

Ione students visit Body World 3 in Portland

On September 22 and 23, 14 students from Ione's sophomore health class, took a field trip to Portland to visit the exhibit, Body World 3, showing at OMSI. While there they also went to the Omnimax Theater to watch "The Human Body."

The students were allowed to explore the Exhibit absorbing all of the different aspects of the human body. Some, like Tyree Svetich, thought the exhibit was "gross, knowing that they were real people" while others thought it was "pretty interesting." Matt Hams thought that "seeing the Camel display was pretty cool." Eric Jepsen commented "This was a chance in a life time."

On Sunday morning dressed in their bright pink shirts, the students boarded the bus by 7:30am, and headed to Tom McCall Water Front Park, in downtown Portland. There they



Ione Community School sophomores pause for a group photo during their Portland field trip.

walked three miles, along with 47,000 other walkers in the Susan G Komen Breast Cancer "Race for the Cure".

Mr. Schaber commented that "most of the kids were amazed at how many people came to support the cause." RJ Ramos said "I thought the walk was the best. It was fun and amazing to see all those people in one place at the same time. It was pretty

overwhelming."

The class is appreciative to the Ione Education Foundation and Doctor Cummins from Portland State University, for providing the majority of the funding for the trip through grants.

They also appreciate Morrow County Grain Growers for providing the students with a fund raiser to help raise the final funds needed for the trip.

Ione students host guest speaker

Erin Heideman's personal finance and management class at Ione Community School hosted Anita Orem, Operations Support person for the Bank of Eastern Oregon in Ione, as a guest speaker in their class on Monday, October 15.

During Orem's presentation she talked about banking, budgeting and how to save money for retirement. Students also had the opportunity to review an actual budgeting worksheet used by the bank and the

journey of a check through the money system.

Abby Arnsperger, a senior, said "I really appreciated the time Mrs. Orem took to speak to our class. I learned a lot about the banking system and identity theft in addition to how to save my money and how to make more responsible decisions regarding my money."

Students in the personal finance and management class are getting a crash course in a variety of subjects including the in-

vestments, banking, credit, insurance and a variety of other units.

Anyone interested in offering a field trip opportunity or being a guest speaker are welcomed anytime.

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Get with the program

By Daye Stone, HHS Principal

In my years as a football, basketball, and track coach- I used to use the words "get with the program", "buck up", or "get it done" all of the time in motivating my athletes toward a desired goal. I always had the best in mind and demanded that it was evident in the way I coached and communicated as a person that had influence with young people. I remember a time in a college football game where these same words were directed at me by my coach that I was not doing the job and letting down our offense and team. I came quickly to realize what it was that my teammates and my coaches needed from me and reacted promptly as to my needed improvement. This same paradigm is evident to the here and now as your high school Principal and now is the time to "Get with the Program."

We have a quality school that is doing well in all aspects of educating the kids of our community. This summer, I spent some time contemplating how to improve our already good programs and I have come to the conclusion that there really is a difference in being good and being great. Our administrative team is reading a book right now titled- "Good to Great," by Jim Collins. The book is written with the premise that the greatest evil to great is

being good. I have always wanted to be the best in whatever I do as a husband, as a father, as a coach, and now as a Principal- and these words by Collins really for whatever reason have sunk in and challenged me to lead with more conviction concerning challenging the status quo.

This brings me to the "plan". First of all, it is important for everyone to know that we have the most amazing and committed staff at HHS. In fact, they are the most talented group that I have collectively EVER worked with. When discussing the "plan" as a staff- it was evident that they all thought this "Get with the Program" was the right direction for our school.

So what is the program? I am referring to AP or Advanced Placement. AP is governed by the College Board which is a not-for-profit membership association whose mission is to connect students to college success and opportunity. The association consists of approximately 4,500 schools, college, universities, and other educational organizations. Every year, the College Board serves over 3 million students and their parents with college guidance, assessment, financial aid, and enrollment. Some of the best programs they hold accountable include the SAT, the PSAT/NMSQT, and Advanced

Placement. Specifically, we offer the SAT and PSAT here at school as a service to our students and their parents. We have in the past offered some AP classes on a limited basis, but not to the extent of what our vision has become now. My staff and I have the belief we need to take the next step of "Getting with the Program" and develop classes as our staffing and scheduling allows.

In a nutshell, HHS is working extremely hard in developing for all students the opportunity to excel with a more rigorous curriculum that demonstrates progress through struggle. This means that curriculum will govern a student's success and not necessarily a grade. With this in mind, parents and students will have to value the curriculum exposure for what it is and not weigh the success of taking an advanced class solely on a grade. This is a shift in the way we have traditionally looked at education and student success. Gone is the day where colleges strictly look at GPA. They look at classes taken, especially AP designated classes. They look at activities, how many and what. They look at letters of recommendation and from whom. They look at test scores which may include state assessments. They even look at family support and encouragement that could wage preemptive success. Today, colleges will look at whatever means possible in trying to determine whether a student will make a difference or not.

The College Board offers 38 different courses and exams. Of course, we will have to pick the ones that meet our district goals and mesh with our staffing and schedule, but in the end- we are hoping to offer a great cross section of classes that meet the needs of both our students and community. Currently, we are working on certification with the College Board on 6 different offerings over a two year schedule. We would like to develop and expand our AP program as more opportunities present themselves.

Luck is a matter of preparation meeting opportunity! We will continue to work on the preparation of our community's youth by creating more of these types of offerings at HHS for all students. If a student isn't planning on going to college, the AP track could still be utilized for that student. AP teaches the value of small successes, life skills combined with problem solving, and that competition and victory within a global economy can be achieved. It is our hope that conversations of rigor and curricular substance that go beyond the norm can be referenced by everybody as being "great". We have taken the stance as a school and staff that failure is not an option if effort is the catalyst to learning with AP curriculum. Our teachers understand that the bar must be set high for their students to meet challenges that are worth noting. "Get with the Program" merely means that HHS is moving from "Good to Great" by turning the wheel enough to see where we have been so we can better navigate the waters as the river changes.

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