

Schools Update Summer Learning Opportunities

By Principal Michelle Eagleson
and Principal Nate Underwood

Summer Reading Camp and Enrichment Camps for elementary students took place June 21-July 2 and will again be held August 16-20.

Students were invited to the summer reading camp on June 21-July 2 to work on unfinished learning from the 2020-21 school year, with students focused on phonics and decoding skills not yet mastered.

Our enrichment camps are happening from 12:00-2:00 pm. They are open for any students that completed K-5 during the 2020-21 school year.

Session 1: June 21-June 25 was Science camp. Mrs. Schwartz taught students about the sun. Using the scientific method students explored the sun's heat through a variety of hands-on experiments, culminating in a solar oven to cook s'mores.

Session 2: June 28-July 2 was Art Camp. Mrs. Kintz and Ms. Wilson taught students about Jackson Pollock, an artist who used a stick as his paintbrush to create his works of art. Students created collages, watercolor painting, tie-dye, and rock art.

Session 3: August 16-20 will be another Art Camp with different activities with Mrs. Kintz.

Summer School opportunities for middle and high school are available August 2-27. Letters have been mailed home to students that have some "unfinished" learning from the past year. Focus will be on English and Mathematics, credit recovery, and enrichment. The second week we are looking to partner with Oregon Children's Theatre to offer an interactive experience for middle school (details still pending). The last week of August all incoming 9th graders are invited to Freshmen Orientation Week. This

"Booster Week" will focus on High School Readiness, 9th Grade On Track, AVID, and SEL team building

Summer School will run Monday-Friday from 9:00 am-1:00 pm, with food provided.

Even if students do not receive required attendance letter, they are encouraged to participate to enhance their academic skills. Email Nate Underwood at nunderwood@vernoniak12.org with questions.

Vernonia School Board Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 8, at 6:00 pm. Please check the District's website for updates/changes: www.vernonia.k12.or.us

Salem Report

By Representative Brad Witt



As I write this, the 81st Oregon Legislative Assembly was wrapping up the 2021 Regular Session. When Oregon voters approved annual sessions in 2010, the maximum length of sessions during odd numbered years was set at 160 days. That constitutional deadline this session was June 27, so there was a final push to get bills considered and approved or rejected. If a bill did not gain approval in both the House and Senate, as well as receiving the Governor's signature, it fails to become law. In future legislative sessions the concept can be reintroduced, but it will be assigned a new bill number and have to start the entire process from the beginning.

I want to talk about some legislation pertaining to our justice system. HB 2738 supplies funding and requires the Department of Administrative Services to contract with a nongovernmental statewide coordinating entity to oversee the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) volunteer programs and services. CASAs are specially trained volunteers appointed by courts to advocate for the best interest of

children. The Oregon CASA Network supports 22 local CASA volunteer programs. CASA volunteers are paired with a foster child, and studies have found that child is more likely to find a safe, permanent home, perform better academically, have fewer behavioral issues, and tends to have a better future. I was proud to add my name as a sponsor of this bill that had bipartisan support in both the House and Senate. HB 2738 received a unanimous vote in the House and was approved in the Senate by a 23-6 vote, and was sent on to the Governor's desk.

SB 278 prevents evictions for people who are in line for rental assistance while their applications are pending. According to a U.S. Census Bureau recent household survey, 19 percent of Oregon renters reported little or no confidence they would be able to pay July's rent, and 64 percent of Oregon renters surveyed said they were very or somewhat likely to be evicted in the next two months due to non-payment of rent.

I supported SB 278 because it had an important provision to make landlords whole while at the same time protecting many tenants from becoming homeless. The Oregon Housing and Community Services is directed to reimburse landlords participating in the

Landlord Compensation Fund for the 20 percent of past-due rent that was forgiven, and to compensate new qualifying applicants for 100 percent of past-due rent. The bill passed unanimously in the House and with a 27-2 vote in the Senate. It now goes to the Governor's desk.

Due to problems relating to the pandemic, the U.S. Census population numbers, needed for redrawing our legislative districts, were delayed. Normally, we would have taken up redistricting during this session. Instead, we will now need a Special Session to deal with redistricting, and that is tentatively scheduled to begin September 20, 2021. Pursuant to SB 259 the deadline for legislators to submit a redistricting plan is September 27, 2021.

If you have concerns or comment about a state issue, agency, or proposed legislation, please contact my office. It is my privilege to represent you in the House of Representatives.

Email: Rep.BradWitt@oregonlegislature.gov
Phone: (503) 986-1431
Address: 900 Court St. NE, H-382, Salem, OR, 97301
Website: <http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/witt>

VHS Sports Report

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Girls Basketball – The Lady Loggers, head coached by Jim Krahn and Teresa Williams, finished their regular season undefeated with a 9-0 record in a COVID shortened season.

Vernonia closed out the season with a big 59-9 win over Gaston on June 16 before besting Nestucca 41-33 on June 18.

The Lady Loggers qualified for a non-sanctioned State Tournament, where they fell in their opening game to Hepner, 44-43 on June 21.

"We lost with just 1.8 seconds left in the game," said Krahn about the playoff loss. "Our girls played well and we were two evenly matched teams."

"We had a really good year," said Krahn. "We were limited in players and just didn't have the depth this season. But the girls were really supportive of each other. They really stuck together, encouraged each other, and tried their best. Finishing league play undefeated is a real accomplishment and I'm real proud of them."

Following the end of the season, junior Brooklyn Walters was voted Northwest League Player of the Year, and senior Jayden Hartman finished second in the voting: both were named First Team All League and Hartman was voted Defensive Player of the Year. Junior Audrey Hill was named Second Team All League and sophomore Kortnie Adams received Honorable Mention.



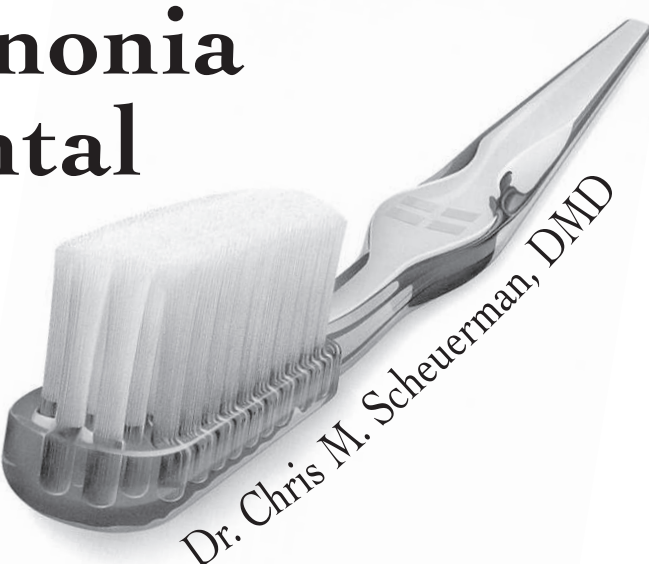
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