

Revisions in VHS schedule, math, science classes

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block schedule and returning to a seven period per semester schedule by spreading the seven periods over two-days. According to Funderburg many neighboring school districts — including Banks, St. Helens, Scappoose, Tillamook and Warrenton — use this type of rotating block schedule, providing a wide variety of local resources. It is also essential, he said, to get the junior high and high school on the same schedule in order to maximize sharing the teaching staff.

Robyn Cochran reinforced Funderburg's recommendation, distributing information about the benefits of block schedules for students and teachers. She also said that staff and students were surveyed before and after the schedule change and that both groups indicated resounding support for the block schedule. Making the change now, Funderburg said, would facilitate development of next year's calendar and schedule. Opportunities to train staff and hold them accountable for student success will also be included in the calendar, according to Funderburg's report.

COMETS application

The district has applied to participate in the Collaborative of Oregonians for Mathematics, Engineering Technology, and Science, or COMETS program. Participation is offered to districts with low math and science scores on standardized tests. The district has identified four goals as a COMETS partner:

- Improve student participation and performance in mathematics and science.
- Enhance quality of teacher workforce.
- Increase quality and rigor of course content in mathematics and science, and provide student access to advanced learning opportunities, including engineering applications.
- Effect specific changes that will promote high quality K-12 teaching for student success in math, science and engineering.

The COMETS program will not increase revenue but will provide a wide range of resources for analysis of student performance and to develop evidence-based strategies to improve student achievement. The program could begin as early as spring, Funderburg said.

In other business the board:

— Approved policies to establish Certificate of Initial Mastery Proficiency Standards, establish a district safety officer and safety committee, to establish a K-12 career development program, and to govern the confidentiality of education records of students with disabilities.

— Received a report that the district is in compliance with all standards for public elementary and secondary schools.

—Hired Debbie Hall as part-time attendance/detention clerk at VHS.

— Named Hamblet, Krahn and Cari Levenseller to negotiate an administrators' contract.

— Recognized Joe Batty for his volunteer work to complete baseball and softball dugouts.

—Passed a resolution to join other districts to authorize the Oregon School Board Association to appeal, at OSBA expense, the school district's notice of PERS rate increase.

Vernonia

School Calendar

January 20, Martin Luther King Day, no school.

January 24, End of Semester, no school K-8.

WEATHER REPORT

DECEMBER 2002

DATE	TEMPERATURE		PRECIP. AMT.
	HI	LO	
1	38	28	.03
2	46	25	--
3	41	29	.12
4	48	38	.02
5	53	27	--
6	48	23	--
7	49	22	--
8	47	32	.01
9	45	35	.33
10	46	33	.85
11	52	42	.72
12	55	46	.65
13	53	42	1.15
14	55	43	.89
15	46	40	1.12
16	45	33	.38
17	44	30	.61
18	41	31	.14
19	44	28	--
20	43	33	.35
21	42	36	.03
22	48	35	.27
23	49	28	.02
24	44	35	.02
25	48	34	.30
26	51	33	.52
27	50	35	.04
28	43	28	.02
29	44	28	.42
30	45	36	.91
31	47	31	.19

Temperature and precipitation amounts are from the official U.S. weather station at the Vernonia water plant. Measurable precipitation in December totalled 10.11 inches.

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VALLEY VETERINARY CLINIC

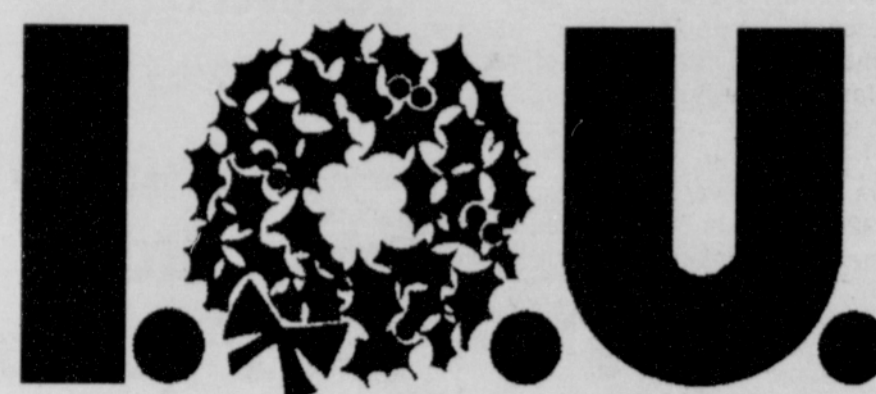
RABIES SPECIAL

\$8⁵⁰

Thursdays 10 am - 5 pm

58376 Nehalem Hwy. S. Vernonia (Near Sunnyside Cafe)

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622 Bridge Street, Vernonia
503 429-8031

DEADLINE 2003 DOG LICENSE

Elizabeth E. Huser, Columbia County Clerk, reports that the deadline for licensing dogs in Columbia County is

MARCH 6, 2003

You may mail your rabies vaccination certificate (if not on file in our office) along with the appropriate fee to Columbia County Clerk's Office, Courthouse, 230 Strand Street, St. Helens, OR 97051. Commercial and non-commercial kennel licenses are available. Contact Clerk's Office for information.

To All Columbia County Dog Owners

\$10 Penalty after March 6, 2003

\$25 Penalty after April 5, 2003 (Without Citation)

\$50 PENALTY IF CITATION IS ISSUED

Dog License Fees are due on **ALL DOGS IN THE COUNTY** with permanent teeth or that are six months of age in 2003.

FEES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

On or Before March 6, 2003

REGULAR, NOT SPAYED OR NEUTERED.....\$30.00

DOG SPAYED OR NEUTERED.....\$12.00

SENIOR CITIZEN-DOG NOT SPAYED OR NEUTERED...\$15.00

SENIOR CITIZEN-DOG SPAYED OR NEUTERED.....\$5.00

(Senior Citizen is 65 Years or Older - 1 per Household)

REPLACEMENT TABS.....\$5.00

ASK ABOUT OUR OPTIONAL THREE-YEAR LICENSE

2003 APPLICATION FOR DOG LICENSE

Owner: _____

Residential Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

_____ Zip: _____

2002 License No.: _____ Phone: _____

Dog's Name: _____

Breed: _____

Sex (Check one): Male _____ Female _____

Neutered: _____ Spayed: _____

A VALID (Good through Oct. 31, 2003) Rabies Vaccination Certificate MUST accompany this application or be ON FILE in the Courthouse, along with a spayed/neutered certificate if applicable.

WE WILL RETURN YOUR LICENSE AND DOG TAG TO YOU BY RETURN MAIL.