

Heppner middle school wrestlers end season



Pictured standing (L-R): Irelynn Tarvin, Tyler Rice, Lincoln Ellsworth, Darby Spivey, Olson Anderson, Chirs Humphrey, Quaid Jensen, Owen Guerra, Joe McMasters, Owen Cunningham, Maddex McMasters (jr assistant), Emmett Cunningham, Kaden Hudson and Kooper Miller. **Kneeling:** Zariah Martin, Landon McMahon, Journey Caven-Harris, K.C. Anderson, and head coach Miles Binger. **Not pictured:** Emillia Caven-Harris, Mason Seitz, David Asbridge, Axton Henderson, Landon Turner, Vinnie Proctor and assistant coach Ken Bailey.

The Heppner Middle School Mustang wrestling team just concluded their season. The outstanding team of 24 hardworking middle school students, grades five through eight, are led by head coach, Miles Binger and assistant coach, Ken Bailey.

The middle school Mustangs faced opponents from all over eastern Oregon. Most recently they battled tough competition at the Eastern Regional Middle School Championship in Boardman, OR. State qualifiers from Regionals were 8th graders Landon McMahon and Journey Caven-Harris and 6th graders Zariah Martin, Emillia Caven-Harris, and KC Anderson.

The number of female athletes participating in the sport is growing rapidly nationwide which led to an all-girls bracket for

both the Regional and State Championship. "The improvement this team has made this season is truly incredible. Middle school wrestling is not separated by size of school, 1A-6A like high school. Oregon middle school wrestlers are all thrown into one big mixing pot. We were competitive and successful at the meets, and I only get these kids for roughly 45 days of practice while many kids on other teams practice year round from as early as four-years-old. We are working on making that possible for all of Heppner's youth," said Coach Miles Binger.

"I believe every kid should at least try it. Most JH wrestling programs have dropped by 25-30 percent since last year. Over the last four seasons my numbers are up 600 percent, 200 percent since last year, including five brave and

courageous girls. I want the kids on my team to reap the rewards of not only the physical part of wrestling but also all the social benefits. Wrestling builds character by teaching kids how to overcome obstacles, handle their emotions, respect authority, accept criticism and the importance of being a good teammate. Success has to be earned through hard work, grit, accountability and determination." Binger continued.

"I wouldn't be able to do this for the kids without the continued help of Eva McMasters, Ken Bailey, Zac Brown, Matt Combe, Greg Grant, Jessica Lentz, Tiffany Greenup, Darcy Robinson and Deiter Waite," Binger added.

"Once you've wrestled, Everything else in Life is easy" -Legendary Coach, Dan Gable.

SUPERINTENDENT CANDIDATES

-Continued from PAGE ONE

director of education services, Erin Stocker, executive director of human resources, and Matt Combe, Ryan Keefauver, David Norton, Rose Palmer, Dieter Waite, Kaira Rysdam, John Christy, Jill Ledbetter, Stephanie Ewing, Jamie Carbray, Steven Sheller and Marissa Turner.

-approved the following employment action for March: Resignations-Krystal Corbaley, WRE ed assistant, Tyler Davis, RJSJS math teacher, end of school year, Andrew Kirk, IJSJS science teacher, end of school year, Candice Lindner, RJSJS language arts teacher, Stephanni McAninch, HJSJS junior high track coach, Caitlin Shimer, ACH first grade teacher, end of school year; Retirements-Dawn Callow, RJSJS science teacher, end of school year, Clair Costello, RJSJS PE teacher, athletic director, head boys' basketball coach, end of school year; Employment/Promotions/Transfers-Krystal Corbaley, WRE ed assistant, Edgar Duenas, RJSJS facilities coordinator, Sandra Gomez, Irrigon Elementary head secretary, Lanae Hexum, WRE music teacher for 2022-2023; Extra Duty Contracts-Julisa Garza, IJSJS assistant softball coach, Alex Lindsay, HJSJS junior high assistant track coach, Michelle Patton, IJSJS junior high assistant track coach.

-approved the following contract teachers recommended for extension for 2022-23 (Heppner listed only): Heppner Elementary-Lynn Calvert, Melissa Coiner, Sue Gibbs, Chelsea

Matheny, Sara Matheny, Andrea Nelson, Joselyn Piper, Jeremy Rosenbalm, Madison Rosenbalm; Heppner JSJS-Katelyn Adams, Ashley Beard, Jean Collins, Beth Dickenson, John Flaherty, Dave Fowler, Greg Grant, Troy Morgan, Andrea Nelson, Jason Palmer, Petra Payne and Jeremy Rosenbalm.

