

La Center Middle School Annual Report



2016-2017

Mission Statement:

La Center Middle School will provide for its family a safe place where nurturing, acceptance, understanding and respect go hand-in-hand with academic success and opportunities for personal growth.

Annual Report for La Center Middle School 2016 - 2017

Our School...

La Center Middle School, serving students in grades six through eight, shares a 17-acre campus with La Center Elementary. Seen as a hub for the community, the facilities are consistently used after school, in the evenings and on weekends by various local groups. Several local youth organizations meet at the school on a regular basis. Additionally, the La Center Community Education program provides adult and youth activities at our facility. For information on any of these programs, please contact the Middle School or district offices.

Condition of the Building

The La Center Middle School building was originally built as La Center High School in 1961. In July of 2003, the new construction and modernization project approved by the voters began. With the completion of the project in October, 2004, students, staff and parents now have use of a modern facility for the educational and community needs. Student and staff security was an important aspect of the project design that included 36,000 square feet of new construction, and modernization of 71,000 square feet of existing structures.

School Improvement Goals 2016-17

LCMS is committed to assisting students to be self-reliant, lifelong learners, and does so by establishing and working towards three building goals. The 3 goals are to:

- Increase the number of students meeting promotion standards
- Raise the number of individual students increasing or maintaining state standards
- All students feel safe and welcome and are valued members of our school community (Culture)

Student Enrollment:

La Center Middle School served 376 students on average in 2016-2017. We had 120 sixth grade students, 138 seventh grade students and 118 eighth grade students.

Budget: Building resources are established and allocated according to the school board's ends policies.

State Assessments

This is the third year that the state implemented the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) in Math and English/Language Arts (ELA). All of our students in 6th, 7th & 8th grades completed these assessments online using Chromebooks. The SBA replaces the MSP in math, reading and writing, however the MSP science assessment is still

used for all 8th grade students. Below are the percentages of students who met the state standards in each of the tested areas, and also the state averages:

<u>6th Grade LCMS</u>		<u>State Average</u>
Math	55.0%	48.2%
ELA	54.0%	55.5%

<u>7th Grade LCMS</u>		<u>State Average</u>
Math	60.0%	49.9%
ELA	61.0%	60.1%

<u>8th Grade LCMS</u>		<u>State Average</u>
Math	64.0%	59.0%
ELA	78.0%	59.0%
Science	84.0%	67.0%

2016-2017 Courses Available for Hi Cap Students

- Algebra
- Art
- Band
- Choir
- Drama
- Drawing
- Ed. Tutors
- Electronics
- Geometry
- Leadership
- Robotics
- Technology

2016-2017 After School Activities Available for Hi Cap Students

- Knowledge Bowl
- Math is Cool
- Yearbook

September 2016

Monday, August 29th In-service: Middle school had a high energy start to the school year, going on a scavenger hunt throughout the building to find building goals, data and candy. We had fun together creating large poster representations of the 3 building goals in teams. The winning team won a prize.

Monday, August 29th Meet & Greet: From 2-3 PM, we opened up the school for all students and parents to pick up class schedules, put items in student lockers and meet teachers. We had many leadership kids on hand to help with lockers, giving Skyward tutorials, finding classrooms and also handing out ice cream sandwiches. As a first year event, we had a tremendous turnout and feel this is a successful event we will continue in the future.

Garden Boxes: This summer, we had a high school student who chose to work with our middle school to complete his eagle scout project. Warren Phillips (Senior) received donated materials and 93 hours of donated time from 20 people to accomplish this task. He and his team were able to create beautiful 6 garden beds that now exist in our courtyard. Kristy Schneider already has plans for putting them to good use, exposing the kids to truly 'getting their hands a little dirty'.

