

Vernonia School Board Report

At the December 6, 2012 Vernonia School Board Meeting:

Public Comments-John Donovan of Metropolitan Group, who is running the fundraising campaign for the costs of the new school, acknowledged the hard work of the Vernonia Education Foundation. Donovan also recognized the work of Jim and Kathy Eckland who have been working incredibly hard to raise money through outreach to alumni to build sports facilities at the new school campus. Donovan also noted that Kathy Knowles is organizing an event for August 2013. Donovan also noted that the campaign is still working to raise the remaining funds needed to complete the school project.

Amy Cieloha asked about middle school sports and what is being done to save money so that all middle school sports will be able to continue. According to Cieloha, at a previous School Board Meeting, the Board voted to not pay assistant coaches and to try to find volunteer referees in order to cut costs. Athletic Director Gordon Jarman stated that he had never heard that the District was looking to use volunteer referees and that there were legal parameters that needed to be followed. Jarman assured the meeting that no assistant coaches were being paid.

Reports-Student groups gave reports on what is happening at the elementary, middle and high schools.

A group of elementary students from Miss Richmond's class reported on a recent field trip to Hyla Woods where they learned all about bugs. The students used a visual display they created to explain what they learned.

Middle school students from the leadership class gave a report about several upcoming events and reported on the middle school sports teams. They also reported on what the students are learning in several classes.

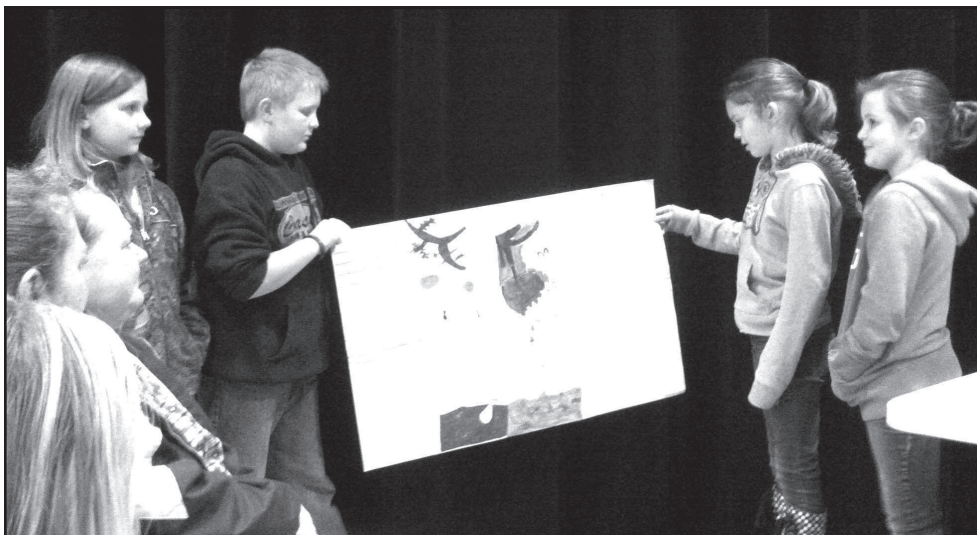
Alexis Baska, representing the high school leadership class reported on events at the high school including a recent blood drive, a blanket and sock drive for the homeless, and holiday decorating at the school.

Dawn Plewes presented the financial report and noted that enrollment is up by five students.

Athletic Director Gordon Jarman, gave a detailed fall sports report and noted that there were new head coaches for middle school volleyball-Ashley Rogers and football-Justin Ward. Jarman reported that the high school football program continues to make improvements and had several players earn All-League honors. The football team had a summer camp this year for the first time in several years. In cross country, Samantha Lindauer qualified for and competed at the state meet, finishing in the top twenty. In volleyball, coach Teresa Williams took the Lady Loggers to the state tournament for the second year in a row. Williams was named Coach of the Year in the Northwest

league and player Sara McMahon was named Player of the Year from the league and was named Second Team All-State.

Rick Wahlstrom and Lisa Poehlitz gave an annual report from the North West Education Service District (NWESD) and highlighted the core services the District receives, the funding the District receives and the hours spent from the NWESD. The NWESD



Elementary students from Miss Richmond's fourth grade class gave a report on their field trip to Hyla Woods.

services over 100,000 students in Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook and Washington Counties and provides assistance to the School District with technology, special education, and instructional and administrative support. Poehlitz noted that teacher Kari Hansen received a \$1000 grant for books for a reading program for 2nd and 3rd graders.

School Based Health Center-Sherrie Ford reported that the School Based Health Center is scheduled to open January 11, 2012. Ford reported that the electronic records system will not be available until a few weeks later, so the provider will be available to talk with teachers and students and introduce the program during the first few weeks and then a grand opening will happen at a later date. Equipment and supplies will be arriving during December and the floor plan is in place for the clinic. The clinic still needs to be named. Ford also announced that a grant has been secured that will allow the clinic to remain open during the summer.

Shelter Agreement with City of Vernonia-Superintendent Ken Cox reported that the School District has reached an agreement with the City of Vernonia that would allow the City to use the School building facility as an emergency shelter in the event of a disaster that impacts the City. The Board later approved the agreement by unanimous vote. Board member Bill Langmaid asked that the Board consider extending an emergency agreement to the Vernonia Cares Food Bank.

Columbia County Financial Summit-Superintendent Cox announced a Columbia County Financial Summit on January 15, 2012 at Scappoose High School. The event is being organized by the Columbia County School Superintendents to bring school and community leaders together to gain a better understanding of Oregon's education plans and current financial conditions that may affect schools and communities. For more information contact Cynthia Jaeger at 503-366-4100.

Policy Updates-The Board was presented with updates to several current policies. A committee reviewed and recommended changes to policies involving Layoff/Recall, Compulsory Attendance, Hazing/Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying/Menacing/Cyberbullying/Teen Dating Violence, Reporting of Suspected Abuse of a Child, Reporting Requirements Regarding Sexual Conduct with Students, Education Records/Records of Students with Disabilities, Directory Information, Personally Identifiable Information, and Public Charter Schools.

Superintendent Report-Superintendent Cox reported that after much consideration he is recommending that the School District should not pursue the purchase of the old middle school building. Cox had been looking into deconstructing the building and moving it to the new campus. The new campus does not have a shop facility at this time. The building is currently owned by the demolition company.

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