

Elementary Board Report

A Paws-itive Learning Community Striving to Meet the Individual Needs of Each Student as a Whole Child

Our theme for the month of February is Goal Setting.

CLOCKS

Times are changing. As you might imagine, we have had clocks at the elementary for years. It has been very important that our clocks keep time together to help us keep to our schedules, including going to A.C.E. support, lunches, PE, music, special education, and much more. Even a minute off and our schedules can be off. Unfortunately, our clock system up to this point has not been very consistent, up to five or more minutes' difference between clocks at times. This has caused unnecessary frustration. We have looked into ways to improve our time system, including having the current system's engineers come up with a feasible solution. Their solution was cost prohibitive.

I am excited to share that we have a feasible solution that we started installing just this past Friday. We have installed 44 atomic clocks across the elementary campus. So far, all clocks tested are staying within the same exact second of each other. The hope is the remaining twelve clocks will arrive today and will be installed and ready to go Wednesday morning. The belief is that if the atomic clock at Fort Collins, Colorado stays on as it should, our whole system will be supported in staying on time. Our next step is to get the bell ringing system on the same time. I look forward to experiencing how consistently being able to depend on our clocks will better support student learning.

FAMILY FUN FEAST

Riley Bingham and Jillian Pratt, two of our great fifth graders, have worked with our staff to create a new spring event, our Family Fun Feast. Riley and Jillian had envisioned a La Center Elementary event where family members could join our students and staff at school to support our students and enjoy a little of what our school has to offer. Our Family Fun Feast will take place on Wednesday, June 1 at lunchtime. Family members will be invited to join us for a school picnic and barbecue. Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Kidd will serve as "chefs", barbecuing hot dogs to go along with other barbecue type fair, such as potato chips and drinks. All will be provided free of charge to those who choose to join us for lunch and will include eating together with students' classes in the cafeteria, on the field, and other nearby places as the weather allows. We hope you choose to join us for the food and fun. More details will come in the weeks nearing our Family Fun Feast.

COMMUNITY MEMBER(S) OF MYSTERY

Our February Community Member of Mystery has been teaching for three years. This is her first year at La Center Elementary. She and her Tongan husband, who she met at a wedding, have been married for three years. He is a special education paraeducator outside of La Center and he has almost earned his teaching certificate. They grew up in Utah and moved to Vancouver two years ago. Our Community Member of Mystery enjoys camping. Her favorite place to camp is in Newport, OR. They enjoy traveling and cooking new types of food, especially Polynesian food. Other hobbies include snowmobiling at a cabin in Utah and boating,

which includes wakeboarding, tubing, and fishing. Who do you think our February Community Member of Mystery is?



Our January Community Member of Mystery has been on our PTO board this and last school year and also works as a paraeducator. Students may see her in the cafeteria at lunchtime. She grew up and attended private school in Silverton, OR. Her hope is to become a kindergarten teacher in the future. She is married to Bryan, who has worked as a commercial plumber for 25 years. Together they have two children, a son who is a sophomore at La Center High School and a second grade daughter at La Center Elementary. They would like to become foster parents when their children are older. Like many parents, she and Bryan enjoy watching their children participate in soccer and basketball. They also enjoy going camping at least twice a month to different places like Mt. St. Helens and the beach. She and her family also like to rescue dogs. They have rescued two dogs so far, helping them get healthy and then find a new family. Their dog Lily, a boxer, also helps out when rescuing dogs. Who do you think our January Community Member of Mystery was?

If you guessed Stefanie Amstutz, PTO president, you are correct.