La Center High School
April 20, 2011

Curriculum- Students have completed the High School Proficiency Exam, better known as the HSPE, in writing, reading and science. Our students worked very hard to do their best, knowing they need to pass the HSPE as part of the graduation requirements. Results will be made available in August. Also, our 9th grade students had a 2 hour Navigation workshop in March, which included time to review their Pathway and revisit their four year plan. Navigation continues to focus on student Pathway's and goal setting. Students are in the process of registering for next year's classes.

The AP exams take place the first week in May. This year we are testing in AP Biology, Calculus, Government and English. Students that pass with a 3 or higher on their test score receive college credit for that class.

Mrs. Landerholm, Ms. Jeske, Mrs. Fernandez and I met with the 8th graders Monday, March 21st, to 'Welcome' them to high school We presented the high school packet which explains how to select classes according to a Pathway of their choice. Students were eager to ask questions, hear about the course offerings and the athletic and activities programs. That evening about 150 parents and students attended a Q&A session regarding high school registration, graduation requirements, Pathways, state testing and much more. Parents expressed an appreciation for this time with our staff. I feel it was important to communicate with our parents and students in this way, so we will continue this again next year.

The high school library is updating to a new ProQuest educational password-protected subscription website. This will allow our students to have quicker access to research in a more user-friendly layout. Students and staff can create a personalized research list with options to save, print, email, cite, export citations, and more. This site also provides leading journals, periodicals, news content, rare and archival information, dissertations, research reports, ebooks and multimedia. Social networking capabilities offer the ability to link to social networking sties and share links to research material for sharing between students working on group projects or between teachers and their classes. With the assistance of the technology department, we will switch over to the new platform Wednesday, April 27th. Library staff is taking training and will in turn give the rest of the staff and students the information they need to use the new ProQuest.

Athletics & Activities- Congratulations to the Equestrian Team for their outstanding successes at the WAHSET District 2 Competition in Elma, WA. Tristan Newton took 1st Place winnings in Steer Daubing and Roping events, Katelyn McConahy took 2nd Place in Jumping and 3rd Place in Dressage, and Heather Haasl, Ashley Hebert, Katelyn McConahy and Kaleea Westling too 3rd Place in Working 4's.

Our FLBA team sent seven students to the state competition in Yakama during Spring Break. They are Emily Vis, Rebecca Westby, JC Mendez, Jordan Floyd, David Wheeler, Derick Lock and Josh McNeal. Josh won the state office for State Vice President representing the SW Region for WA State FBLA. Thank you to Bonnie Lock who chaperoned our students at this competition.

Knowledge Bowl had a great year and just missed qualifying for state by one place.

The Band/Choir ensembles entertained the community with a cool jazz and blues night full of solos on April 13th.

Spring activities are in full swing. Unfortunately with our current rainforest status, our softball and baseball teams have struggled to get practices in and games played. The baseball team is 2 wins from earning a spot in the district playoffs. Softball has currently positioned itself a playoff position. Boys soccer, under new leadership, is playing hard and is poised to make a playoff run. Our track program is having another successful season for both the boys and girls teams. Both teams won the Al McKee meet hosted by Stevenson High School. Girls Golf is having a great season and looking at qualifying several girls for the state tournament.

District Tournament dates:
Boys Soccer – May 10th in Kalama
Baseball – May 10th in Castle Rock, Winlock and Toledo
Track – May 14th – in Stevenson
Girls Golf – May 16th – at 3 Rivers Golf Course
Softball – May 18th – at Fort Borst Park I Centralia

Teachers – Ten our the high school staff have begun the 'Old Dog' workshop. Mark is conducting the workshop which is similar to the work the elementary staff did earlier this year. The Internally Motivating Learning Environment Array and the Learning Environment Matrix is the foundation for discussion. Staff is excited to participate and have an opportunity to discuss ways to strengthen student learning through the flow of information, learning trust and higher level thinking. Each staff participate will have an opportunity to go on learning walks to observe student learning.

Amy Neiman will begin a book study with members of our high school staff and interested teachers from Woodland High School and Evergreen High School. The title of the book is "The Right to Literacy in Secondary Schools . . . creating a culture of thinking" by Suzanne Plaut. This book study will take place for five weeks. Discussion items include 1) what does critical thinking mean to you? and 2) why is critical thinking important to our students? Some of the key points in the first chapter are: 1) students have a right to think, 2) teachers can teach thinking by empowering students to see the role thinking plays in the world, giving students material worth thinking and another

good one 3) student success in school and beyond depends on their ability to think. I'm looking forward to our findings and discussions.

Students- Student Led Conferences are coming up May 18 and 19th. We would like to invite our School Board members to attend one or more of the SLC giving you an opportunity to see what our students have accomplished this year. Please contact me to schedule a time for you to be part of the student conferences.

The National Honor's Society is sponsoring a book drive. They will accept all "gently used" books. Books will be donated to the La Center Public Library. We are having a challenge between the Navigation teams to see who can donate the most books by April 29th. The winning class will receive a root beer float party to be held on the last Navigation meeting, May 25th. Honor Society will hold this year's induction on April 27th in the high school library beginning at 6:00 p.m.

The LCHS Drama Department's upcoming dramatic production of Sweeny Todd: The Pearl Necklace is May 12, 13 and 14 at 7:00 P.M. Students have been in rehearsals daily, including building the stage sets, designing and making costumes. Ticket prices are $5.00 and since this production is of a dramatic nature we are rating it PG 13.

ASB elections are taking place the end of April. Students are excited to support their favorite candidates. Announcements of the winning candidates will be in our next board report.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Patton
LCHS Principal