



The Liberty Lancer

A PUBLICATION OF LIBERTY SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 362

FEBRUARY 2018

Driver's Education

911 Driving School will offer a class at Liberty this spring, April 10-May 10. Classes are held at the high school in the mornings prior to school starting.

For more information about this program, please contact 911 Driving School at (509) 324-0911 or 911drivingschool.com.



Congratulations to Liberty Junior High

2017 School of Distinction



Ballots are due on or before February 13.

In this Issue:

District News 1-2
E/JH News 3-4
LHS News 4-5
Levy Information6

Message from the Superintendent

Dear Liberty Community:

I hope your new year is off to a great start. As we begin the second half of the school year, I'd like to take an opportunity to highlight some of the many accomplishments of our students and district so far.

Kyle Rydell
Superintendent/K-8 Principal
(509) 245-6213
Mobile: (509) 370-4079
krydell@libertysd.us



New gym interior



Student commons addition

- The campus has undergone an amazing transformation as the construction crews have completed the bus loop and parking lot renovations and continue to make great progress on the high school remodel and new addition construction.
- Enrollment reached 500 students this fall (over 100 new students since 2015).
- Our Lancer football team made it to the state championship game and finished 2nd in state for the second consecutive year.
- Our Lancer volleyball team advanced to the state tournament for the first time since 1975.
- The junior high team was honored as a 2017 School of Distinction for their five-year sustained growth in English language arts and math as measured on the state assessments.

- Our junior high Knights athletes had an outstanding fall with undefeated varsity seasons in football, volleyball, and girls' basketball.

As you can see, we've had a fantastic start to the year at Liberty and are looking forward to an equally successful finish.

Included in this month's newsletter is a levy fact sheet. The district is running two replacement levies on the February 13 ballot to fund Educational Programs and Operations and Technology, Safety, and Security. More information can be found at www.LibertySD.us/levies.

Our winter activities are in full swing. The Knowledge Bowl, FFA, basketball, and wrestling teams have shown success early in their seasons. We hope to see you supporting the students at some of our upcoming contests.

Thank you for your continuing support of our schools and district; your partnership and dedication to our students is vital to the success of our community. If you should have any questions, please contact me at krydell@libertysd.us or 245-6213.

Kyle Rydell, Superintendent/ K-8 Principal

Kindergarten Roundup

Friday, April 27, 9:30 a.m.

Kindergarten registration opens March 1.

The Liberty Lancer

The Liberty Lancer is published during the academic year by Liberty School District, emailed to families, and posted on the district website 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 community.

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

February 2018

DISTRICT MISSION & CIVIL RIGHTS STATEMENT

Liberty School District will provide a safe, nurturing, and rigorous learning environment, maximizing each student's potential today, with tomorrow in mind.

Liberty School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, religion, creed, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained guide dog or service animal in its programs, employment, and/or activities. The district will provide equal access to school facilities to the Boy Scouts of America and all other designated youth groups. District programs will be free of sexual harassment.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kynda Browning
kybrowning@libertysd.us

Chad Cornmesser, WIAA Rep.
ccornmesser@libertysd.us

Chad Denny, Chair
chaddenny@libertysd.us

Andy Schenk, Vice Chair
aschenk@libertysd.us

Scott Simmons, Legislative Rep.
ssimmons@libertysd.us

Board member phone numbers are available on the district website.

Superintendent: Kyle Rydell
krydell@libertysd.us

UPCOMING MEETINGS

All meetings are held in the Elementary/Junior High Library

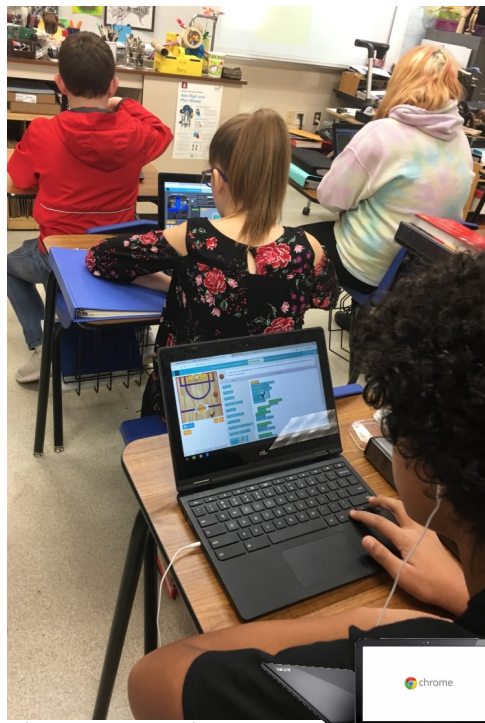
Tuesday, February 27, 6:00pm

Wednesday, March 28, 6:00pm

Wednesday, April 25, 6:00pm

Computer Science Enters our Junior High Science Classrooms

This summer Mrs. Berry received a grant to attend a training to aid in the focus on



Liberty Junior High students are being introduced to computer programming, design, and coding as computer science curriculum is integrated into the science classrooms.

integrating computer science into our junior high science curriculum. CODE.org is behind the change as we prepare our students for the next wave of a technology-driven society. Students are being introduced to programming, design, and the many facets of coding through each of the six units of study. The students are focusing on problem solving, persistence, creativity, collaboration, and communication as they work through the lessons.

