La Center High School
June 22, 2011

Curriculum- All students' schedules for next year are completed. We will be mailing student's personal information regarding credits earned towards graduation and credits yet to be completed. As we have listened to student's requests for specific classes through the Navigation 101 program, including student input from the Board Linkage meeting, the staff and I are pleased to share with you our list of new course offering and our instructors assigned to these classes.

Added to next year's course offerings are:
Human Anatomy/Physiology– Amy Neiman
AP Statistics – Julie Croskrey
Physics adding a unit on Robotics – John Johnson
Civil Rights/Civics – Kathy Bounds
World Mythology – Karen Gozart
Woman Studies 2 – Heather Grotte
Personal Finance – John Lambert.

Athletics & Activities – We have complete another successful year in the activities and athletic at La Center High School. Our Knowledge Bowl team just missed making it to the state competition while our Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) qualified to represent La Center at the state level. Josh McNeal ran for the Regional VP position . . . and WON! He is now on his way to the National FBLA convention in Orlando, FL.

Our athletic teams faired very well. La center School District was represented in post season play by: 4 of the 5 fall teams, 2 of the 3 winter teams, and 4 of the 6 spring teams.

Chris Mayolo is a state champion in wrestling at the 152lb class and Katrina Chamberlain is the state high jump champion.

We are losing two of our high school coaches that have dedicated many years to their respective programs. Sheila Holter has resigned from the Cheer/Dance team after 12 years of service and 8 district/state placings. She will be replaced by Andrew Waldner. Many community members best know Andrew as the "Zumba" instructor! Also, Jason Grotte has resigned as our assistant volleyball coach. Both of these coaches have made an invaluable impact on our student athletes.

La Center High School has spent the year revamping the school logo. When I arrived I counted 7 different logos at one event. Aaron McCoy has worked hard to complete a rather difficult process in securing a new logo for our school. It is the new Wildcat displayed at the top of this page. A 'thank you' goes to him and all the stakeholders that have been actively involved in making this a positive outcome for our school and district.

Teachers- We are excited to announce Mr. Jim Neiman, as the new Metals/Welding, Woods and Small Engines teacher. He comes to us from the Evergreen District where he had developed an award winning Bio-diesel program at Heritage High School. Jim is excited to bring new ideas to the vocational program, eager to know our students and staff, and is interested in integrated cross-curricular projects. He is familiar with La Center High School since his wife, Amy Neiman, is our science teacher. Also, both sons attend LCHS. Welcome Jim!

An interview team of administrators, counselor and teachers are completing the interviews for the 6-10 Career Counselor position. We have had several applicants and are confident we'll find the right individual for our students.

At this time there are 4 high school teachers entering the National Board Certification process. I am very pleased that our educators are willing to take on this difficult challenge to better themselves as educators while continuing to find ways to improve learning opportunities for our students.

Students- The Graduation Celebration was a positive experience for students, staff, parents and community members. There were 96 students recognized, honored and graduated that evening. As this was my first graduation to host, I want to thank all the individuals that help prepare for this grand event. Our school grounds where absolutely beautiful, the school was sparkling and the gym was elegantly staged for our graduation. Thanks to Skot Barker for contributing the set-up of his sound system, curtains and lights.

It is my understanding the sound system was clearly heard, which is a difficult task in that large space. I believe our graduates are leaving with a rich education and prepared to continue on their Pathway.

The AP Government students have created a fantastic bulletin board display across from the Career Center. It includes the pictures of each graduate and lists where the individual is planning to attend school next year and/or goals to meet. It also includes that career each individual is working towards.

I would also like to thank Ms. Sharon Bryan for her outstanding job once again as the Senior Class Advisor. We all enjoyed her graduation speech and personal memories of several of the graduates. Her attention to detail and dedication to helping make this entire experience a positive event for all seniors is remarkable.

And as I reflect over this past year, I would like to say 'thank you' for an incredible year! Let's do it again!

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Patton
Principal