US History Classes: Our 7th and 8th grade history instructors, Mr. Brothers and Ms. Burton (subbing for Mr. Pritchett), started off their middle school U.S. History classes with an experiential exercise designed to let students experience the sense of injustice that colonists felt about "taxation without representation." They began the lesson by reading a "memo" about the district's financial troubles and the creative ways that were being implemented to make up the shortfall from state funding. One of these was to be a ten cent charge on all photocopied materials. This sparked short discussions (in most of the classes) about fairness, alternative fundraising schemes, etc. To really increase the immediacy of the lesson, students were given a short quiz based on questions from the federal citizenship test. One student in each class volunteered to collect the fees (be a tax collector), or in a gesture of kindness by their instructors, give IOU's. In going over the tests, the teachers used questions about government and Independence Day to bring up the Stamp Act on paper in the colonies. Light bulbs began flashing across the room as students made the connection between the arbitrary and unfair nature of the 1765 Stamp Act and the arbitrary and unfair nature of social studies teachers collecting photocopy fees to cover state and district financial woes. Both teachers are confident that the exercise has set the groundwork for students to further explore the conditions which led to the American Revolution.

Student Teachers: We welcomed Simeon Redberg from WSUV, working with Kristy Schneider in science, and also Karoline Kreuger from Germany, helping and working with Rhonda Slinkard in music. Karoline was an exchange student at our high school about 10 years ago, so it was great to see her again.

Additional Elective “Pop Lit”: We added an elective for 7th & 8th grade students called Popular Literature, or “Pop Lit.” Mrs. Hollopeter taught the class and we had a very positive turnout from students. Our other elective choices were very full, so we needed to add another option for our students.

iReady/Ready Materials for LA: All of our 6th grade students used iReady, an online diagnostic tool, to give us good information and data on student’s reading strengths and areas to grow. Our 6th grade block class, math assist, reading assist and special education math classes all used this same tool, along with instructional materials to augment student’s math and reading skills.

MindUp: The middle school pursued alternative funding for the adoption of the MindUp curriculum to be used on homerooms. Thanks to the generosity of La Center United, our teachers received professional development and teacher edition curriculum books. This investment paid off, as every homeroom class participated in a positive lesson once a week during “Mindful Mondays”.

Facilities: The middle school facilities are well maintained by our great custodial and maintenance staff. Also, all staff members and students are responsible in their demeanor that ensures the facilities are in top condition.

Fall Sports Teams: Fall sports took advantage of the great fall weather. Cross country had 23 students participating, and football had 32. The volleyball teams had 31 players total. It’s so great to have students involved with an after school sport.

October 2016

Cispus: We were able to once again send our 6th grade class to Randall, Washington to experience the joys of outdoor school called Cispus. We had 115 out of 123 sixth grade students attend and be supported by 27 high school counselors, 14 volunteer adults and 5 teachers. This unique educational opportunity exposes students to the beautiful and wondrous outdoor world, and for some students it is their first time to be in such a setting. Cispus always brings students closer together as a community and helps them transition into our middle school culture. We are very grateful for the continued financial support by the La Center Casinos Charitable Fund, which granted \$10,000 for this years’ experience. We also received scholarship money from the La Center Community Schools Foundation, allowing 8 students to attend who would not have been able to otherwise. Also, a big shout out to Cispus director, Warren Westerberg, for his

continued dedication to this marvelous experience. Thank you to all of the volunteers who gave of their time to make Cispus thrive.

First Lego League (FLL) Robotics Club: We were excited to start up this program, under the guidance of Kristy Schneider. After receiving ASB and school board approval, this club began practicing mid-October. FLL gave middle school students and their adult coaches the opportunity to work and create together in order to solve a common problem. Students are challenged to research a real-world problem, then create an original solution for that problem. They design and build a robot using a Lego Mindstorms Kit using a common set of rules to accomplish “missions” on a playing field. The theme changes each season, requiring teams to be extraordinarily creative.

Blue Crew: Starting last year we implemented Blue Crew meetings. One student representative from each homeroom (20 total students) meets weekly with the principal to discuss what is going well, what can we do better, and what are possible solutions. Many good ideas and compliments have come out of this time together, as well as some great problem-solving skills used to make our school a better place. The Blue Crew reps are responsible to report back to their homeroom to share the discussions that took place. This is time that kids really look forward to.

