



Highly Capable Program to Begin Next Fall

Every school in the state will be required to offer a program of some type for students identified as highly capable through a referral and testing system outlined in state law. For many decades small schools that receive almost no funding for this type of program were allowed to decline the little grant funding provided due to small populations. The legislature decided in its last session all highly capable students deserve a program and mandated one in every school, although they are not providing additional funding.

At the end of the month all Liberty families will receive a letter from the district describing the process for referral and identification of highly capable students. The district's Student Services Team will compile academic data on all students referred and with parent permission will test those referred with an ability test known as the CogAT or Cognitive Ability Test widely accepted as a valid and reliable method of identifying highly capable students. Other data points to be used include MSP, HSPE, EOC, MAP, and DIBELS scores along with quarter/semester grades and teacher recommendations.

For more information, contact Superintendent/K-8 Principal Bill Motsenbocker at 509.245.3211 x2213 or bmotsenbocker@libertysd.us.

The Liberty Lancer

Message from the Superintendent

February 2014

Semester Academic Growth Exceeds Expectations in Reading and Math

Liberty uses a computerized assessment system called Measures of Academic Progress® (MAP®) to determine growth in learning throughout each student's career from first grade through high school. For the past several years we have noted strong growth in mathematics but our reading scores have become stagnant. In October our elementary teachers began using a new phonics and spelling technique through staff development training from a consultant in Wenatchee. As a result our student growth projections for first semester have increased dramatically. The junior high and high school have also shown outstanding growth as well. The table below reflects average percentile growth through the end of first semester. A score of 100 percent indicates the class average has met the growth projection for first semester. A score over 100 percent exceeds the projection and a score under 100 percent is below the projection for this point in the school year.

MAP® TESTING RESULTS*

| Grade | Reading % of Growth | Math % of Growth | Grade | Reading % of Growth | Math % of Growth |
|-------|------------------------|---------------------|-------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 139% | 149% | 6 | 210% | 217% |
| 2 | 128% | 115% | 7 | 155% | 143% |
| 3 | 240% | 129% | 8 | 124% | 163% |
| 4 | 218% | 131% | 9 | 220% | 165% |
| 5 | 100% | 88% | 10 | 120% | 225% |

* Percentile growth measures achievement of projected growth using national norms.

Kindergarten uses a specially designed assessment system using the new Common Core State Standards. Kindergarten growth for semester one was also outstanding for reading and math.

Liberty Will Remain 2B WIAA Classification

All high schools in the state of Washington are required to report their student populations to WIAA for the purpose of setting the classification limits for the six divisions every four years. In our state we have 4A, 3A, 2A, 1A, 2B, and 1B classifications. In the past, schools were asked for student populations in grades 10, 11 and 12 although the seniors counted would not actually be in the school or eligible for athletic participation the following year. An amendment was passed to change the methods used to determine student counts, and this year grades 9, 10, and 11 were used for the first time.



The qualifying range for 2B is now 91-224. Liberty's count is 93, which means we will continue to be one of the smallest 2B schools in the state. Our school board was watching the process closely and although there was a slight chance of us becoming a 1B school, the board was considering opting up to 2B for the increased level of competition. In two more years all schools will submit counts once again, but the dividing lines will remain intact for a total of four years.

Liberty Lancer

The Liberty Lancer is published during the academic year by Liberty School District. The Lancer is published to provide current information about school district sponsored and co-sponsored events, student and educator recognition, as well as other news of interest to our school community.

Comments, questions or suggestions should be sent to the Superintendent.

January 2014

Board of Directors

Kynda Browning
Chair
kybrowning@libertysd.us

Mark Bullock
mbullock@libertysd.us

Chad Cornmesser
WIAA Representative
ccornmesser@libertysd.us

Marci Green
Vice Chair
mgreen@libertysd.us

Scott Simmons
Legislative Representative
ssimmons@libertysd.us

Board member phone numbers are available on the district website.

Superintendent
Bill Motsenbocker
bmotsenbocker@libertysd.us

Website: www.LibertySD.us

29818 S. North Pine Creek Road
Spangle, WA 99031
Phone: (509) 624-4415
Fax: (509) 245-3288

Upcoming Board Meetings

All meetings are held at 7:00 PM
in the Elementary/Junior High Library

Thursday, February 27

Thursday, March 27

Thursday, April 24

Thursday, May 22

State Requires 1080 Hours of Instruction for Grades 7-12

Last winter the state legislature passed a bill requiring all school districts to comply with an increase of instructional hours from 1000 to 1080 for grades 7-12. Additional funding will be provided to all districts to help facilitate this new requirement, although at Liberty the changes will be very minor to meet the new mandate. Liberty High School already meets the requirements of the new law, and the junior high will only need to add three minutes to the end of the day to be compliant along with canceling the December late start for staff development for all grades K-12.

