

Vernonia School Board Report

At the January 10, 2013 Vernonia School board Meeting:

Reports-Students from the middle school Leadership Class gave reports on current activities including updates on what students are studying, sports team updates, fundraising for the Close-Up trip to Washington D.C., and five students who participated in the District Honor Band concert. Alexis Baska from the high school informed the Board that students completed their Senior Project speeches, students are excited about the upcoming Winter Formal, updated the Board on winter sports, told the Board that several students recently became trained in Assist Suicide Prevention, and that the Leadership Class is working to name the wetlands.

Superintendent's Report-Superintendent Ken Cox updated the Board on several items including: building security, the delay of the construction of the greenhouse, the demolition of the old

school campus, and the New Spencer Park construction.

Public Behavior Intervention and Support Update-Eric Urban and Jan Dyer gave a report on the Public Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) program which is being used to document disciplinary concerns in the district. The PBIS team has created an outline of expectations, simplified reporting documents, and created opportunities for communication and support for staff and students. Urban reported that both minor and major discipline infractions have significantly decreased for elementary, middle and high school students since a new positive behavior support program has been put in place. Dyer explained the program elements and some of the rewards that have been successful in promoting positive behavior.

School Based Health Center Opens-Sherrie Ford from the Public Health Foundation of Columbia County an-

nounced that the School Based Health Center would be opening the following day. The center has a name, "Spencer Health and Wellness." Ford introduced Tera Roberts who will be the health care provider at the clinic. The clinic will have a soft opening as they get ready to see patients. The clinic will be open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 7:30 AM to 1:30 PM and can accept appointments or walk-ins.

Board Approves Extension of Shop Program-The Board voted to approve the extension of the high school shop program, which was only funded through the end of the semester. Shop students will work on several projects around the new campus including installation of insulation in an outbuilding, construction of a greenhouse and installation of storage dividers in the gymnasium. According to Superintendent Ken Cox, cost to extend the program will be \$15,000.

Board Declares Surplus Items-The

Board voted to declare a generator and trailer, as well as several old fire extinguishers as surplus which could be donated or sold.

Board Approves Updated Policy-The Board approved updates to numerous District policies. The Board also approved a resolution which authorized the NWRES Local Service plan for 2013-14.

Board Recesses to Executive Session-The Board recessed their regular meeting and entered into Executive Session under ORS 192.660 (2)(b) "To consider the dismissal of or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against a public officer, employee, staff member or agent..." and also under OSR 192.660 (2)(a) "To consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent." When the Board returned to open session they announced no further information and adjourned the meeting.

Schools Update

By Dr. Ken Cox

As you may have noticed the walls of WGS are coming down. We have made arrangements with the demolition contractor, Custom Excavating, to have some bricks from WGS made available to the public. We would like to note however that these bricks are being made available as memorabilia not for individuals to take a pickup load for landfill. We are working out the details on how to make this work. For more information please stop by the worksite at 4 PM to talk to Jason the site foreman or call the district office at 503-429-5891.

Another concern that has come up is the theft that has been occurring on the site. The demolition company was waiting until they had a lift to remove the main chandelier in the front of WGS. Unfortunately, someone has come in through the fencing and stolen it. They have had to lock up their tools more securely as well. Custom Excavating is counting on the resale/recycle value of much of what they are taking down from the buildings and removing anything from the site without permission is stealing. And the amount of this type of petty thievery that has gone on has not given a very good impression of our community. If you are aware of anything that has been taken from the site please contact Alex Raichl at (503) 861-6030.

VHS Winter Sports Report *continued from page 10*

injury. Wolf was winning his match at the time.

The Loggers also had a decent showing at the Pac Rim Tournament, which coach Barnes describes as the "toughest tournament on the schedule" Dawson Shay finished fourth at 182, winning three matches, two by decision and one by technical fall, 17-2. Zane Green placed sixth for the Loggers at 152, winning two of his matches by technical fall and one by pin.

The Loggers participated in the Oregon Classic during the weekend of January 18-19, winning their first round dual meet against Grant Union 54-21. All the Loggers wins in the match were by pin. The Loggers lost a heart-breaker in the second round, losing to Oakridge 33-32.

Boys Basketball-Coach David Weller and his Loggers are struggling to find their rhythm this season. The Vernonia Boys are in jeopardy of finding themselves left out of post season play after losing their third of four league games, a 43-34 loss to Gaston on January 18.

Against Gaston, the Loggers struggled most of the evening. After trailing the Greyhounds the entire game and scoring only 10



Austin Cutright has been a bright spot for the VHS Loggers this season. Photo courtesy of Tracy Easlon.

points in the first half, the Loggers battled back to pull within one point in the fourth quarter, but Gaston held on and pulled away down the stretch. The Loggers struggled to hit the net from the outside all evening and seemed impatient when they had the ball, often taking ill-advised and off balanced shots.

The Loggers lost previous games to Riverdale 49-41 and Portland Christian 47-35 and defeated Faith Bible 43-37.

The Loggers now find themselves in fifth place with a 5-4 league record in a pretty balanced Northwest League.

The Loggers had an important home game scheduled against Delphian on January 21 followed by key away games at Delphian and Knappa. The Loggers will play at home against Faith Bible on February 1 and Riverdale on February 2.

Vernonia's Voice is changing publication dates!

Starting in February we will publish twice each month
on the **1st and 3rd Thursday.**
Our next issues will be February 7 & 21.

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