



JCSD Superintendent Ken Parshall shares a laugh with a student while visiting a classroom at JCMS.

## A Message from Superintendent Ken Parshall

### JCSD students are making progress

As we approach the holidays, I'd like to share my appreciation for our teachers and staff who work hard every day to put students first and make our schools welcoming places to learn and grow. Thanks to their efforts over the past several years, our students are making progress.

### Families are engaged

There are many parents and family members who support our schools in many ways. Their involvement makes a huge difference for students, teachers and staff. Last month, we recognized five incredible parents who have volunteered their time and expertise to support our district's Family University by teaching Spanish Literacy so that our students can learn to read in Spanish. Please join me in thanking the following JCSD parents for creating Mi Clase de Lectura en Español (My Spanish Reading Class) and their commitment to our kids: Joaquina Ines Rodriguez, Adriana Arizmendi, Maricruz Valdovinos, Rosalia Cabral and Alma Hernandez.

### Students are engaged

Last month, I visited Metolius Elementary and saw our teachers planning for students to lead parent conferences. I am excited that our students had this opportunity to present their learning goals while sharing progress and struggles with parents. I think it made a big impression on parents and also helped the kids learn leadership skills.

Happy Holidays to our JCSD families and friends. We are proud to be your school district and your partner in education. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with me or any of our administrators and staff if you have questions. We look forward to hearing from you.

Ken Parshall  
Superintendent



6th graders removing fuel tank on Briggs & Stratton engine during CTE class at JCMS.

## Getting ready for the workforce starts in middle school

For many students, high school is the time to start thinking about future careers. But at Jefferson County Middle School, students get to start exploring their interests and skills as early as 7th grade with help from teacher John Campbell. Campbell is the National FFA Organization advisor and Career and Technical Education educator at JCMS and he's helping to prepare students for the Madras High School CTE program.

"We work very closely with the CTE program at Madras High to make sure our teaching is aligned," said Campbell. "We want our kids to enter high school with the basic skills and knowledge they need to be successful in the upper grade CTE program. We're working together to help ensure that they are leaving high school ready to launch into careers."

Thanks to a grant from Oregon State University and community fundraising efforts, Campbell joined JCSD last year to teach basic trade skills. From using hand tools to learning animal science, JCMS students get hands-on experience and participate in statewide career development experiences, including the Oregon State FFA convention held at the Deschutes County Fairgrounds in Redmond.

According to Campbell, JCMS is the only middle school in Oregon to offer a Discovery FFA program.

"This administration has vision and that's why we're able to get kids thinking about careers early on," said Campbell.



JCMS FFA members soil judging in pit at State CDE (Career Development Experience) in Hood River Oregon.



## Metolius Elementary families gather for holiday fun

Over 380 people gathered at Metolius Elementary for a fun, family-oriented event called Title 1 Night. Families, teachers, staff, and local community members were able to enjoy a variety of activities, such as making holiday crafts, decorating sugar cookies, and reading/listening to holiday books. The event was free, but items were available for purchase, and the school's book fair was in full swing.

"It's important to bring parents and families into our school. It helps us connect and builds a feeling of community," said Annette Montee, Title 1 reading teacher for Metolius Elementary. "People seemed to really enjoy visiting with their friends, family and the teaching staff. There were 15 of our school staff that helped with the evening event."

### 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, contact the District office at (541) 475-6192.

Visit the District website at [jcsd.k12.or.us](http://jcsd.k12.or.us)



Music teacher Cassy Pinard (left) poses with Warm Springs K8 Academy student Pricilla Villagomez (right) who was accepted to the Middle School All-State Choir in January!

### Calendar

#### January

- 8 School Board Meeting / 7 pm
- 15 No School / Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 22 School Board Meeting / 7 pm
- 25 Last Day of 2nd Quarter
- 26 No School / End of Quarter Teacher Quarter
- 29 No School / In-service Day

**December 21, 2017 through January 2, 2018**  
No School  
Winter Break

## Buff Elementary parents host Breakfast with Santa

Over 300 people in attendance with \$1,500 raised for the school!



*"We had donations from within our community as well as surrounding areas. It was a fun event and we have gotten lots of positive feedback"*

— Billie White, Buff Elementary Principal

### PAC Calendar

#### December

- 24 Living Hope Christian Center Xmas Eve Service 10am - Noon