Rachel's Challenge Follow-up Set for February 27

Rachel's Challenge is a special program designed to promote kindness and considerate relationships in schools across the country. Last year the Junior Boosters brought the program to both schools at Liberty, and the results have been promising. On February 27 the Rachel's Challenge program will return with "The Pledge Assembly" for three levels: K-2 at 9am; 3-6 at 10:15am; and 7-12 at 11am. As always, parents and community members are welcome to attend.



2014-15 District Calendar

The school calendar for the 2014-15 school year has been approved by the school board and is posted on the district homepage at www.libertysd.us via the "District Calendar" link.

Liberty Elementary & Junior High

Elementary/Junior High Gym Receives New Scoreboard

Over time all electronic equipment eventually needs to be replaced, and now the high school and EJH gyms each have new scoreboards. In 2012 a new scoreboard was purchased through donations and school district funding in honor of Bill Schieche, owner of Bill's Service in Spangle.



Recently Liberty lost one of its favorite grandparents – Allan Neils. Allan was the father of Ann Ottmar and grandfather of Maren, Isaak, and Cole Ottmar. Allan rarely missed a game in the junior high gym; as a result, a fundraising drive was conducted to replace the scoreboard in honor of "Grandpa Bear."

The following donors made the replacement possible:

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| *Diane Neils | *Liberty School District Booster Club, Inc. |
| *Spangle Service Club | *Flaig Farms |
| *Blaze & Cheri Burnham | *Billington Family |
| *Kaye & Chuck Morgan | *Linda & Neal Ottmar |
| *Cleat & Julie Grumbly | *Karol Kaye |
| *Jan & Judy Oberg | *Tim & Joanna Redder |
| *Brian & Danica Foland | *Terry & Jani Miller |
| *Scott & Julia Simmons | *Rivals Volleyball |
| *Harold & Colene Hakes | *DJ & Peggy Mangis |
| *Josh & Kasey Pitts | *Dave & Melissa Holling |
| | *St. John Hardware |
| | *Mike & Dixie Burnham |
| | *Ottmar Family |
| | *Lloyd Stevens |
| | *Rick & Dawn Brash |
| | *Stacie & Steve Gorder |
| | *Mike & Kim Burley |
| | *Wes & Sara Suksdorf |
| | *Ross & Katrina Rambo |

Liberty Elementary & Junior High

Elementary Excellence Awards *for January*



Congratulations to our citizens of the month for January, who exemplified the “Character Counts” trait of the month—**Respect**: (l-r) Sadie Stout, Josie Beck, Shyah Ellis, Gus Suksdorf, Kerry Schultz, Jade Garcia, Jezi Pluff, Carson Campbell, Austen Hubbard, Robyn Garcia, Kendyl Fletcher.



Junior High Excellence Awards—Term 2



8th graders earning a 4.0 GPA term 2.

8th Grade 4.0 GPA (pictured at left, l-r, top to bottom): Alec Fletcher, Tyson Schenk, Austin Rambo, Breydon Doubet, Thomas Redder, Jada Schulken, Lindsay Stern, Matthew Burley.

8th Grade Honor Roll (3.5-3.99 GPA): Angel Adams, Isaac Branon, Marybelle Buck, Grace Campbell, Tate Carey, Emilee Crump, James Heer, Brandon Holling, Glen Johnson, Caroline Nelson, Anastasiya Pyankova, Heaven Schultz, Beau St. John, Mary St. Pierre, Michaela Tee, Brett Watson.

Academic Students of the Quarter—Term 2



John Stitt, Matthew Burley, Annabelle Bennett and Lindsay Stern (l-r) were selected by their teachers as academic students of the quarter.

7th Grade Honor Roll (3.5-3.99 GPA): Daniel Adams, Garrett Baump, Logan Billington, Julia Collins, Jon Denny, Olivia Grumbly, Emma Holwegner, Racheal Ince, Annie Karlis, Lily Kay, Justin King, Isaak Ottmar, Bowe Rojas, Evan Smith, John Stitt, Jackie Turner, Simon Vincini.

Most Improved GPA:

Congratulations to Daniel Adams, Jacob Suarez, Justin King and Tate Carey (pictured at right, l-r), who showed the most improvement in their respective grade point averages over last term.



Junior Boosters Looking for More Volunteers

The Junior Boosters are looking for a few interested volunteers to help with boosters-sponsored school activities. The Junior Boosters help with fundraising and school activities throughout the year including the Sports-A-Thon, science fair, Missoula Children's Theatre, Fun Run, Scholastic Book Fair, and Skate Night—just to name a few. Without volunteers to help run the programs there is always a possibility the activities will need to be discontinued.

