Superintendent's Report

August 19th, 2011

LEARNING UPDATE

- **Summer Institutes** – As in past years, we have planned for summer learning opportunities for staff around the district's learning model and how we are working together to create strong learning environments for all learners. This year we are again providing two dates, but to our pleasant surprise we have had a high number of participants from outside the district join us. On August 10th we had about 50 people attend that not only included many of our own staff, but more than half were from other districts. This included Green Mountain, Kalama and White Salmon. We also had several ESD staff there as well. These new participants enriched the learning environment with fresh new questions that provided many great opportunities to analyze the model to a much deeper level. It was a wonderful and full day of learning for all and the feedback was very positive. Our next summer institute session will occur on August 23rd in the high school commons. If you have some free time, feel free to stop by and join us or just watch another 40 of our own staff working hard to enhance their practice as learning environment leaders.
- **District Leadership Retreat** – On August 16th we again held our annual district leadership team retreat at the Mansell house. The day was packed with great discussions on our own practice as learning team leaders and the lens through which we see our work. I was once again very impressed with the quality leadership team we enjoy in our district. They are very passionate and dedicated to supporting all learners in and around our schools. The retreat began sharply at 8 am and the team worked diligently through 4 pm. As we have done in past years, our team finds a way to have some fun and enjoy each other's company. This year we engaged in a Wii bowling tournament. The spirited competition concluded with a championship match that pitted the talented Laurie Kansanback against the cunning and skilled Dan Bentson. In the end, Dan won the title of Wii bowling champion so if you get a chance to congratulate him on his victory please feel free to do so. He would enjoy the attention.

BOARD UPDATE

- **K-8 Parking Lot Project –** Work continues to progress on the K-8 parking lot project. So far, all signs point to meeting the goal of completing the project by the time school begins. Bob Colf has been great to work with and his commitment to both a high quality job as well as great value to the district has been much appreciated. Here are some pictures of the progress:

Where the guys are working is where the ticket booth will go.

- **Summer Maintenance Progress** – As usual, our maintenance and custodial staff have worked hard at preparing all three schools for students. Their efforts to clean, repair, paint and update whatever is needed has been much appreciated. Some of the larger projects that they have accomplished this summer include restriping the parking lots, replacing the flooring in the 6th grade art room (replaced the carpet with tile – this was brought up during the board-staff linkage meeting), replacing cabinets in the high school art room, and refinishing all the gym floors to name just a few major projects. I am very pleased with their work as I am sure the board will be as well. FYI.

I think that is all for now. Please give me a call if you have any questions. Talk with you later.

Mark