Ed. Tutors: 7th & 8th grade students can choose to be an educational tutor as one of their electives. Each student is assigned an elementary classroom & teacher, who facilitates the mentorship between the middle school & elementary students. It is a fabulous win-win, and a great leadership experience for our middle school students. This year we had over 60 students as ed. tutors.

November 2016

LCMS Students of the Month:

September	Chera Bellika
October	Raegan Boyse
September	Frank Cuervo-Sanchez
October	Tyler Stinson

September	Nathan Baher
October	Adam Denney

September	Kailey Rowen
October	Ella Stromberg

September	Spencer Gustafson
October	Liam Watson
September	Katie Steward
October	Mikayla Schmeusser

Parent-Teacher Conference Week:

We scheduled two days of conferences on Monday and Tuesday for students identified by teachers as most needing support and communication with home. All families with students scheduled came to their conference. Then on Wednesday and Thursday, we held open arena conferences for the rest of our student body in the cafeteria. In total, we were able to communicate with 215 families and 233 students. This year, we were able to reach 60.5% of our student body through our conferences compared to 62% last year, these were very similar results.

Healthy Youth Survey:

For the second time in three years, our 6th, 7th & 8th grade students participated in the county-wide efforts to collect student data that ultimately will help us understand the needs of the students we serve, and better connect them with necessary supports. This student survey was given on October 13th, 2016 and we had all but a handful of students participate.

Healthy Youth Survey Results: Our 2016 student data was released and the following information is found as compared to 2014 data: alcohol use, all forms of tobacco use and marijuana use is down. School safety data shows that 32% of 6th grade and 34% of 8th grade students report being bullied at school. This number is greatly higher than desired, but it is a lower percentage than what was reported in 2014. Twenty percent of 8th grade students reported feeling sad or hopeless, but 62% said they have an adult to turn to. Eleven percent of 8th grade students reported considering attempting suicide, 8% made a plan and 4% have attempted suicide. Eighty-four percent of students surveyed reported having opportunities for prosocial school involvement, which is much higher than the state (70%) and small school (67%) average. Ninety-four percent of students shared that they can discuss problems with parents.

Mix It Up Day: On October 25th, we had a fun time at both lunches! Thanks to our student leadership crew, led by Dominick D’Emilio, all students had the opportunity to “mix it up” and have conversations and activities with other students who they normally would not be with. First, students were given a color and shape as they entered the cafeteria and had to sit at the table marked with the same color and shape. There, students found a variety of other students to mingle and visit with and conversation guides were available at each table. Next, as students left the cafeteria and went up to the gym, they were given a sheet to fill out with other student’s names, requiring them to find people that had done certain things, or liked certain things. In the end, those participants received a life saver for participating. It was a great experience, and one of the best ‘mix it up’ days I’ve seen.

Digital Citizenship Lessons: Lynn Cooke, Stephanie Holmes and Kim Hollopeter teamed up to teach our students. Listed below is what was taught throughout one day in all of our language arts classes based on the lesson from Common Sense Media and overall, it was a very positive introductory lesson for all students:

6th grade/Digital Life 101- Students were introduced to the 24/7, social nature of digital media and technologies, and gained basic vocabulary and knowledge for discussing the media landscape. They compared their media lives using a simile “My Media Life is Like...” They then took a self-quiz on "Got Media Smarts" and took their assessment in the Google Classroom of the Class of 2023.

7th grade/My Media- Students reviewed their media habits and the array of media they use on a weekly basis, and reflected on the role of digital media in their lives. Students logged their media use for 24 hours before the lesson, graphed their usage to see which device they use the most and then took their assessment in the Google Classroom of the Class of 2022.

8th grade/Trillion Dollar Footprint- Students learned that they have a digital footprint, which can be searched, shared and seen by a large, invisible audience. Students learned that they can take some control over their digital footprint based on what they post online. They examined the blog posts, photos and other information similar to Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat to determine the character of 2 individuals and took their assessment in the Google Classroom of the Class of 2021.

Veterans Day Assembly- On Thursday, November 10th, the middle school held two assemblies; one in the morning for students and veterans and the other in the evening for families and veterans. We had beautiful performances by both our 7th & 8th grade choir and band students to go along with Mr. Pritchett’s video, all in celebration of the

service given by our ‘heroes’ in the armed forces. Between the two events, we were able to recognize over 40 veterans, and to thank them for their service.