-adopted a kindergarten through grade 12 "Comprehensive sexuality Education Plan" as required by ORS 336.455 which includes courses on prevention and control of disease, alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention, promotion of mental, social and emotional health; violence and suicide prevention; and promotion of sexual health, depending on the age level of the student. According to the district, the plans were made up of sub-committees consisting of principals, teachers, district office personnel, parents and guardians, community members and medical/mental health professionals.

-learned that the district is continuing to receive property taxes and revenue in lieu of taxes more than originally budgeted. "As the end of year approaches, we will continue to revise the anticipated revenues and expenditures," according to MCSD, with the following general fund report: Revenues-\$28,921,887, 2022 Estimated Expenditures-\$28,073,466, Revenues Over Expenditures-\$848,421; Beginning Fund Balance-\$4,508,248, Projected Ending Fund Balance-\$5,356,669.

-approved early graduation requests from: Daisy Torres, Riverside Jr./Sr. High School, Boardman, Gabriela Iniguez, Cyrus Piel, and Maria Schneider, all Irrigon Jr./Sr. High School.

-heard presentations on the Sam Boardman Elementary SPURS Program, and English Language Learner and Language Arts programs.

-adopted textbook recommendations for the English Language Learner and Language Arts programs.

-received the following enrollment report for March: A.C. Houghton Elementary, Irrigon (Kindergarten-three)-215; Sam Boardman Elementary, Boardman (K-three)-352;

Heppner Elementary (K-six); Irrigon Elementary (four-six)-190; Windy River Elementary, Boardman (four-six); Heppner Jr./Sr. High School (seven-12); Irrigon Jr. High (seven-12)-372; Riverside Jr./Sr. High School, Boardman (seven-12)-488; Morrow Education Center, Irrigon-73; Total-2,283.

-received the following enrollment by community report for March: Boardman, 1,094, plus 36 over previous year; Heppner, 339, plus 23 over previous year; Irrigon, 777, plus 13; Morrow Education Center, 73, minus 50; district totals, 2,283, plus 22 over previous year.

-approved a resolution accepting and appropriating unanticipated revenues as follows: Sam Boardman Elementary-\$48.55 to the ASB fund from Lamb Weston-Benevity Community Impact Fund, \$100 from the Haguewood Family; Riverside Jr./Sr. High School-\$2,550 from the National Association of Agricultural Educators, \$13,129 from the Riverside Booster Club.

-approved the first reading of rescinded, new or revised policies on: Loss Coverage, Personnel Records and the Talented and Gifted Program; rescinded policies on Disclosure of Information and the Talented and Gifted Program.

-adopted new, revised or rescinded administrative rules on Veteran's Preference, Family Leave, Special Education-Individualized Education Program, Special Education-Procedural Safeguards and the Comprehensive Sexuality Education Plan.

-held an executive session "to consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent."

-heard the following announcements: special board meeting March 16 at 5 p.m. at the North District Office/via Zoom concerning the superintendent search; March 17, noon-special meeting concerning the superintendent search; March 17-end of third quarter; March 21-25 spring break; April 11, 7 p.m., next regular board meeting; executive session to consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent.

Summer job opportunities offered for local youth

The Heppner Ranger District is recruiting four students between the ages of 15 and 18 for summer employment in the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC). Work can include noxious weed removal, fence removal and construction, trail maintenance, meadow restoration, campground maintenance, slash piling, marking timber, removal of tubing from tree seedlings, and fire line construction around logged units on the Heppner Ranger District.

The program will last six to eight weeks beginning June 20, 2022. Youth will be paid \$15 per hour. No previous experience is required. Applicants must be 15 years old on the start date of May 1, 2022, and not reach the age of 19 during the term of the employment in the program; have a social security number or have made application to obtain one and obtain parental or legal guardian consent to enroll in the program.

To apply, all interested candidates must complete and submit a signed application. Hardcopy applications can be picked up at Forest Service offices in Heppner and Pendleton and at local high schools. Additionally, the application is available online at <https://tinyurl.com/5fvw-fj85>.

Applications will be accepted from March 15, 2022, until 2 p.m. on April 15, 2022. Completed applications can be emailed to cynthia.doherty@usda.gov or turned in to the Heppner Ranger District office via mail or hand delivery at 117 S Main St., Heppner, OR 97836.

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**MARCH 31ST
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Gilliam & Bisbee Building

Desserts and refreshments provided

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