La Center High School
May 18, 2011

Curriculum- The AP Biology class will be taking two field trips this spring. The first trip is to WSU Vancouver's bat lab. On this excursion, the AP students will experience real research. The WSU-V student who is presenting the information to the AP class is a former student of La Center High School, Elana Mart. The AP students will observe ongoing research on the neurology of brain processes in bats. The hope is that this research will open a door to greater understanding of human audiological design.

In June, the AP Biology class will also have the privilege to be a guest group at the cadaver lab at Clark College. The AP students will study human anatomy and physiology before attending this presentation. This is an excellent opportunity for those students interested in going into careers as healthcare providers. This will also allow the AP students to see and better understand the human body beyond the textbook.

Students are completing their registration for next year's classes. We are excited to share with you the six new course offerings that enrich our Pathways: the Social Studies department is offering **Civil Rights/Civics** and **Woman Study's 2**, Science department is offering **Human Anatomy and Physiology**, English department is offering **World Mythology**, Math department is offering **AP Statistics** and the Business department is meeting the student's request from the Board Linkage meeting by adding two semester long **Personal Finance** classes.

AP testing is complete for the year in Government, English, Biology and Calculus. The College Board will notify students and the school the testing results sometime over the summer.

Athletics & Activities- The Science club traveled to Seattle's Science center and the Seattle Aquarium as a special tour that supported the work the students have done throughout the year.

The Drama department just completed a successful spring performance of Sweeny Todd. This dramatic production was well received by our community.

Spring sports are coming to conclusion and teams are planning their summer workouts. Boys soccer finished the year one game short of making the playoff, but had many bright moments this season. Baseball made it a 3 way tie in our league standings for 3rd place. Unfortunately we lost in the mini-playoff for district seeding. Not too bad for playing very few home game! Softball is playing in the district tournament today. The girls finished fourth in league and play Onalaska in the first round of playoffs. Girls gold has qualified 2 ladies to the state tournament. Lindsie Powers and Katie Fulton will be

representing La Center High School in the state tournament in Dupont, WA on May 24th and 25th. The girls and boys track teams are preparing for the district track meet in Rainier, WA on May 20th. The girls placed first in league and the boys a very close second.

State tournaments:
Golf: The Home Course, Dupont, WA on May 24 and 25
Softball: Merkel Sports Complex, Spokane, WA on May 27 and 28
Track: Eastern Washington University, Cheney, WA on May 27 and 28

Teachers- A book study group has been meeting weekly at the high school this spring. After reading agreed upon chapters from **The Right to Literacy in Secondary Schools**, this small group of learning environment leaders discusses merits and implications. Participants include teachers of English, Occupational Education, Health and Science (including a guest participant from Evergreen School District) and myself. The book's subtitle more accurately represents the focus of both the reading and conversation, 'Creating a Culture of Thinking.' In our district efforts to help all adolescent learners achieve at high levels of 'thinking', this book asks readers to consider literacy in a broader context. It provides a multitude of examples of exemplary classroom practice across all content areas in addition to frameworks designed to assist teachers in implementing those practices.

'Thank You' to Harvey Pust, Wood Technique teacher, and Linda Anderson, HS Office Aide, for their years of service. Both individuals are retiring at the end of the school year. We thank you for all the learning opportunities and experiences you provided our students and staff. We send our best to you on your new adventures. We will miss them greatly!

Congratulations to Lori Jeski, the MS/HS Counselor, who is getting married and moving to Spokane. We thank her for all she has done for our students, staff and parents over the many years she has served in our district. We all wish you many years of happiness!

Joyce Mosby, has served many years in our building teaching the Home and Family Life classes. Next year she is moving to the elementary where she will be a new member of the 5th grade team. Thank you for all the years you've spent with our high school students, teaching them skills that will last a lifetime. Best wishes to you on a new chapter in education.

Students- Student Led Conferences are underway! Over the next two days our seniors will present their Culminating Project to staff, parents and family friends. The Portfolio and the 'High School and Beyond Plan' are part of this presentation. The entire student body is involved in this process, which is part of the Navigation 101

program. The project consists of the students demonstrating both their learning competencies and preparations related to state learning goals.

Graduation is just around the corner! Mrs. Bryan is the Senior Advisor and with the help of many Seniors, is preparing the upcoming events. The following are the upcoming events. Hope to see you there!

Music Awards – June 6 at 6:30 pm – HS Commons
Senior Awards Night – June 9th at 7:00 pm – HS Commons
Senior Breakfast – June 10th at 9:30 am – Community Center/Wheel Club
Senior Practice – June 10th at 12:45 pm – Graduation Practice
Graduation – June 11th at 7:00 pm – HS Gym

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Patton
Principal