December 2016/January 2017

Students of the Month:

November/December	Sabrina Joner
November/December	Grace Clinton
November/December	Trevor Seppanen
November/December	Luke Brothers

November/December	Vincent Burgess
November/December	Nick Ehrich
November/December	Kate Peterson
November/December	Summer Senske

November/December	James Hallstrom
November/December	Ryan Hansen
November/December	Melea Kelley
November/December	Gracie Dexter

Education Outside the Classroom

Real Life Exhibit: On November 17th, our 8th grade students were able to visit this amazing walk-through museum by Medical Teams International, which is in Tigard, Oregon. Students and chaperones walked through 14 different rooms which are real life representations of places where the volunteers of Medical Teams International serve. This gives students the opportunity to experience what real life is like for children affected by disaster, conflict and poverty. This annual trip for our 8th grade students proves to be both a moving and humbling experience for all attendees. Thank you to

Janice Broten for her continual effort to organize meaningful educational opportunities for our students.

Doernbecher Tour: After successfully raising over \$60,000 for Kids Making Miracles for Doernbechers the past eleven years, students decided to take on this great cause again this year. Before the fundraising started, a selected group of students got the opportunity to see where the hard-earned money they raise is spent. Mrs. Broten and Mrs. Austad took 14 students to the children's hospital on November 3rd.

Art Field Trips: Mr. Westerberg offered a couple of his annual art experiences after hours this year, with more to come. The first trip was October 6th to the Pearl District to visit various Portland galleries. Five students participated and gained a greater appreciation and understanding of the visual arts. The second trip was November 21st to the Rockwood Public Library in east Portland, where students were able to experience a maker lab filled with interesting technology tools open for student use. Our students got to use the laser cutter and check out the 3-D printers.

Movie Time: After successfully reading the best-selling novel, "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children," our Popular Literature class took a field trip to Battle Ground Cinema to view the movie and then compared and contrasted it to the novel. This field trip was November 2nd, and Battle Ground Cinema opened up their theatre early just for our students for a private showing. We had about 18 students participate along with 2 chaperones and Mrs. Hollopeter.

Education Inside the Classroom

Drama Performances: The 7th/8th grade drama classes were very enthusiastic about their holiday-themed plays this year. Both plays are geared more towards younger children, but they are also very enjoyable, good-feeling plays that show off our student's acting skills. They are great plays for K-8 students and many elementary classes have walked over to watch performances during the daytime. The two drama classes have each held evening performances twice, to allow parents to attend as well. The plays were: "Jill-in-the-Box," a kind-hearted rag doll spreads her smile and Christmas cheer far beyond the walls of the toyshop similar to "Toy Story" in how the toys freeze around people, but are alive when people are gone; and "Trouble at the North Pole," a disgruntled elf from the North Pole learns to appreciate his/her life when he/she sees it through the eyes of a mysterious visitor who shows up at the toy shop. Kudos to Rhonda Slinkard for the excellent work done by all of her performing students.

February 2017

North County Honor Band: The following students tried out for and were selected to be part of the North County Honor Band, and we are very proud of them: Callum Robinson - alto sax, Meagan Stabell - oboe, Lucy Poehlein - tenor sax, Jaren Tikka - baritone. Bryanna Ungs - flute was selected, but could not attend due to family commitment. The students rehearsed Friday evening, Saturday afternoon, and gave the concert Saturday night at Hockinson High School in their theatre.

Student Regional Award: Dominick D'Emilio won first place in the Youth Now Contest in the middle school graphics category. Over 40 youth from ages 12-20 from both Skamania and Clark Counties participated in the contest, sharing reasons why they choose not to use Marijuana. The topic was, "There are lots of reasons weed can wait. What's yours?" Youth Now is the teen voice of Clark County's Prevent!

Dominick said, "My reasons weed can wait are that I'm applying for college. Academics are too important, sports are keeping me too busy, I have plans for my future, I'm competing for a scholarship, and I don't want to let down my family or friends." We are very proud of Dominick for many reasons, this one included.

