

La Center High School
Board Report
May 17, 2016

Greetings,

This year's **Student Led Conferences** were very successful. Many of our students did an outstanding job sharing their accomplishments from this school year with their parents. One example was Kellan Sullivan, a senior, who shared his English essays from over a 4-year period. The work he did clearly showed the progressive improvements he made in his writings. Kellan also shared how his other classes during his time at LCHS have helped him develop many interests which have created a pathway to the University of Washington next year. Congratulations to him.

Tis the season for state assessments! This past week students enrolled in AP classes had the opportunity to take the AP exams. If they pass with a score of 3, 4 or 5 they will earn college credit at most colleges and universities throughout the United States. There are 6 AP classes which students tested for: AP English, AP Government, AP Biology, AP Calculus, AP Statistics and AP Physics. Thank you to those teachers who taught these classes! Next year we switch AP Biology with Anatomy and Physiology. We did not have enough students show an interest during registration for AP Physics, so we will offer it again the following year.

Recently we received a positive note from OSPI regarding the last release of state test scores from this past January. Due to the large success rate of the number of students passing the EOC Geometry, we will not need that additional 5th day to run the EOC Geometry assessment. We were able to reduce the number of late starts set aside for testing to 4 days this year! Way to go Wildcats!!!

As I mentioned at the last board meeting we have provided an opportunity for the staff in the district to view the documentary **Paper Tigers** two different times this year. With the guidance of Mrs. Link's CWP class, the students conducted roundtable discussions about the film and ideas in which to support students who have barriers in their lives that stop them from learning and being successful in school. It was also a 'think tank' of discussion to find ways to take down the barriers. Some of the barriers are poverty, difficult home situations, dealing with substance abuse, etc. This past month we had an opportunity for the community to view the film in the high school library. About 30 parents attended the workshop including a student who helped with the table discussions that followed. The energy in the library was very exciting and most didn't want to end the conversations when our time was up. The realization for the community members that they make such an impact on children of all ages within our community was encouraging. They learned that by simply saying 'hello,' or encouraging a child to do what is positive, as well as being a good listener for them, could change the course of an individual's life. We also shared the many resources provided by the school at this time. We currently have a full-time counselor and a part-time counselor at the high school. This year we also have added a counselor from Children's Services who works with students regarding mental health issues, and we recently have added a substance abuse counselor from Community Services N.W. for two days a week. Their schedules are beginning to fill up as students are realizing what services

we are offering in the building. I'm pleased to see students getting help in one way or another. We will continue to work on breaking down those barriers.

The **Home School Academy** held their first annual Open House. Ruth Schrock, the HSA teacher, provided the materials that we use for the K-8 program for parents to view and had the computers available to show the APEX programs that are used for grades 9-12. Mrs. Schrock also has worked with a community member to design the new school logo. Ruth has designed a trifold that was handed out which included information about the district and what the HSA offered for families who want to home school. Mrs. Schrock also did a great job designing a banner that was hung on the portable! As we continue to grow, I am pleased to share that we are meeting a need in our community with the HSA. Thank you for supporting this program.

The **Earth Day Extravaganza** hosted by the students in Mr. Neiman's Auto Tech and Wood Tech classes, and Ms. Morris' Environmental Studies class was a huge success. Students at both lunches came outside to see the different booths that displayed a variety of environmental activities taking place such as the Fish First program in Clark County. Students could also learn about biodiesel fuel, see the items our LCHS students are working on in class, view the La Center Garden displays, and even try deep-fried vegetables made from the oil which then can be used for biodiesel and the vegetables from the garden. The high school students enjoyed seeing their friends in action as they shared a wealth of knowledge about how to help make our planet a better place to live.

Congratulations go to the cast members of the two versions of the play **The Odd Couple**. Mrs. Rideout, drama director, decided to try, for the first time ever at LCHS, two plays at the same time this spring term. She chose the play *The Odd Couple* by Neil Simon and directed both the original and his later revised female version. If you missed these plays you missed a night of very talented students and LOTS of laughter! The students did a fantastic job including the funny improv moments when strange things happened like unexpected nose bleeds. They were very professional and held the audience in the palm of their hands. Bravo!!!

