

509-J Schools in Action!

www.jcsd.k12.or.us



EVERY 15 MINUTES

Working together to save lives

Every 15 minutes, someone dies as the result of an alcohol-related collision in the United States. In Jefferson County, students, staff and community members are trying to change that through a program called Every 15 Minutes. The program is designed to dramatically instill teenagers with the potentially dangerous consequences of drinking alcohol and texting while driving. Every 15 minutes was led by Senior Trooper Clint Prevett in partnership with MHS Principal Sarah Braman-Smith, MHS Activities Director Shawna McConnell and Athletic Director Evan Brown.

"Every 15 Minutes offers real-life experience without the real-life risks," said McConnell. "Our goal is to challenge students to think about drinking, texting while driving, personal safety, and the responsibility of making mature decisions when lives are involved."

Support from the community

During the week of April 20th, the entire Jefferson County community came together to support the Every 15 Minutes program activities. Generous funding provided by local businesses and community members along with



hands-on participation from MHS staff, police officers, fire fighters, EMS technicians, funeral home personnel and a local video crew, made it all possible.

"We wanted to utilize the strength, talent and resources of business and industry to prevent drunk driving and texting while driving and everyone really stepped up," said McConnell.

Grim Reaper visits MHS

During the first day of week-long activities, 10 law enforcement officers from OR State Troopers and the County Sheriff's office spoke with small groups of juniors and seniors about the risks and statistics revolving around impaired driving. During those sessions, 25 pre-selected students were "tapped out" by the Grim Reaper and quarantined for the next 24-hours away from friends, families and any kind of cell phone or communication with the outside world. They were made up like little reapers to represent someone killed in an alcohol-related accident. They made their own tombstones

"Every 15 Minutes reminds you what can happen everyday. It shows us how the decisions you make go way beyond the moment that you make them in."

— Bryce Williams, MHS Senior

JCSD Alumni: Where are they now?

Do you know a JCSD alumni who has moved on to college and/or career success? We are looking to feature our graduates in future *Schools in Action* updates. If you know of a former student, drop a note and photo to Superintendent Rick Molitor: rmolitor@509j.net.



"I definitely felt like the interactions with the police officers the day before played out really well. There were a lot of good discussions on impaired driving. The officers were able to share personal experiences with us."

— Charles Young, MHS Junior



A vehicle accident reenactment involving some of the "walking dead" students took place the following day.

and went back to class as the "walking dead". Those students then committed to not speaking the rest of the day.

A traffic collision on MHS grounds

A vehicle accident reenactment involving some of the "walking dead" students took place the following day. Local law enforcement, fire and paramedic teams worked on-site while video crews captured the scene.

"This activity exposed students to the experience of being involved in a tragic, alcohol-related driving collision," explained McConnell who added that the reenactment included fatalities, a jaws-of-life rescue, a police investigation and the arrest of a student "drunk driver".

Other interactive exercises during the week involved impairment goggles that help students understand the dangers of impaired driving without actually using alcohol or drugs of any type. Two sets of parents also volunteered to participate, allowing local sheriff's officers to show up at their homes with simulated "death notices." The parents came to speak about their experiences at an assembly the following day.

For more information about Every 15 Minutes, contact Madras High School at (541) 475-7265.

A note of thanks to Jefferson County Partners

The following businesses, organizations and individuals made Every 15 Minutes possible:

BUSINESSES:

ACE Hardware
Snow's Cleaners
California Costume Company
Figaro's Pizza
Opal Day Spa
Apex
Belair Funeral Home
Ender's Towing
Ira's Towing

ORGANIZATIONS:

Madras Buff Boosters
Kids Club
JCSD Maintenance Dept.
City of Madras Public Works
Jefferson Co. Fire
Jefferson Co. EMS
Jefferson Co. Sheriff's Dept
OR State Troopers
Madras City Police
Local Dispatch
McDonalds

INDIVIDUALS:

Mike & Shonagh Preston
Sarah Braman-Smith
Evan Brown
Laura Rehwinkel
Dan Farrester
Joe McHane
Sam Scheideman
Patrecia Smith
Zach Lillebo
Ben & Kristin Hocker
Jose & Nora Adame
MHS Leadership Students



MHS hosts first track meet in seven years

Thanks to Jefferson County voters who approved the last school bond, Madras High School hosted its first track meet in seven years. The new athletic complex, completed this year, has changed the game for the high school track team.



"We had our first track meet on our new track last month and it went great thanks to all the volunteers that helped us."

— MHS Coach Paul Brown



According to Track Coach Paul Brown, the former athletic field and track were in such disrepair that it was unsafe to practice and hold meets.

"Our team is starting to take shape and we are excited about hosting Districts this year," Brown said.



Visit the District website at jcsd.k12.or.us

Calendar

- April**
29 District Wide Early Release
- May**
11 School Board Meeting: 7 p.m.
13 2-hour Early Release
25 No School: Memorial Day
- June**
3 2-hour Early Release
6 MHS Graduation at the New Athletic Stadium: 2 p.m.
11 Last Day of School: (1/2 day for students)