LEOS Club: The middle school LEOS Club had about 7 members. They typically met on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month, spending part of their time on club business/discussion and the rest of the time on service or leadership building activities. Colleen Wing continued to be the advisor of our club.

6th Grade Math Is Cool: We had Andrea Austad and Stephanie Holmes co-advising the Math Is Cool Club for the middle school. After some practice time, seven of eight 6th grade students braved the freezing rain and went to Skyview High School on Friday February 3rd for their competition. Team members include Raegan Boyse, Joe Blanshan, Landen Rader, Tyler Griffith, Grace Clinton, Luke Brothers, Sean Barsness and Makayla Hubler. They finished second in their division and we will hear within the next couple of weeks if anyone qualified for state.

Bullying Prevention Presentations: In February, our leadership students worked together to make bullying prevention presentations to all of our sixth grade students during their science classes. The focus was on the power of empathy, what can be done to prevent bullying and what can be done to stop bullying. The leadership students, with the facilitation by Janice Broten, did an outstanding job and the sixth grade students were very insightful and engaged in the lesson. Having students present, teach and role model for each other is an effective way we continue to have a

positive culture in our building. The 7th & 8th grade students had the same presentation in their language arts classes.

March 2017

Student of the Month Recipients:

January/February	Nick Reich	6th grade
January/February	Parker Ellson	6th grade
January/February	Maddie Holmes	6th grade
January/February	Jillian Pratt	6th grade

January/February	Eli Neiman	7th grade
January/February	Zachary Morrison	7th grade
January/February	Crystal Martin	7th grade
January/February	Makena Campbell	7th grade

January/February	Dominick D’Emilio	8th grade
January/February	Caeden Fender	8th grade
January/February	Ellie Ossenkop	8th grade
January/February	Emily Nelson	8th grade

Honor Roll Released: First semester students who achieved a 3.25 grade point average or above were listed in the Reflector and were recognized during our student of the month assembly. Students also took photos for our yearbook. We had 149/390 students make honor roll, or 38% of our student body. Of those 149 students, 33 had a perfect 4.0 GPA. Second semester we had 180/394 students, or 45% of our student body make honor roll. And of the 180 students, 40 students had a perfect 4.0 GPA.

GPA Improvement Awards: During our last assembly, students who improved their GPA by .5 or better were acknowledged and had their photo taken for the yearbook. We had 24 students who really turned around their academic success from last year. And once again, the Soske family volunteered to serve breakfast to these students and their families to celebrate their achievement. A big shout out to the Soske's for their continued service and support of our students (this is at least 5 years and running).

Wetlands Day: All sixth grade students at La Center Middle School, spent all day down at the wetlands on Tuesday, February 14. Students were actively engaged at 5 stations throughout the day. Students enhanced their knowledge and worked at the following stations: tree planting, invasive species removal, bird identification and observation, water quality testing and macro invertebrate identification and counting, and a wetlands site hike. The sixth graders worked with experts from the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership and the City of Vancouver's Watershed Monitoring Network. Our sixth graders were accompanied by all of the 6th grade homeroom teachers. Thank you to Mark Totten for his organizational work.

Attendance and Grades: First semester, we had 54 students with one or more F's. Of those 54 students, 28, or 52%, had 12 or more absences, which is defined as chronic absenteeism. Sixteen students out of those 54, or another 30%, are considered borderline chronic absenteeism, for a total of 44 out of 54 or 82% that are considered borderline or chronically absent. If you ever doubted the connection between attendance and school success, this should be fairly persuasive to think otherwise.

Promotion Standards: First semester we had 366/390 students meet promotion policy standards, or 94%. The 24 students that did not meet standards developed their individualized student plan for success, along with their parents and school representatives, to increase their likelihood of success second semester. Out of the 24 students that didn't make standards, 4 were 6th graders, 14 were 7th graders and 6 were 8th graders. Second semester we had 374/394 students meet promotion policy standards, or 95%. The 20 students that did not meet promotions standards (6 eighth grade, 9 seventh grade, 5 sixth grade) attended summer school in Hawks Landing 2, and will begin next year with developing their own student plan for success.

iQ Read With Me Award: Congratulations to Janice Broten, who is the recipient of one of the iQ Credit Union 2016-17 Literacy Grants in the amount of \$600.