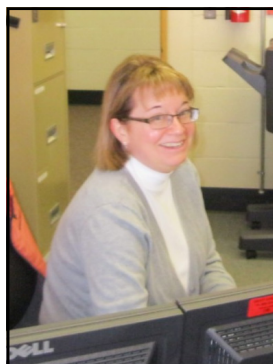
The next Junior Booster meeting is Tuesday, March 11, at 7pm in the Parent Center. For more information contact Tanya Reedy at 509-448-3598.

K-8
Dates to Remember

| FEBRUARY | |
|----------|---|
| 10 | 2-Hour Late Start |
| 14 | Valentine's Day |
| 17 | Presidents' Day—NO SCHOOL |
| 20 | College Color Day |
| 21 | Read-A-Thon Kickoff, 2:10 Midterm Grading Day |
| 26 | Dad's Donut Day Breakfast, 8:05 |
| 27 | Rachel's Challenge Assemblies Board Meeting, 7pm |
| 28 | 8th Grade Cross-Country Ski Trip to Mt. Spokane |

Liberty High School

New Secretary



Mrs. Krissy Hardie

Please welcome Krissy Hardie as the new secretary at Liberty High School. Krissy brings an extensive background working in the public education system. Previously Krissy was employed at Eastern Washington University as a program coordinator in the registrar's office. Her previous experience includes working in the Cheney School District as a Kids First assistant site coordinator and Learning Center instructor. Krissy has also worked in the Almira/Coulee-Hartline School District as a classified employee and cheer advisor.

Krissy's first day in the office was February 3. She can be reached at khardie@libertysd.us or 509-245-3229, x1.

Once again we are excited to have Krissy join the excellent staff at the High School. Please join me in welcoming Krissy Hardie to Liberty.

1st Semester Academic Awards

We have concluded our first semester for the 2013-14 school year. All students have done an outstanding job of learning throughout the first two quarters. Below you will find the first semester honor roll. Students of the second quarter (*pictured at right, l-r*) are: Marcus Hammond, Kelsey Weeks, Gabe Saywers, Emily Mumby, Kaitlyn Rambo, Meghan Grumbly, Elizabeth Brown, and Zack Parker (not shown). The ASB selected Mr. VanSickle (*pictured at right, center*) as teacher of the quarter. Congratulations to all!



Students and teacher of the quarter.

LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL, SEMESTER 1, JANUARY 2014

4.0 GPA

12th grade: JESSE BAIRD, EMILY MUMBY, ALYSSA TEE, RYAN THAYER, MIKAYLA WILSON, SHAREENA MCGREGOR, *9th grade:* ABIGAIL KARLIS

3.5 – 3.99 GPA

12th grade: MACY CORNMESSER, DYLLIAN FLAIG, DEREK GREEN, LYNNSEY KELLEY, EMILY LEHMAN, KATELYN MARCURE, BLAKE MARSH, CASSANDRA RUSSELL, JOSEPH RYAN-HUOTARI, GABRIEL SAYWERS, STEPHANIE SCHILLING, ALEXANDRA SCHUERER, KATHERINE STERN, BREANNA THIEREN, KELSEY WEEKS, SHEALENE WHEELER, *11th grade:* ABIGAIL BROWN, MATCH BURNHAM, TUCKER CAREY, ALAINA CURL, ALYSSA RHOADS, JACK SIMMONS, ALYSHA THOMAS *10th grade:* NATHANIEL BURLEY, JODI CARRELL, KEITH DUMAW, SPENCER FOX, KALEB HAFNER, DANIEL HIRCOCK, FRANKLIN JAMES, MAXWELL JOHNSON, KILLIAN KNECHT, MARGARET NELSON, JACOB POTTRATZ, KAITLYN RAMBO, JUSTICE SCHUMAN, *9th grade:* DEVIN BILLINGTON, ELIZABETH BROWN, KYLE DEGON, MATTHEW DEGON, CHRISTINE DENNY, KATHRYN FAIRFIELD, JUSTIN FLAIG, MADELYNNE FLAIG, TYLER HAAS, JACOB HARRINGTON, BRADEN HOUSE, ALLYSHA HUBBARD, KRISTIN INCE, KAYLA MASSENGALE, AUTUMN MORSE, PATRICK PAREDES, GARRETT SPURRELL

3.0 -3.49 GPA

12th grade: REESE ANDERSON, THANIA CLARK, ROBERT COVEY, FAITH CURRY, JARED PARKES, AUSTIN SIEVERS, CORY SZEP, *11th grade:* KAIN FELTWELL, KYLE KING, TRISHIA MCTAGGART, *10th grade:* RYAN CAMPBELL, GARRETT GREEN, MEGHAN GRUMBLY, MANDARA MORGAN-WEILAND, MARIN OTTMAR, BRIDGETTE ROLL, AMETHYST SIMON, JESSICA TROTTER, KASSANDRA TURNER, *9th grade:* CHASE BURNHAM, THOMAS CANNING, DUSTIN DUMAW, CARSON HOLWEGNER, MICHAEL KIDDOO, JOSHUA LARSEN-NOWLAND, HALEY LEMOINE.

