

HEPPNER

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County school district approves 'achievement compact'

By April Sykes

The Morrow County School District Board approved the district's state achievement compact at their regular meeting at Windy River Elementary School Monday night.

According to the district, "Achievement Compacts are two-way partnership agreements between the Oregon Education Investment Board and every kindergarten-12th grade school district, education service district, community college, the university system and individual university, and Oregon Health Sciences University.

"Each K-12 school district's achievement compact will include a comparison of the funding it receives from the state versus the

funding required for 90 percent of students to reach state standards (as defined by the quality education goals of ORS 327.056)," said the district.

According to MCSD, Governor Kitzhaber has said numerous times that education is underfunded at all levels and it will take additional monies for Oregon to meet its 40/40/20 goals. They said that in December the government will propose a 2015-17 budget that "will take the next step in outcomes based investment."

The 40/40/20 goal is that 40 percent of Oregon high school graduates will go on to receive a bachelor's degree, 40 percent will go on to receive an associate's degree and 20

percent will graduate from high school "college or career ready."

According to the district's 2014-15 achievement compact, using the figures for 2008-09, 76.3 percent of students graduated in four years, 82.5 percent graduated in five years and 47.4 percent enrolled in post-secondary education. For disadvantaged students in that time period (2008-09), 74.8 percent graduated in four years, 81.6 percent in five years and 43 percent enrolled in post-secondary education.

For 2009-10, 71.4 percent of students graduated in four years and 68 percent of disadvantaged students graduated in four years. No other data was available. MCSD's goal for the 2011-12 year is that 77.4 percent graduate in four years, 21 percent enroll in college level courses and 56.4 percent enroll in post-secondary education. The goal for disadvantaged students for the 2011-12 year is that 74 percent graduate in four years, 13 percent enroll in college level courses and 52 percent enroll in post-secondary education.

Also evaluated was data indicating that "students were making sufficient progress toward college and career readiness." According to that data for 2011, 73.5 percent of all MCSD third-grade students demonstrated reading proficiency; 63.8 percent of fifth graders demonstrated math proficiency; 90.3 percent of sixth graders were not "chronically absent"; 52.7 percent of eighth graders demonstrated math proficiency; and 83.9 percent of ninth-graders were not chronically absent. Data for disadvantaged students for 2011 indicates that: 69.8 percent of third graders demonstrated reading proficiency; 59 percent of

Ione crowns Homecoming court



Ione's Homecoming court was crowned last Thursday during halftime at Ione's home football game. Pictured left to right are Seniors Oskar Peterson, Allison Estabrook, Brandon Peck, Brianna Snyder, King Sam Gilbert, Queen Rita McElligott; juniors Brennan Thompson and Natalie Grigg; sophomores Austin Carter and Sydney Qualls; and freshmen Austin Morter and Sonia Medina. Crownbearers (front) were Caylan Proudfoot and Phegley Padberg. —Contributed photo

—See more photos PAGE EIGHT

Foundation laid for much-anticipated Terrace addition



Workers laid the foundation for the new \$50k-plus solarium at Willow Creek Terrace Assisted Living recently. Allstott Construction is building the addition to the Terrace; it will be made mostly of glass, allowing it to serve as a sunroom, with shades that can be closed when more privacy is required. Plans are for the room to serve multiple purposes ranging from private meetings and consultations to family gatherings and parties. Terrace board member Doris Brosnan says the project, the start of which was made possible through donations, moved slowly as the facility had to fulfill state requirements and get the necessary permits. However, they are hoping for completion this month. The board, staff and residents invite community members to take a trip to the terrace to check out progress and even serve as "sidewalk supervisors." —Contributed photo

G-T Trophy Corner



Above: Tyler Boyer of Portland, OR, a graduate student at Lewis and Clark, got his four-point at Rock Creek the opening morning of rifle season. Tyler is the son of John and Kelly Boyer of Lexington and a graduate of Heppner High. Below: Alexis Cutsforth, 11, of Heppner has had three successful years in the Mentored Youth Hunter Program. She shot this three-point buck at 398 yards with her dad's 6.5 Winchester Short Mag. Alexis is the daughter of Stanley and Pam Cutsforth. —Contributed photos



For OHSU med student, life in Heppner feels a lot like home

By Andrea Di Salvo

Pioneer Memorial Hospital and Clinic may not seem to have much in common with Oregon Health & Science University, but OHSU medical student Quinn Halverson says her residency in Heppner feels a lot like being back home.

The 26-year-old, third-year med student was born and raised in the small

town of Shepherd, MT,

near the larger town of Billings in the eastern half of the state. She graduated from Shepherd High School in 2007. Being in Heppner, she says, brought back some high-school memories. Both schools sport colors of blue and gold and have the mus-



Quinn Halverson

—"The school song is even the same," Halverson says. "I was at the homecoming game and heard it start to play and thought, 'Are you serious?'"

After high school Halverson —See MED STUDENT/PAGE FOUR

Entries requested to keep Parade of Lights tradition going

As some Heppner residents may remember, the Parade of Lights was cancelled last year due to lack of parade entries.

To keep the tradition going, the Heppner Chamber of Commerce is requesting businesses and community and school groups to commit to putting an entry in this year's Parade of Lights, which is

planned for Thursday evening, Dec. 4. The parade coincides with Heppner's Customer Appreciation Day, with extended hours by local merchants for early Christmas shopping, and the hanging of ornaments made by Heppner Day Care and Heppner Elementary School students on the town Christmas tree.

Lack of participation in the parade will mean another cancellation this year. Those interested in being in the parade are asked to email the chamber at heppnerchamber@centurytel.net or call 541-676-5536 to confirm their participation in the Parade of Lights. The deadline to confirm participation is Friday, Oct. 31.

Ballots go out this week for November general election

It's time for Morrow County voters to make their voices heard. Ballots go out this Wednesday, Oct. 15, for the Nov. 4 general election.

On the line, of course, are local city council and mayoral races, as well as a county-wide measure seeking to make county

commissioner positions nonpartisan. In local races with more than two candi-

—See BALLOTS GO OUT/PAGE FOUR

RIDE INTO FALL
SALES EVENT
Snowmobiles
double rebate on
all prior models
REBATES UP TO \$1000
Morrow County Grain Growers
Lexington 989-8221 • 1-800-452-7396 For farm equipment, visit our web site at www.mcggr.net