

47J Board told of new student awards

At the March 11 Vernonia School Board of Directors meeting, the board heard from middle school leadership students about a new event put on by staff – Student of the Month Breakfast. At this breakfast, students who have demonstrated good behavior (and their parents) get breakfast and awards that include a written explanation of the reasons each student was chosen. The middle school students honored at the March breakfast were:

6th graders Sara Smith, Hannah Fleck and Paige Smith.

7th graders Summer Snow, Damian Young and Zixian Chen.

8th graders Laura Rice, Rowan Scott and Jerimiah Hammon.

Two new members were added to the Budget Committee; Tobie Finzel and Linda

Johnston, will join the committee when the first meeting is held on May 13 at 6:00 p.m. There are still two open positions on the committee. Anyone interested in applying can obtain an application from the district office.

The board heard from high school mathematics teacher Randy Shockey about a Project Lead the Way grant that he applied for and received. The \$7,200 grant is for the first year of a pre-engineering course. It covers training, course materials and software needed to teach Introduction to Engineering Design. The board approved acceptance of the grant and curriculum.

Two slightly different versions of a 2010-11 Instructional Calendar were adopted. The final decision on which will be used will be made after further review of the budget.

After recessing to an execu-

tive session, “to review and evaluate the performance” of employees or staff members, the board came back into open session and approved Resolution 10-02 for teacher contract extensions, and Resolution 10-03 for administrative contract extensions.

In other business, the board:

- heard Athletic Director Gordon Jarman’s Winter Sports Report (see separate article this page);

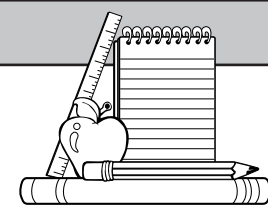
- accepted three students from Jewell school to play on the Vernonia baseball team, as Jewell does not have a team.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for April 8, at 6:00 p.m. in the District Office.

There will be a board workshop tonight at 6:00 p.m. when the board will hear from BOORA architects, before the community Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. in the green building.

Chalk Talk

Chalk Talk is a column of information about Vernonia schools. This column was provided by Principal Nate Underwood.



Each year all high schools are required to submit an annual report to NAAS (Northwest Association of Accredited Schools). In this report, schools do a self evaluation to determine if they meet or exceed standards considered essential for quality education. Specifically, Vernonia High School reported on the following standards: Mission, Beliefs and Expectations for Student Learning, Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment, Leadership and Organization, School Services, Facilities and Finance, and a Culture of Continued Improvement.

Additionally, a Leadership team will conduct a Site Visit every six to eight years. The purpose of this visit is to evaluate our educational program and to analyze the accuracy of the annual self reporting. On April 29, 2009, Vernonia High School hosted our accreditation site visit. We are quite proud of the results.

In addition to meeting rigorous standards, schools accredited by NAAS are committed to continual improvement through strategic planning and can be trusted to provide students with the educational services promised. NAAS accreditation provides worldwide recognition of each school’s quality, accountability, and trustworthiness. The Site Team commended Vernonia High School for:

1. Their resiliency to continue to provide appropriate education to students in the face of several physical obstacles (i.e. no school for a period of time, limited texts, limited equipment).
2. For the commitment of the community, staff, and students for their Herculean effort to rebuild the structures within their community to provide appropriate education.
3. For the commitment of the staff to stay with Vernonia through these rebuilding years and to maintain the proud educational culture existing at Vernonia High School.
4. For the student leaders who are proud of their school and are strengthening their commitment to leave a positive legacy.

In summary, Vernonia High School not only maintained its accreditation status, but is doing a good job of educating our children.

but three seniors – Margo Cormier, Adrienne East and Genesis Castro – completed the season. They finished the season with nine wins and lots of momentum to carry them into the next year. Margot Cormier and Ariel Rock were

named honorable mention all league for their efforts on the court.

Vernonia Wrestling Team won the district championship this year. The Loggers qualified nine wrestlers to the state tour-

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VMS/VHS Winter sports activity report

by Athletic Director Gordon Jarman

Vernonia Middle School

The middle school athletic seasons offered opportunities for boys and girls in wrestling and girls basketball. The basketball teams were open to seventh and eighth grade girls, and the wrestling team was open to sixth, seventh and eighth grade girls and boys. Numbers in both sports were down somewhat this year. Thirteen wrestlers signed up and 11 consistently attended practice. The eighth grade girls basketball team had nine members, and the seventh grade team had 16.

Wrestlers attended seven meets and a league championship, held in Scappoose. The regional tournament, which Vernonia also attended, was held in Woodburn. Qualifiers from the regional tournament were given the opportunity to attend the state meet also scheduled to be held in Woodburn. Some of the more outstanding wrestlers were Bridger Steward, Damion Young, Reed Jones and Jacob Vigil.

Girls Basketball played 10 games. The eighth grade team was led by Stephanie Castro, Brooke Johnson and Tori Dale-

broux. They finished their season with five wins and several close losses. Coach Ward said these young ladies were very competitive and will help out varsity teams in the future. The seventh grade team finished the season with three wins; their outstanding competitors were Julia Fletcher and Megan Sullivan.

Vernonia High School

Boys basketball struggled this year under a very competitive schedule. They ended the season with just a handful of wins and did not make the league play-offs. They competed very hard in all their games but, on several occasions,

could not hold off the opposing teams to gain a victory. The senior boys were Chris Bamberg, Charles Tungwenuk, Peter Jiraneck, Brandon Gilbertson and Tim Brown. All of the seniors contributed in every game with Brandon Gilbertson being named to the all Lewis and Clark League second team. With the Loggers moving to AA level next year, and several returning players, the team prospects look to improve for the 2010-11 season.

Girls basketball was very competitive this year, however they did not make the league play-offs, either. The team consisted of mostly underclassmen

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