Hawks Report

April, 2014

Math is Cool

After seeing our 5th grade Math is Cool team perform at the last school board meeting, I realized that I didn't mention our 6th grade team in my last report. So, our 6th grade team worked and practiced very hard with Mr. Holland in preparation for their big competition at Skyview High School back in March. Our students and parents showed a lot of poise and perseverance throughout the competition, and represented our school very well. I am proud of their efforts.

We Day

We were able to send 46 students with chaperones to Seattle for a one day inspirational event called "We Day". Schools had to apply to attend this event, and to be eligible, the school had to demonstrate their work in service projects in their school, in their community AND in the world. Mrs. Broten applied on behalf of our students and was awarded a slot to attend. Our 46 students who attended, have been involved in food and clothing drives for YWCA, Doernbechers Hospital fund raising and will fundraise for Medical Teams International this spring, in order to send hope kits overseas to third world countries. Pretty impressive!

The students, who left at 4:00 AM and returned at 7:00 PM, were treated to a whole host of guest speakers, including Coach Pete Carroll and various Seahawks players, Martin Luther King III, and other pop singers like Cody Simpson. Plus, they all got really cool blue T-shirts.

Choir and Band Festivals

Our choir performed for the Lower Columbia River Music Education Association (LCRMEA) festival, held at Camas High School this year, and received a solid "1" from both of their adjudicators. This is an outstanding score and demonstrates the good hard work these kids have been doing. They sang "Laudate Dominum" by Dan Davison and "Nsa Ni O" by Felicia AB Sandler.

There were seventeen bands at the festival. In middle school division, the size of the school or school district does not matter, all middle school bands are grouped together. La Center is the smallest school that participates in these music events. Battle Ground, Vancouver, Evergreen, Washougal, and Camus are the largest districts represented.

Bands are scored on a 100 point scale by three judges. Superior is the highest ranking, then excellent, good, fair, and poor. These ratings are a national standard. LCMS band this year scored two superior pluses and a solid superior rating from the judges. This has only happened four times in my 28 year career as band director. If we drop the lowest scoring judge from

everyone's score, the top three bands scores were separated by one point each - a tie by anyone's standard. Significantly, LCMS was told we played the most difficult music of the day.

Published Writers and Essay Contest Winners

Our language arts classes have been writing a lot. They've written letters to the editor, and four students have even been published in the Columbian: Molly Edwards, Kyla Brown, Fernando Sandoval and Jace Abernathy. Also, Barnes & Noble run an annual "My Favorite Teacher" essay contest, and out of 60+ essay entrants from Clark County, 6 of the top 8 finalists were La Center Middle School students. Taking the overall winner for the county was Lindsey Hendrickson, who wrote about Mrs. Kipp. Her entry will be forwarded to the regional and possibly national level competitions. Other winners include: James Carmona, who wrote about Mr. Brothers; Jodie Hendrickson, who wrote about Mrs. Cripe; Emily Weil, who wrote about Mrs. Bussler; Heidi Paso, wrote about Mrs. Clump; and Chandra Massey, who wrote about Mrs. Cooke.