

Banks superintendent pleased with results of district "report card"

Banks Elementary and Jr. High Schools rated Strong on the individual School Report Cards issued January 30 by the State of Oregon, while Banks High School ranked in the middle with a Satisfactory rating.

"I'm very pleased by how well the district does. The efforts of staff and students have paid off," said Superintendent Marilyn McGlasson at Monday night's school board meeting.

One area of concern for the board and administrators is the decline in math scores between the lower grades (3, 5,

8) and tenth grade. Also, the Report Card points out that scores in both reading and math have declined over time at the high school, with math the most problematic area.

In a report presented to the board, High School Principal Jeff Smith outlined steps that have been taken since 1995 to foster math improvement at the school. Since 81 percent of last year's tenth graders did not meet state standards in math, more needs to be done.

"Math is a very important area in which to make improvement in the very near future.

We've got to (do it)," stated Smith. To this end he is researching what same-size top-performing schools are doing. One thing he found is that students do better with daily math classes because continuity is important.

Graduation requirements for the next four classes are currently being hammered out, with the board expecting to adopt a final version in March.

Meanwhile, for the class of 2003, Smith is pushing to increase the required number of math credits from two to three, allowing all graduating stu-

dents the opportunity to achieve basic algebra and geometry instruction. Smith proposes accomplishing this by making the second year of required math a class which would allow students daily contact with math plus the ability to finish two credits in one year. Currently, second year math is an every-other-day class.

In her report, McGlasson said the district will adopt a Language Arts Curriculum this year, for use in kindergarten through grade 12 next fall. She expects the new curriculum to

include State-approved materials which will help create a "common instructional strand... as (the district) works toward meeting benchmark requirements and attaining common curriculum goals."

Matthew Chilson and Nick Albert, both sixth graders, attended the meeting wearing their Boy Scouts uniforms, and were introduced by McGlasson. As part of earning his merit badge for Citizenship in the Community, Chilson had interviewed and spent time with McGlasson and had written the

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Banks Council...

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\$3100. and the balance is expected to come from business donations, according to Mayor Ray Deeth;

• Was notified that Washington County will conduct an audit of the City's Community Development Block Grant projects, specifically on the completed sidewalk, police and storm drain projects;

• Received notice from Mayor Deeth that the U.S. Bureau of Census will use City Hall's meeting area as a headquarters for census takers during March 8-11.

JV girls From page 9

fortable, with a 21-29 win.

"This was probably the best game as far as effort. The girls never gave up," said Cheney.

Though they were down 23-12 at the end of the third, they made a comeback, outscoring the Pirates 19-6 in the fourth.

Freshman Audrey Isaacson made a free throw with .0:35 left in the game. "That Last second free throw is what won the game for us," said Cheney.

The girls will face Portland Christian at home Feb. 17 to end the season.

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