1:1 Devices in Grades 3-12

This year marks another step toward putting devices in the hands of each of our students as we expanded the 1:1 initiative into our third and fourth grade classrooms. This journey has been made possible by the support from our community through technology levy funds. Students are working with the Google Chrome features throughout the district, and it is changing the traditional classroom model to a more hands-on structure.

Sheriff's Corner - See something, say something!

The start of the 2017-2018 school year has affected numerous lives, including mine. The Freeman school shooting has changed the way schools and police in our area do business forever. Every inappropriate post, threat, and rumor of harm must be checked on, leaving no stone unturned. The way we accomplish this is through reporting and communication. As parents, this is where we come in.

The students at Liberty are the ones who see and hear what's happening in and outside of school way before the adults. The students keep our school safe. I urge each parent or guardian of our students to encourage communication with an adult if they see or hear something that is unsafe. That includes posts on social media, rumors, or conversations that may be overheard. The sooner it's reported, the better.

I know that kids don't want to be labeled as a snitch or tattletale. Reporting something that might be unsafe is about doing the right thing. As parents, we need to teach our kids that doing the right thing is okay no matter what their peers might say. The more we teach our kids to talk to us about the things going on in and around school, the safer we will be.

There are several ways to police, tell a trusted adult, tell "Safe Schools Alert." Whatever

*If you
see something,
say something.*

method you or your student chooses, the bottom line is, *if you see something, say something.* This will continue to keep our schools and communities a safer place.



Deputy Ron Nye

LIBERTY ELEMENTARY & JUNIOR HIGH

ELEMENTARY CHARACTER AWARDS

November

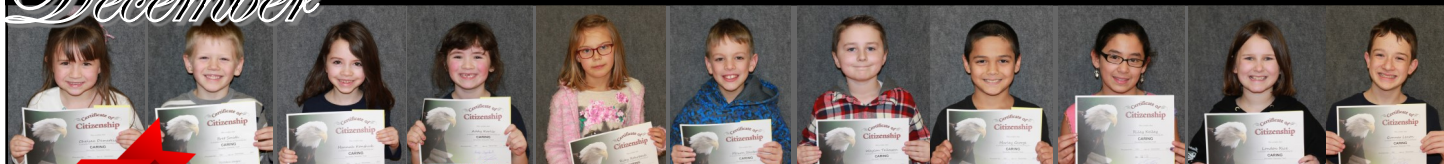


Congratulations to November's elementary citizens of the month, who exemplified the character trait of **THANKFULNESS**.

(l-r) **Paige Holling, Hayden Rohrbach, Meric Riley, Jocelyn Thomas, Raymond Lasz, Linus Bair, Aubrey Hofmann, Arabella Curtis, Coleman Tee, Quinn Morgan, Scarlett Harader**

thankfulness

December



Congratulations to December's elementary citizens of the month, who exemplified the character trait of **CARING**:

(l-r) **Chelsea Demateis, Bret Smith, Hannah Konshuk, Addy Karlis, Riley Rohrbach, Moxon Strobel, Waylon Tellessen, Marley George, Riley Kelley, London Rice, Gunnar Lenon**

caring

January



Congratulations to January's elementary citizens of the month, who exemplified the character trait of **RESPECT**:

(l-r) **Garrett Gollehon, Ethan Fuchs, Henry Johnson, Brody Ross, Heidi Stout, Aaron Lee, Faith Tofsrud, Reed Widman, Maddex Strobel, Cooper Thomas, Caleb Nollmeyer**

respect

Junior High Awards—Term 2

8th GRADE - 4.0 GPA



(at left, l-r, back-to-front)
Amelia Suksdorf, Ella Plaksin, Logan Grumbly, Benjamin Pritchett, Mckenzie Pestana, Sophia Pyankova, Kyle Belles, Tayshawn Colvin, London Foland, Colton Marsh, Sarah Burley, Annika Tee, Ava Budde, Allison Karlis