Athletic update

Softball

I wanted to share with you a conversation Matt Cooke had with the Athletic Director from White Salmon. Howard Kreps called him on May 10 to ask if he had heard what our softball team had done the day before. Matt told him that he had not. White Salmon has not won a league game this year. LCHS is undefeated and ranked #1 in the state for 1A Classification AND #1 in the state in ALL CLASSIFICATIONS according to MaxPreps.com. This means that La Center is considered to be the best softball team in the state, no matter the size of the school. Mr. Kreps shared that our Wildcat Softball team allowed a Special Education student on the White Salmon team to get a hit, advance to second, and continue on to home plate scoring a run for her team. This is the first time the student has ever crossed home plate. Howard said that this act of kindness made this girl's year and he wanted Matt and the rest of the administration to know that we have a "Class Act" for a softball team, coach, and program. These are the moments that we are all very proud of our students and what it truly means to be a Wildcat. It will beat winning

any state title or rankings in our book. Not only do we have a very tough and talented softball team, but we have a compassionate team.

Baseball

Rob Williamson stated that this has been the best year to coach a group of boys that he has ever had. The team had a successful year with 14 wins and 5 losses during the regular season. This gave them a 2nd place finish in the Trico League behind King's Way Christian HS. On May 9th, we defeated Montesano in the first round of the District Championships by a score of 8-1. Our next opponent was Hoquiam, who were the defending state champions. Unfortunately, we lost that game 0-5. Our next game was against King's Way on Friday, May 13th. It was an exciting game as La Center was down 1-2 going into the 7th inning. We managed to score a run and tie the game. The season ended in the bottom of the 7th inning when King's Way scored on an RBI single. It was an emotional time for our seniors.

Austin Paradis is a senior on the team and was awarded the Dick Grabenhorst Scholarship for a male athlete within the Trico League. The Athletic Directors review the applications and decide on a student-athlete in one of our schools. Congratulations Austin!

Girls Golf

It really has been exciting to see this program grow the last several years. During Matt's first year as Extra-Curricular Director, there were only 3 girls who finished the season. The program was in jeopardy. This year, we had 12 girls complete the season, and the varsity team won 8 matches and lost 5. This is the first winning season for our program in a number of years. District competition started on May 16th for 6 of our girls. Five of those athletes made the cut for the second day of districts. Good luck ladies.

Track and Field

The team finished the regular season last Friday, May 13th, by competing in the sub-district meet for the Trico League. Although as a team, we were not as strong in year's past, we did have some exceptional athletes this year, including Jenna Melanson. She has broken several school records including the 3200, 3000, 1600, and the 1500 meter distances. Jenna was also the female winner for the Dick Grabenhorst Scholarship from the Trico League. It was a proud moment to have both award winners from La Center.

Other exciting news from our tracksters: Jeremy Scott broke the school record in the 110m High Hurdles. Shelby Vermuelen is currently sitting in 2nd in the La Center all-time records for the discus. Caiden Krout is also sitting in 2nd in the LC all-time records for the shot put. La Center is sending 18 athletes to the District Championship this Thursday, May 19.

We are looking forward to June 6th. On this date, the project for getting rubber laid on the track will begin. As you know, La Center has never had a real track with lanes and exchange zones for relay teams. This means that LCHS will be able to host track meets next spring for the first time ever. We look forward to all the willing volunteers who will help run the track meet in March 2017.

Boys Soccer

The team is now in the State Championships and are competing for a title. There were some challenges in the beginning of the season which resulted in the forfeiture of our first league game against rival White Salmon. However, we think the team learned from this situation and continued to improve both as a team and as individuals. They finished with 11 wins, 3 losses, and 2 ties in the regular season. In the first round of the District Championships, we faced Montesano and defeated them 3-2. Our next opponent was Hoquiam, whom we had defeated earlier in the year by a score of 1-0. This match came down to a shootout after playing a full 80 minutes plus two overtimes of 5 minutes each. We won the shootout by a score of 4-3. The next game was the deciding match for the District Title, in which we were the defending District Champions. This was a hard-fought match which we lost 0-1.

Team United

Team United is this year's District Champions, the District consists of students from Toledo, Winlock, and La Center. The Wildcats will host Colville in the first round of state on Wednesday, May 18th, at Woodland High School with a 7 pm kick-off.

Upcoming Events:

LCHS Band/Choir Concert – May 19th at 7:00 PM

9th Grade BBQ – May 23rd at 5:30 PM

Luau – June 7th from 5:30 – 7:30 PM

Seniors Last Day – June 8th

Move Up Assembly – June 8th at 2:15PM

Senior Recognition – June 9th at 7:00 PM

Senior Breakfast – June 10th at La Center Church – 9:30 AM

Graduation Practice – June 10th in the LCHS Gym – 12:45

Graduation – June 11th in the LCHS Gym – 7:00 PM (Door open at 6:00 PM)

LCHS Band/Choir 50's Concert – June 13th from 6PM - 8PM in the Commons and the Gym

Last Day of School – June 16th

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Patton
LCHS Principal