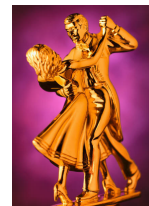
High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE)

All sophomores across Washington State will take part in the High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE) test for reading and writing in March. The writing test is a two-day test that will take place March 18 and 19. The reading test will be administered March 20. The science and math tests have moved to an End of Course Exam (EOC). These EOCs will be taken the last three weeks of the second semester. Students will be notified as to which math exam they will be taking. The staff at the high school continues to do an excellent job preparing our students for these exams.

| Test | When | Time | Who |
|--------------|---------------|------------|--|
| HSPE Writing | March 18 & 19 | 8:30-11:30 | All 10 th graders, and 11 th and 12 th graders who have not passed writing. |
| HSPE Reading | March 20 | 8:30-11:30 | All 10 th graders, and 11 th and 12 th graders who have not passed reading. |

Prom

As we head into spring, that means prom is right around the corner. Once again the prom will be held at Fairchild Air Force Base on March 15. Students planning on attending must pick up paperwork from Ms. Whittall. Prom tickets are currently on sale at the high school office. The paperwork must be filled out and turned in when the tickets are purchased. There will be no late sales for prom tickets; all paperwork is due by February 7.



XtheTXT

Thank you to the Liberty School District Booster Club and everyone who purchased an airplane at the 2014 XthTXT event, and congratulations to Ellie Denny, Matthew Heer and Maisie Burnham for having their planes land in the garbage can goals! The Liberty Booster Club along with Hodgson & Associates sponsored XtheTXT on Tuesday, January 15. This event raised awareness of



Band students proudly display their thumb bands.

the dangers of texting while driving. Students, staff, parents, and community members visited the booth and took the XtheTXT pledge, and those who made the pledge received a thumb band. There were over 200 pledges, and the event raised over \$2,000 for the Liberty School District Booster Club.



Jani Miller and Scott Simmons (at left) accept a check for over \$2000 from Allstate representatives.

Ag Issues

Congratulations to Mr. Kimble and the Ag Issues team for their recent first place finishes at the Sub- and District meets. The Lancers have qualified for the State Convention May 14-17 in Pullman. This year's topic: "Are Drones in Agriculture: Harmless Helpers or Mindless Monsters?"



FFA team (l-r): Nate Burley, Abby Karlis, Christine Denny, Bridgette Roll, Kaitlyn Rambo, Meghan Grumbly, Devin Billington.

Lancer Wrestling

February brings out the best for our wrestlers. Kain Feltwell, Kevin Winder, Kyle DeGon, Matt DeGon, Jake Harrington, Kaleb Hafner, Garrett Spurrell, Garrett Spurrell Lancer wrestling Head Coach Adam Rick Mumby and manager Emily our wrestlers are the trip to the Mat this year which February 21 and 22 at the Tacoma Dome. The regional wrestling tournament will be held February 14-15 in Kittitas. We wish our wrestlers the best of luck!



Sheriff's Corner

The world in which we live is becoming increasingly dangerous. Just watch the news. The Spokane area is like any other city in the United States. We have gangs, drugs, robberies, burglaries, and homicides. We are not immune to this. Crime knows no address. As the School Resource Deputy for Liberty School District, my main function is the safety and security of students and staff. The school district is a small community. To be able to do my job within this community takes help from its members, the students. Just like citizens in the surrounding communities, the students hear and see what happens on a day-to-day basis. Without those individuals, it would be impossible for me to do my job. If something is seen or heard and no one says anything or reports it, there is nothing I can do. The students themselves help keep Liberty a safe place by reporting unsafe things they see or hear. All too often, important unsafe items or talk is not reported in a timely fashion. I hear the excuses like; "He or she always talks like that" or "I thought he or she was just joking" or "I didn't want him or her to get into trouble." The bottom line is this type of thing needs to be reported immediately to an adult. As parents and staff members, we need to remind students to report these things. They are not being "tattletales." The students are being responsible citizens of the Liberty community. Let the adults decide whether someone was joking around or being serious. Together we can continue to keep the Liberty school community a safe place.



Deputy Ron Nye



FEBRUARY

- 3 Ag Issues @ Pomeroy
- 4 Knowledge Bowl
Algebra I EOC Make-up
- 5 FBLA Conference
- 7 Prom Ticket Sales End
- 8 Wrestling Sub Regional
- 10 Late Start
- 14 Regional Wrestling
- 15 Regional Wrestling
- 17 NO SCHOOL
- 18 ASVAB Test
- 20 College Color Day
- 21 State Wrestling
- 22 State Wrestling
- 28 Regional Knowledge Bowl
Robotics @ Auburn H.S.
Regional Basketball