Digital Citizenship Lesson #2: A big thank you goes out to Lynn Cooke, Stephanie Holmes and Kim Hollopeter for leading our digital citizenship lessons to all of our middle school students this year. As an example of the curriculum, part of the second lesson

for 7th grade students had them learn about common sense on safe online talk, and had a family tip sheet to take home and share with parents. These presentations were very informative with high student engagement.

April 2017

Doernbecher's Fundraiser: Once again our students outdid themselves. They set a goal to raise \$10,000 and in one week of efforts, they brought in over \$12,000! We had 4 students (Lauren Fox, Braiden Wrigley, Eva Dawson, Katie Steward) raise \$1,000 or more individually. These 4 students were treated to a lunch at Red Robin in Battle Ground for their efforts. Congratulations to the students and a huge thank you for Janice Broten, who continues to inspire and guide our students into excellence!

Fundraising efforts for Doernbecher's Children's Hospital began in the 2006-2007 school year, and over the past 12 years, counting this year's record breaking \$12,000, the total amount our students have raised for this charity exceeds \$83,776. As we've been told by Doernbecher's officials, La Center Middle School holds a special place in their hearts.

LCRMEA Middle School Choral Festival: On March 16th, our 7 & 8 grade choir made their way over to the Ridgefield High School auditorium for their annual festival. Our choir received compliments on their sound (guys aren't afraid to sing out, well unified tone and vowel structure), technique (good consonants energy and rhythmic drive) and musicality (beautiful, rich, WOW!) from their adjudicators. Also noted was their professional look, energy and difficulty of song choices. One said, "When I close my eyes, I think I'm listening to a high end high school choir." Our choir received superior scores of 90 and 91. Director Rhonda Slinkard said that it has been 6 years since we've scored in the 90's. Congratulations choir on a great performance. Thank you to Ms. Slinkard for her continued passion for her program!

LCRMEA Middle School Band Festival: On March 14th, our 7 & 8 grade band also made their way to the Ridgefield High School auditorium to perform in their yearly festival. This year, both judges scored the LCMS Hawk Band with a superior rating. The verbal comments in the clinic were very positive, including statements like "You sound like a small high school band". It's important to know that La Center is the smallest school that participates in our music region. In festivals there is no classification for school size. All middle schools are grouped together regardless of size. Overall, Mr. Calabrese was satisfied with the results and said the students are already looking forward and planning music for next year.

LCRMEA Jr. Solo and Ensemble: Mrs. Slinkard worked individually with over a dozen students after school in preparation for their solo performances. We had 12 students perform this year and out of those 12, 11 students received a 1 (superior rating). Each student sings with confidence and skills brought out by the amazing grace and dedication by their director, Rhonda Slinkard. We are very proud of each of these students and their courage to challenge themselves and of Mrs. Slinkard, who donates hours of her time to help the students be more prepared and successful.

Student-Led Conferences: During the K-8 conference week, the middle school scheduled full days of conferences, including a late night on Thursday night to accommodate working parents. With the exception of a small handful of students, every student had at least one parent attend their conference. Students shared their goals, their growth academically and socially and shared a few grade specific activities with their parents. Students showed poise, preparation and a little perspiration at times too. They looked so grown up as they dressed nicely for their conference. This has been a very positive piece of communication for the middle school. By the way, for the students whose parents couldn't make it, we make arrangements at school, for example many have presented to a staff member so they could earn their points for presenting their SLC as well.

Career Fair: Two days after spring break, we held a career fair for our students. The presenters did an excellent job and our students and teachers really enjoyed the information sharing. We had a musician, a welder, a couple of different engineers, a hydro-geologist, a nurse, a physical therapist, a contractor, and a cancer researcher among others.

Terracotta Warrior Exhibit Field Trip: Once again, Warren Westerberg coordinated efforts to take a group of 72 students and chaperones on Amtrak to Seattle to visit this exhibit at the Pacific Science Center. It is a very special experience and we're so glad to have our kids get exposure like this to expand their world.

