, a field coordinator from the Youth Suicide Prevention Program presented a workshop for parents and community members on "Coping with Adolescent Stress and Depression – Preventing Youth Suicide." Approximately 50 parents attended. Mary provided valuable information to identify when a child is in crisis and/or heading in that direction. She also provided informational handouts of organizations to contact for additional information and support. There is also an upcoming training for teachers and law enforcement, April 9 & 10 for ASSIST training. I am planning on sending our two counselors and two teachers to attend this workshop. The LCHS staff attending will share valuable information through a professional development during our regularly scheduled late student arrival Monday.

Athletics & Activities

Boys Basketball: The boys finished their season with a lost to the Cedar Park Christian who went on to place 3rd in the state playoffs. La Center ended up ranked as one of the top 16 1A teams in the state!! Austin "AJ" Myers was awarded the sportsmanship award in his final game as a Wildcat.
Fast Pitch: Has almost 30 young ladies playing and has started the season with 1 – 1 record.

Baseball: Is a pre-season favorite to win the league. They are 2-1 in league so far.

Track: has yet to compete in a meet but the boys team is looking strong and the girls team has some notable talent also. Their first meet is on 3/21 at Woodland.

Boys Soccer: has had a rough start to the season with a 1-2 record but the boys are playing hard and expecting to see the rewards of their hard work soon.

Golf: has only had the opportunity to play one match so far and came out with a victory against Ridgefield. League matches will begin after Spring Break.

Equestrian: Has competed in two meets and the team is doing very well. Their next meet is 4/12-4/14 at Spanaway.

Dance: has qualified both Pom and Kick routines for the state competition on 3/22 in Yakima, WA.

Knowledge Bowl: earned a state entry for one of the 2 varsity teams. State is held at Arlington HS in Arlington, WA on 3/23.

Teachers- Teri Newman is a proud recipient of *Partners in Science Program* grant. This grant, through the Murdock Charitable Trust, is to help improve science education in the Pacific Northwest. Teri will be partnering with Dr. Stephen M. Bollens from WSU – Vancouver for the research project titled *Studies of Aquatic Invasive Mussels.* Teri is excited to be able to share her information and lab experience with her life science classes. This is a two-year summer research project. Following each summer of research, Teri will have the experience of sharing this research at both regional and national Partners in Science conferences.

Students – Congratulations to two of our Skills Center students for their accomplishments in a mock trial competition. Craig Murray received 2nd place for his defense on *Crisis Intervention (Domestic Violence)* and to Samantha Zumstein who received 3rd place on *Problem Oriented Policing.*

Students Receiving Awards – Students in the Environmental Studies Class recently completed Clark County Master Composter/Recycler Jr. Training and all steps in the certification process. MC/R Jr. is a program of the Clark County Environmental Services Department. Typically an employee of the Clark County Environmental Services Department instructs a class of high

school students through six established lessons. Some classroom teachers use this experience as a unit within a science or Civics Class, others use it as a spring board for a project they intend to do with the instructed class or stimulate interest for an Environmental or Garden Club with their schools. The Environmental Studies Class used the MC/R training to obtain direct information to answer questions they had about our class garden and to better understand and expand upon the class's waste reduction program within LCHS. Students within ESC completed the six training sessions, assignments and homework, coordinated and completed class outreach activities and an independent off-campus project as well. The class is the only one in the county in which all members were certified, leading the class to be the first Certified Jr. Master Composter/Recyclers Class!

This past Tuesday, a representative from the Clark County Department of Environmental Services awarded the members of the class with a certificate of completion. Each class member is now a registered Composter and Recycler! Fantastic work! This event was held in the LCHS Library.

Quarantine- The Leadership class had another successful year with the fundraiser game called "Quarantine!." Students register in teams of five and compete with each other to make it through the maze of zombies to help save our planet from a 'terrible' outburst of diseases. The goal is to get five salt packets each and make it to the station that gives you the key antidote. (The antidote are mentos.) The team then races out of the building to the top of the hill (by the challenge course) to put the antidote into the special liquid (a litter of Coke) to win the challenge. Over 100 students participated in this fundraiser and had a fabulous time!

Choir/Band Concert – The music department presented an outstanding concert to a full house. New to the show was a small jazz ensemble that consisted of 6 students. These students met three times to rehearse and mastered three song selections to share with the audience. One of the songs was an original composition by two of the students. I am thrilled that students are using the skills they are learning in the music department to compose and perform their own work.

The Jazz Band, Choir and Concert Band also performed exciting songs. It's always great to hear the improvement of each group as the year progresses. Last night's concert was exciting!

Music Award – Blake Johnston, a sophomore, received a superior rating at the Lower Columbia River Music Educators Association's Solo/Ensemble Festival. He competed in the Vocal – Bass category. In the league, only one student is selected to go to state. Out of all the high schools in Clark County, Blake was selected to represent the league at state in the Vocal – Bass category. Congratulations to him!

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Patton
Principal