

Schools Update: State Standards

By Aaron Miller

Each year school districts are required to report to their communities on whether or not their academic programs are meeting state law. Division 22 standards are a part of Oregon Administrative Rules (Chapter 581, Division 22) that dictate areas of compliance with a wide variety of these state standards. A report on the Vernonia School District's compliance with these standards was shared at its last Board Meeting on Thursday, January 8.

These standards include such areas as providing Career Education, assuring that all coaches have concussion training, having district curriculum that is aligned with Common Core State Standards, reporting on the size of our physical education facilities, and assuring that Equal Educational Opportunities are available for all students.

The Vernonia School District is currently meeting 54 of the 55 required Division 22 Standards. The one standard not being met is the requirement for providing 990 hours of Instructional Time for students in grades 9-12. Vernonia High School students are just shy of that amount at 976 hours of instruction. This deficiency will be reported to the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) in February, along with a plan to eliminate this deficiency. Three extra days of school were added to this year's instructional calendar to increase instructional time at all schools, and 2-3 more instructional days will be added to next year's calendar to ensure the district meets this standard.

Review of these standards also revealed a need to revise District Complaint Procedures. While our District policy met state requirements, there were three elements not in place for how administration implemented that policy. The changes included:

- When a decision is necessary, and made, by the Board in a complaint proceeding that decision becomes the final decision of the District.
- Any decision made by the Board in a complaint proceeding will be shared with the complainant in writing.
- The ability to appeal Board decisions on complaint proceedings to the ODE will be shared with all complainants.

Reviewing and reporting on these standards is a district requirement, but is also a good way to help evaluate where we are as a district. There are always areas for improvement, and our staff works on many of those areas every day, but overall we are meeting basic state requirements to help ensure we as a district are meeting the educational needs of our students.

VHS Hall of Fame Nominations

- Patrick Curl, 1975
- Dean Bernardi, 1978
- Travis Gwin, 2005
- Joreigh Landers, 2007
- The 1976-77 Cross Country Team

Categories for selection

Group one: Older athletes-those nominees that have graduated from Vernonia High School prior to ten years ago.

Group two: Modern Day athletes-those athletes that have graduated from Vernonia High School at least five years previously but not more than ten years.

Community members: Those members of the Vernonia Community that have, over time, exhibited by their volunteerism, dedication to Vernonia Athletics, and contributions to Vernonia Athletics, going beyond the normal realm of what is expected for individuals to contribute.

Criteria for selection

1. *Team Sports:* Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Baseball and Softball. The inductee must meet the following criteria.

- a. The inductee must have graduated from Vernonia High School.
- b. The candidate must have been out of school for at least five years before being inducted.

c. The athlete must have been selected as an all-state athlete on the first or second teams or must have been selected to play in the East West shrine football game, the state all-star basketball series or in the state all-star baseball/softball series.

2. *Individual Sports:* Cross Country, Wrestling, Track and Field, Equestrian, Golf. The inductee must meet the following criteria.

- a. Place first or second in the OSAA

sponsored state meet for their sport or,

b. Place first or second in the OHSET state meets or,

c. Place in the top three in the state Freestyle or Greco Roman wrestling meet or

d. Be selected to the Oregon Coaches Cultural exchange wrestling team.

Process for selection

Nominees are to be submitted to the Vernonia High School Athletic Director in writing with verifiable qualifications to be considered for induction into the Vernonia High School Athletic Hall of Fame. The athletic director will compile all nominations and present them to the selection committee for consideration. After the selection committee has reviewed all nominations they will determine the number and names of those to be selected to enter the VHS Hall of Fame. That number is not to exceed six individuals and one team per year.

Selection Committee

The selection committee shall be made up of the following people:

- The Athletic Director,
- The High School principal or his designee,
- The president of the Vernonia Boosters or their designee,
- Two community members/ volunteers.

Induction Ceremony

After the selections to the Vernonia High School Athletic Hall of Fame have been made, an induction ceremony will be held. The athletic director will contact the inductees and inform them of their selection and invite them to participate in the ceremony.

Pictures of each inductee will be taken

continued from front page

for placement on the Hall of Fame Wall, and commemorative wall plaques will be provided for the inductees. The ceremony will be held away from the school site and will include a ceremonial dinner.

Vernonia's Voice is published twice each month on the 1st and 3rd Thursday. Our next issue will be out February 5th.

Vernonia School District Volunteer of the Month December 2014

Rose Vasquez



Vernonia School District's Volunteer for the month of December is Rose Vasquez. Rose and her family are new to our community and immediately got involved with volunteering in the community and the school. Rose volunteers on a weekly basis in Ms. Fry, Mrs. Hayes and Mrs. Murphy-Shaw's classrooms. Rose has also started up the new Lego Club for the elementary kids. This is a fun, hands-on after school activity for the younger kids. With a turn-out of 36 kids, it's a great way to stimulate their brains and keep their busy hands

moving. The Vernonia School District greatly appreciates all the time that Rose has put in and continues to give to our students. Both the students and teachers are fortunate to have a volunteer like her! Thank you, Rose!

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