Track and Field: This spring, we had 66 boys and girls participate in track.

May 2017

March/April	Gianna D'Emillio
March/April	Alyse Webberley

March/April	Logan Seaman
March/April	Drew Homola

May	Lorelei Herber
May	Ben Brothers

March/April	Amie Russell
March/April	Savannah Dodson
March/April	Trenton Rice
March/April	Nicholas Hansen

May	Lauren Fox
May	Jared Mayolo

March/April	Brianna Reil
March/April	DeAnna Baher
March/April	Shawn Child
March/April	Wade Cox

May	Mary Lambert
May	Troy Shapovalov

Mrs Holmes: Stephanie Holmes had her baby girl on Thursday April 27th. Savannah Marie was a healthy 7 lbs, 19 inch baby and both she and mom are doing great. Retired math teacher Mike Holland was able to be our long-term sub for the remainder of the year, and students didn't miss a beat.

Sixth Grade History- Ancient Greece: Students in Mr. Westerberg’s classes got to experience first-hand the laws of the land in ancient Greece. During this unit, the girls must be escorted by a boy into class as females could not take a role in public matters or become members of the assembly. As you can imagine, this was not one of the most popular roles for the girls to assume, but gave realistic experience with the ancient laws. Great debate took place during a mock-assembly, where students argued for or against an issue such as slavery, women’s rights and expansionism. Audience members loudly expressed their support by yelling “Yugi, Yugi” or their disapproval by yelling, “I hear thunder,” before assembly voting took place. This was truly a fun learning experience for all.

Math Assist Class Success: Mr. Grotte, our math assist teacher tracked his students through the year and found the following to be true: 24/27 students received a C or better in their regular math class, and of those 24 students, 13 had a B or better in their regular math class. We feel this extra math assistance is paying positive dividends for our students and will improve their math skills to be demonstrated on state testing as well. Thank you Mr. Grotte for your diligent math instruction!

Yearbook Survey Results:

Superlative Topic:	8th Grade:	7th Grade	6th Grade
Most Helpful	DeAnna Baher & Eli Johnson	Lauren Fox & Vincent Burgess	Gianna D'Emilio & Gabriel France
Most Talkative	Jordayn Murphy & Wilohm Allen	Adriana Barbier & Ethan Zanolli	Mia Beutler & Levi Lucas
Biggest Procrastinator	Kathryn Steward & Jeremy Humphrey	Emma Schlentz & Jonas Allais	Jessica Coe & Sean Barsness
Class Clown	Jamie Osato & Jermaine Peake	Rylie Arnsparger & Adam Denney	Alivia Joyce & Christian Nedrow
Most Outgoing	Samantha Spritzer & James Hallstrom	Keira Crocker & Dillon Barboza	Layla Lee & Mathew Pettit
Messiest Locker	Tiffany Chandler & William Watson	Brandie Gilbert & Levi Falander	Emily Plasterer & Jonathan Coe
Best Dressed	Cailyn Broten & Micah Adams	Makena Campbell & Nickolas Ehrich	Krista Abernathy & Clayton Muffett
Most Organized	Melea Kelley & Ashton Catania	Ivy Kangas & Kaeden Buhrmester	Kacey Rolph & Samuel Goldinov

Hardest Working	Ellie Ossenkop & Dominick D'Emilio	Bridget Bull & Kaleb Hardin	Chera Belika & Trevor Seppanen
Most Artistic	Samantha Coyle & Anthony Mee	Edelyn Turner & Chet Muonio	Brooklyn Cuthbert & Drew Homola
Always Smiling	Ava Fox & Shawn Child	Kylee Stephens & Aiden Denley	Aaliyah Rivers & Hunter Goff

June 2017

Watershed Congress: At the end of May, we had 30 students participate from Mrs. Brothers and Mrs. Schneider's classrooms in the Watershed Congress event held at WSU-Vancouver.

