La Center High School
April 19, 2012

Curriculum – The library has some exciting things going on with technology. A classroom set of iTouches is seeing constant use. Teachers are checking them out to use in the classroom and within the library. Students are finding them to be a useful tool. There was a concern about where and how to store this classroom set of iTouches, so Mrs. Marshall asked Mr. Neiman if his students would make a shelf that would go in the library office. They worked out the details and Mr. Neiman had his students make the shelf, which is designed to provide space to charge up to 10 iTouches or 5 iPads at one time. This will help in having the devises ready for use at whenever a teacher wants them. The library has also added several new free educational apps for all areas of study. One particular new app we are excited about, and will be added soon, is Destiny Quest app. This app offers a direct connection to our library's card catalog. Students will be able to log in and search for books, look at a teacher's recommended reading list, view the new arrivals reading list in the library and be able to submit their own book reviews. Students will be able to check their own accounts to see what materials they have checked out, when books are due, review or place a hold on a book, and see their checkout history.

Another popular item has been the Kindles. We received a grant from the Washington State Library from their eReader pilot project. The students are keeping the three Kindles constantly checked out but we did use them exclusively in the first two months for a classroom project. In collaboration with Karen Gozart, we offered the Kindles to a targeted group of "reluctant" readers as an alternative to print copies in a group reading project in her 9th English class. We then surveyed those readers with interesting results. We hope to offer more eReaders for checkout and eBooks for download by securing new grant funds.

Athletics & Activities- Our baseball team has a league record of 7 wins and 3 losses and is currently in 3rd place in league. If we keep playing the way we have recently, there is a good chance we will finish 2nd and make it to districts.

Fast pitch softball started the year playing very strong, but has experience some setbacks recently. We are currently seeded 4th in our league with a record of 5 wins and 3 losses.

Dance team placed 4th in the state Pom pom competition on March 24th in Yakima.

Boy's soccer slid to 4 win and 5 loss record so far and is currently tied for 4th. If we the rest of our games (most of them home games), we will just make the district play-in game

for a chance to go to state. Hopefully going as a team to watch the Timbers play, will be the inspiration they need to pull through.

Girl's golf is playing well and has a record of 4 wins and 1 loss. Several of the young ladies are shooting in the mid to low 50's with an occasional score in the 40's. These marks should be low enough to place well at the District tournament on March 14th and 15th.

Track has had several positive surprises this year. The boy's team is competing well for having such a young team and the girls are true to form and winning or in the top 2 at each of their meets.

Equestrian just competed at their district competition and came away with the following state qualifiers:
Working Pairs: Kristen Nye And Katelyn Eckert - 2nd Place.
Team Sorting: Kristen Nye, Katelyn Eckert - 1st place Heather Haasl, Ashley Hebert – 3rd place
Roping: Tessa Littlefield – 1st place
Reining: Kristen Nye - 9 (1st alt for State, most likely to compete in this event)

Josh McNeal, the regional VP for our region, did an amazing job of leading, organizing, and presenting at the state FBLA conference. There were over 1800 students competing at the conference. Justin (JC) Mendez and Scott Barger got 5th place in Business Ethics. They are a 3rd alternate for the national FBLA competition in San Antonio in June.

Honor Society held its induction ceremony on April 16th. 15 students joined this organization.

Music is feverishly preparing for their Chili and Jazz fund raiser that will be held in the high school commons on May 5th. Doors open at 5:00. Donations for the Band/Choir Tour will be accepted at the door.

Junior Class is in the final preparation stages for hosting this year's Prom at Oaks Park. This year's theme is 'Set Fire to the Rain' and is scheduled for April 28th from 8:00 – 11:30 P.M..

Teachers – Mr. Bob Hill, science teacher, will be offering a new class next year entitled 'Food Science.' The class will cover FDA/NSTA regulations, including address job opportunities within the field of food science. To date, enough students have registered for this class that we are offering two semester classes next year. Mr. Hill has also applied for a national grant that will cover a week long workshop in Washington D.C. and the national convention in California next year. Applications for this grant have been sent in and we should hear back after May 16th.

Our science teachers have enjoyed exploring new workshops that all three attend. April 27 – 29, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Newman and Mrs. Neiman will attend a Nature Bridge Workshop

at Lake Crescent, WA. This workshop's focus is on landscapes, glaciers and rock formations.

Students- A 3rd group of students have been chosen to attend the Phoenix Program, May 18-20, at the YMCA Collins Camp, outside of Gresham, OR. It's been a joy to hear the students that have attended in past sessions, encouraging and sharing the excitement with those that are chosen for this year.

Students enrolled in our Life Skills class are hosting the annual Plant Sale, May 10th and 11th from 8:00 – 3:30 in the high school commons. The students have worked many hours to nurture and grow a variety of hanging flower baskets, potted flowers, plants, trees, shrubs and much more. Hope you can come and support our students.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Patton
LCHS Principal