

## Hawks Report

La Center Middle School

February 2016

After School Extended Learning Bus: We calculated our ridership for the first 50 days of offering this 4:00 pm bus to our students, and found that we have served 322 riders for an average of 6.44 riders per day. This number greatly increased towards the end of the semester as students stayed after school for study hall to make up their missing work. We are thankful for the investment into this bus as we know it is making a positive difference for many of our students.

First Semester Accountability: We had 21 students not meet promotion standards for the first semester; 4 from 6<sup>th</sup> grade, 11 from 7<sup>th</sup> grade and 6 from 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Some of those students started the year with a 'student plan for success' and for those that didn't, we will be meeting with student and parents to create one for the student for second semester. These 21 students represent about 5% of our student population, which includes our special education population for the first time. It is encouraging that we have been able to identify which students are struggling, and to be able to identify ways we can offer them more support, including study hall, the after school bus, classes like math assist and academic prep and summer school.

Wetlands Excursion: On Thursday February 11<sup>th</sup>, our 6<sup>th</sup> graders participated in a full day field trip at the La Center Bottoms provided by the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership. This restoration trip was designed to build environmental curiosity and knowledge, empower students to make a difference in their community, and foster a personal connection to the lower Columbia River. Along with our monthly water quality monitoring, students rotated between planning, bird watching, hiking the new trail, and pulling invasive species. This trip followed several days of in class lessons on watersheds, native and invasive plants, and local bird identification.

Mid-Level Regionals: 40 of our students along with their 3 advisors hosted the Mid-Level Regionals for Southwest Washington in our gym on February 11<sup>th</sup>. More information will be shared during the middle school show case at our board meeting.

Academic Improvement: We had 24 students that improved their GPA by .5 or better this first semester over second semester of last year. These students, along with their parents were recognized with a certificate of achievement presented during a breakfast celebration hosted by Josh and Kris Soske. We are grateful for their generosity and support of our students.

Honor Roll & Perfect Attendance: First semester we had 37 students with a perfect 4.0 GPA and another 145 students who were named to the honor roll (GPA of 3.25 or above). We also had 4 students with perfect attendance (Noah Denley, Adam Denney, Donivan Penalosa, Edelyn

Turner). All of these students were recognized and given a certificate at the student of the month assembly at the end of February.

Teens Care Too Youth Leadership Summit: We were able to send 23 middle school students to this summit at Clark College on February 19<sup>th</sup>. Teens Care Too gives middle and high school students a chance to stand up and give their opinions and to build their skills as youth leaders. The summit focuses on healthy lifestyle choices and gives teens the ability to be leaders in prevention, as well as learn from community leaders and from each other.