



# School Zone

April 27, 2016

A monthly newsletter covering Cottage Grove- area schools

## Dorena receives Excellence in Public Health award

On Thursday, April 7, Lane County Commissioner Faye Stewart presented Dorena School with Excellence in Public Health Award. At the ceremony, Stewart said that Dorena School is an organization that embodies a terrific commitment to prevention.

Dorena School has shown exemplary Excellence in Public Health by fully embracing the PAX Good Behavior Game. Dorena is typically the first school to submit all of its data. The school has also embraced the PAX messages throughout the school with posters and pictures. It not only uses PAX but has implemented Coordinated Approach To Child Health (CATCH), a childhood nutrition and physical activity process and program. The program includes classroom learning and the process involves culture change. Dorena is changing the culture at the school. Students

know Go, Slow and Whoa foods and the staff are role models for the program. Other award winners included, Food for Lane County, Dr. Richard Brunader of U of O, University of Oregon Health Center Staff, Daisy Chain and COAD.

Teachers at Dorena have committed 100 percent to the CATCH and PAX programs. Dorena School's PE teacher, Val Rocco, reported that since she has implemented CATCH, students come to school on Mondays ready to share their stories about the physical activities that they did with family and friends. At recess virtually every morning a group of students can be found enjoying jump roping, something we never saw students do before.

Second/third grade teacher Jovana Munson noted that students used what they learn throughout their day and at home. One day she overheard students talk-



courtesy photo

Teacher David Ghelfi accepts the Excellence in Public Health Award from East Lane County Commissioner Faye Stewart.

ing. A student, after noting his breakfast had too much sugar, reported that his milk had 10 grams of sugar, 15 in his cereal, and another 10 grams in his juice. She was very proud that he had been taking her nutrition lessons so seriously.

Another teacher, David Ghelfi (in picture with Faye Stewart), noted that kids who were rarely active are now playing organized sports at recess. They are not only reinforcing the skills

that they learned in PE, but they are also learning teamwork and leadership skills that will help them throughout life. Students are even charged with getting their families active too. They have earned prizes for using a cardio journal that encourages family activities. Dorena School will host a Health Fair on Friday, May 13 at 5:30 p.m.

## Grants for children's dental health approved

The Oregon Community Foundation (OCF), The Collins Foundation, The Ford Family Foundation, Kaiser Permanente, Meyer Memorial Trust, Northwest Health Foundation, Providence Health & Services and Adec announce a second year of grant awards to 14 organizations throughout Oregon that are working to prevent children's dental disease.

Grant recipients include South Lane Children's Dental Clinic in Cottage Grove and Mercy Foundation in Douglas County.

The grants will support comprehensive school-based dental programs, including existing programs and programs that are expected to launch in fall 2016 after a planning grant period. Over \$3 million is dedicated to support these programs through 2020. \$771,900 has been awarded for year two.

"Oregon has one of the highest rates of childhood dental disease, but it is preventable," said Max Williams, OCF President and CEO. "Together, with our funding partners, grantees, local dental professionals and schools, we are demonstrating how dental education and prevention services can be delivered in school settings to improve oral health."

Grant recipients will provide services to elementary and middle school students including oral health screenings, sealants, fluoride varnish, oral health education, dental kits, and coordinating with local providers for access to treatment when needed. The programs are actively building partnerships with their local Coordinated Care Organization and dental care organizations.



courtesy photo

Latham School is very fortunate this year to have a parent volunteer who has taken charge of its garden. Blueberry bushes have been planted and seeds are going into the ground. One class has painted ladybug rocks along with their bed. On some days, students can visit the garden during their recess. Each class is looking forward to a fruitful harvest in the fall.

## News from Latham School:



courtesy photo

Latham students were able to learn to tie-dye in one of four after-school clubs overseen by local volunteers and staff.

### After-school clubs

For April, Latham offered four different clubs (parents, teachers, and community members generously donated their time): Clay, Part 2 Tie-Dyeing Paper Mache Garden Club

Coming in May... Paper (Mache Part 2), Zumba, Running Club (preparation for Lap-a-thon), Chess, Crafts, Jewelry/Beading.

We appreciate our volunteers and staff who can make this program possible!

### Latham Penny War

From April 4-7, Latham held its second annual Penny War to raise money for the Lion King Pageant. Students were treated to an assembly at which high school pageant participants spoke about the fundraiser. Student Council members gave up their lunch time to create posters to encourage students and staff to contribute to this worthy cause. The war was "fierce" and Latham ended up raising \$113 more than last year! The kindergarten class won the "war" by ending with a \$28.90 balance. Although second grade ended up with a -\$99.43 balance, the class raised \$249.97!



Latham students raised \$113 more than last year in their Penny War.

### Sail Around the World - Reading Race

April 1 was the end of the school's reading race that coincided with the Bikes for Books drawing that is sponsored by the Cottage Grove Masonic Lodge. Students that met classroom goals not only were entered into the drawing for a bike, they also were invited to one of two pizza parties and an ice cream party sponsored by Mrs. Fisk.

### Eugene Emeralds Reading Challenge

Sluggo's Home Run Reading Challenge, presented by Northwest Community Credit Union, is a fun way to get the students at Latham excited about reading, and give them a chance to receive TWO FREE TICKETS to an Emeralds game!

### Grandparent's Day at Latham

On April 13, Latham held its annual Grandparent's Day. Grandparents were treated to a lunch of pulled pork and a school-wide program presented by music instructor Stacy Atwell-Keister. The program was entitled, "Dr. Who Meets America" and included speaking and singing.

## Lincoln students eye improvement as year winds down

Lincoln Middle School students are in their final trimester. Summer beckons, but there is much to celebrate before the school year ends in June. Lincoln's focus on learning and academic progress has resulted in a great cause for celebration. Last trimester, Lincoln students had a huge reduction in the amount of Fs on their final report cards. In fact, LMS students recorded the fewest Fs on report cards in the last five years!

Lincoln Principal Jeremy Smith praised students for their improvement and added that, "our Flex period allows kids to get extra help and to catch up on

classwork. Students and teachers are working hard for these good results, and it shows!"

Students at LMS were recognized on several honor rolls at the end of second trimester. The Principal's list (4.0 GPA) recognized 23 students with straight As. The Honor roll (3.5 to 3.99 GPA) included 123 students. The Honorable Mention honor roll (3.0 to 3.49) was awarded to an additional 166 students. Finally, Lincoln's Academic Improvement honor roll recognized 54 students whose GPAs increased by .45 or more from first trimester to second trimester.



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