Hawks Landing: We have noticed some exciting data about our Hawks Landing 1 summer school program. This is the 3 week summer school offered in August for strategically identified 5th grade students, to be 6th graders in the fall. Not only do they adjust more smoothly during the first weeks of transition to middle school when school starts, they are also keeping par with their classmates throughout the year with GPA, number of students with F's and percentage of students meeting accountability standards. While our 7 & 8 grade Hawks Landing 2 does not show as successful numbers, it is a smaller amount of students involved, and it has prompted some really good staff discussions about what can be done differently to better assist this group of students.

English Learners (ELs): Fourth Substitute House Bill 1541, passed by the Washington State legislature in 2016, requires the Bilingual Education Office at OSPI to identify and notify the top five percent of schools with the highest percent growth of ELs. La Center Middle School was recently notified that we are one of these schools. Congratulations to our students and Melissa Flatt for their diligent work for success!

Music Video Production: LCMS continues building a positive image and to foster a positive building climate. We produced a music video to the song "Hall of Fame". This effort was coordinated by Bill Hrdina and Stephanie Holmes, along with students in Mrs. Holmes' technology classes. The final clip was filmed in the gym with all students in the stands and participating in singing part of the song. It was a lot of fun for everyone!

Annual Plaque Awards:

Faculty Award - Dominick D'Emilio, Ellie Ossenkop

Student of the year 8th grade - Landen Murrain, Alexis Zachary

Student of the year 7th grade - Vincent Burgess, Ella Lang
Student of the year 6th grade - Samuel Goldinov, Sabrina Joner
Principal's Award - Shawn Child, DeAnna Baher
Duane Hamlin Choir Award - Hailey Powers
Duane Hamlin Band Award - Lucia Poehlein
Pacer Pro 6th grade - Joseph Blanshan, Jillian Pratt
Pacer Pro 7th grade - Bryten Schmitz, Ella Stromberg
Pacer Pro 8th grade - Michael Goode, Irving Alvarez, Elina Goldinov

Four Fantastic Years: Time flies when you're having fun! Finishing my fourth year as principal here, I reflect on how much I enjoy the students every day, and am thankful for the caring and professional staff I get to work with. We are fortunate to work in such a great community as La Center!

La Center Middle School Staff

Mr. Holmes- Superintendent
Mrs. Landerholm- Principal
Mr. Rosenkranz- Associate Principal/ Director of Special Ed.
Mr. Cooke- Athletic Director
Mrs. Mkwanzani- Counselor
Mrs. Pankiewicz-Waldram- F.C.R.C.
Mrs. Richards- Secretary
Mrs. Galster- Attendance/Athletic
Mrs. Braaten- Special Ed. Secretary
Mrs. Austad- Math 6/7/8
Mrs. Brightbill- Lang Arts/History 6, Ac. Prep/PE 6
Mrs. Broten- Lang Arts 7/8, Leadership
Mrs. Brothers- LA 7/Science 8 Reading assist
Mr. Brothers- History 7/8
Mrs. Brown- Custodian
Mr. Calabrese- Band/Technology
Mrs. Calnan- Library Technician
Mrs. Cooke- Librarian
Mrs. Cripe- Science 7
Mrs. Denney- Aide
Mr. Ecklund- PE /Health
Mrs. Edwards- Aide
Mrs. Flatt- ELL Instructor
Mr. Grotte- Math, Math Assist
Mrs. Hantho- Cafeteria Cashier

Mrs. Hendrix- Custodian
Mrs. Hollopeter- Lang Arts, Pop Lit
Mrs. Holmes- Math/Technology
Mrs. Johnston- Resource Room
Mrs. Lindsey- Resource Room
Mr. Pritchett- History 7/8
Mr. Rice- Custodian
Mrs. Schneider- Sci.8, Electronics/Robotics
Mr. Shucka- Math 7/8
Mrs. Slinkard- Choir/Drama
Mrs. Talbott- K-8 Lead Cook
Mr. Totten- Science 6
Mr. Westerberg- SS 6 / Art
Mrs. Whelchel- Lang Arts 6/Drawing
Mrs. Namanny- Aide

Respectfully Submitted,
Lauri Landerholm
LCMS Principal