

# Schlegel family lauded for mural; good audit report for BSD

A presentation to three generations of the Schlegel family, by Superintendent Marilyn McGlasson, made a pleasant start for the November 18 meeting of the Banks School Board.

Members of the family were recognized for their outstanding work on a mural that depicts Banks' history through community activity. Illustrations include farming, logging and other aspects of life in Banks.

Recognized for their contributions were Bob Schlegel, Sr. and Dorothy Schlegel (Banks High School Class of 1940), Bob Schlegel, Jr. ('65), Bill Schlegel ('69), Dave Schlegel ('73) and Sheridan 'Annie' Schlegel ('06), whose names were on a plaque presented to the family.

In a second recognition, McGlasson told the board that Tasha Nicholls, along with the LDS Church Youth Group installed window screens in the community gym. It is hoped that birds will now find nesting places outside of the gym and avoid nesting inside.

## Audit Report

Roger Noah and Gloria McKay, of Jones & Roth, the district's auditors, reported that the annual audit was signifi-

cantly different this year. In past years, the district has been required to audit conformance only to state accounting standards. In 2001-2002, the year just audited, the district received federal funds in excess of \$300,000, requiring an audit of compliance to Federal standards. The district met all federal and state standards, with one exception.

The exception was for fixed assets such as property, buildings and equipment, for which the district must develop a cost basis. This is a common exception, Noah explained, as school districts and municipalities have not historically recorded fixed assets on a cost basis. Records of original costs of many buildings and/or properties are difficult to find and evaluate. Noah told the board that district business manager Nancy Hall has started compiling the needed material. Accurate evaluation of assets will be required as Banks, along with all school districts, adjusts its financial reports to conform to the new accounting standards.

The new standards will be implemented over the next few years, Noah explained. He also complimented the board and the administrative team on their

efforts to reduce the district's debt to the state by holding down expenditures. Noah told the board that the beginning cash balance of the district has increased over the last two years and that the \$700,000 loan from the state should be repaid this school year.

The audit report recommended that student activity funds at Banks Elementary School (BES) be recorded or reconciled on a monthly basis. Hall and BES Principal Marty Vogel confirmed that the recommended computerized accounting system would be implemented this year.

## More students = more funds

McGlasson told the board that the district has been fortunate to have rising enrollment for the last few years. Because school districts receive money from the state on a per-student basis, this has led to increased revenues which, along with the sale of the Buxton School property and rigid control of expenditures, has allowed the district to recover from the disastrous financial condition of a few years ago. Because enrollment and the budget are so intertwined, McGlasson told the board, the administrative team constantly monitors both.

## Gate fees increased

The board approved the first increase to BHS gate fees in many years. McGlasson told the board that BHS was the only school in the league that was still charging \$4 admission to games. Adult admission will be increased to \$5 per game.

Prices for season passes (for all groups), as well as student, senior and family admission fees, will remain the same.

## Fundraiser for Teachers

McGlasson praised the efforts of Julie Bradford, who has capitalized on the community's desire to help the school financially and receive a tax deduction, by organizing an evening social on Friday, November 22, to give the public an opportunity to view a list, compiled by teachers, of supplies and classroom materials that they wish they had. Donated funds will be handled in a separate fund to ensure the money is used as donors specify. Light refreshments and beverages will be provided for the event, which will take place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the district boardroom. McGlasson explained that supplies budgets across the district have been flat, with no increase in the last three years.

## Administrators' Reports

Vogel told the board that student behavior problems were significantly reduced from last year. McGlasson praised Vogel's efforts to improve student management and told the board that, last year, both parents and students expressed concern that his zero tolerance policy - with strict standards of student behavior - was too difficult to achieve. Last year, by this time, Vogel said, he had received 45 referrals for student behavior issues. This year he has received only 12. Vogel also reported that the 2003 Battle of the Books is starting. Thir-

ty-two teams of students and two staff teams will compete in April on comprehensive knowledge of listed books.

BHS Principal Jim Foster reported on a successful resolution to overcrowding in the student parking lots. After being notified by the fire department that the overcrowded parking lots would not allow access for an ambulance or fire truck, Foster appealed to the student body, telling them that the school had issued nearly twice as many parking permits as there were available spaces, and asking juniors to return their permits. Foster praised the students, who turned in all of their permits within two days. Seniors were able to retain their passes and 15 lucky juniors were rewarded with passes for the remaining spaces. Students without passes will now have to park on the street. Next year, Foster said, the problem will be turned over to the student council.

## Other Business

The Board heard the annual report from Northwest RegionalESD. Since this report is substantially the same in both Banks and Vernonia, it will be covered in a separate article in the next issue of *The INDEPENDENT*.

## DECEMBER CALENDAR

- 7 - Winter Formal
- 11 - Band and Choir Concerts; BES 9:00 a.m.; BJHS and BHS 7:00 p.m.
- 13 - BJHS Holiday Dance
- 14 - Santa's Breakfast
- 19 - BES Sing Along 9:00 a.m.

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## Community Fun Night Dinner & Bingo

Saturday, November 30  
Barbecued Chicken  
Dinner 6-7:00 PM  
Bingo 7-9:00 PM  
Schlegel Hall at  
Sunset Park, Banks

Adults: \$7.00 • Kids under 12: \$5.00

Dinner includes one  
reusable bingo card

Additional  
Cards \$1 each  
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