3.5-3.99 GPA Kasey Branon, Henry Greer, Vivian Harader, Matthew Heer, Gage Holling, Alexandra Kettner, Mitchell Lencioni, Delaney Lenon, Colton Materne, Ryleigh Medart, Madison Obermier, Jenna Piersol, Mason Simmons, Jaidyn Stephens, Connor Stitt, Trenton Stoe, Hayden Tee, Damon Thieren, Dillon Thieren, Logan Wilson

7th GRADE - 4.0 GPA (at right) Kenzie Barta, Hailey Carter, Shaley Tiegs, Angelina Widman, Elizabeth Denny, Annah Schulken

3.5-3.99 GPA Christian Barlow, Billy Boles, Taylor Felgenhauer, Jade Garcia, Eli Gilkey, Dylan Goodwin, Chase Hartman, Devin Holling, Michaela Leno, Lucas Paul, Jezerei Pluff, Owen Prince, Faith Rice, Kaleb Rydell, Tyler Stitt, Ashton Strobel, Zachary Voigt, Mark Watson



Academic Students of the Quarter



At left:
**Ally Karlis
Hailey Carter
Ashton Strobel
Logan Grumbly**

Character Awards: *Thankfulness/Caring/Respect*

At right:
**Kenzie Barta
Sophia Pyankova
Ella Plaksin
Logan Grumbly**



Most Improved GPA



At left:
**Henry Greer
Jenna Piersol
Danny Yarkovoy
Christian Barlow**

Knights Athletics

UNDEFEATED!



Congratulations to our junior high Knights football, volleyball, and girls' basketball players and coaches for finishing their varsity seasons with undefeated records!



Teacher of the Month



Congratulations to Liberty 6th grade teacher **Mrs. Molly Gentry**, nominated by **Madison Lewis** and recognized by STCU and Avista as Teacher of the Month!

LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL



Aaron Fletcher, Principal

509-245-3229 ext. 7-1222, afletcher@libertysd.us

Character Counts

Each month Liberty School District focuses on a specific character trait. For the month of February, students will be focusing on ENCOURAGEMENT. In January the student body focused on RESPECT. The following students were recognized for displaying respect in a variety of ways (pictured below, back-to-front, l-r): **Alec Fletcher, Tyson Schenk, Jawuan Nave, Catherine Brown, Kendyl Fletcher, Olivia Morgan, Diana Nikolaychuk**. Not pictured: **Naomi Fry, Bud Hahnen, Gloria Nikityuk**.



P Our Prom committee has been actively working on setting up for Prom 2018. This year we will join Freeman High School on April 28th at CenterPlace in Spokane Valley. Tickets must be pre-purchased at the school office. The dance will begin at 8pm and end at 11. Both districts will provide chaperones in addition to help from the Spokane County Sheriff's Office. For more information about Prom, contact Mrs. Chambers at ext. 1302.

Knowledge Bowl

Congratulations to Mr. VanSickle and the Knowledge Bowl team who continue to be undefeated this year in their competitions. This group will continue their season with two more regular season matches in February. They will also compete in the Regional competition February 23 at Whitworth University.



This year's team (l-r): **James Heer, Matthew Burley, Brett Watson, Tyson Schenk, Justin Jeske, Alec Fletcher, Justin King, Breydon Doubet, Thomas Redder, and Austin Rambo**.

Semester 1 Honor Roll

We have concluded our first semester for the 2017-18 school year. All students have done an outstanding job of learning throughout the first two quarters. Any student who is looking to make a class change should contact Mr. Hammond. Listed below is the Honor Roll for the first semester:

4.0 GPA

Ashlyn Bartels
Emma Bartels
Matthew Burley
Makenzie DeShazer
Katelyn Dillon
Madison Greer
Sara Hartman
James Heer
Annika Hennington
Auriana Mitchell
Olivia Morgan
Isaak Ottmar
Austin Rambo
Dylan Ray
Thomas Redder
Jada Schulken
Carson Tee

3.5-3.99 GPA

Dylan Belles
Rebecca Benavidez
Jacob Biegert
Isaac Branon
Marybelle Buck
Maisie Burnham
Aleena Cook
Breydon Doubet
Sean Duncan-Day
Maizy Feltwell
Carlos Figueroa
Carson Fisk
Alec Fletcher
Kendyl Fletcher
Hayden Hardt
Julianne Harvey
Joshua Hircock
Brandon Holling
Justin Jeske
Charlie Johnson
Glen Johnson
Annabelle Karlis
Justin King
Logan Kroll
Haley Marsh
Savanna Moczulski
Gloria Nikityuk
Cole Ottmar
Marissa Powers
Kadia Rinehart

Beau St. John
Tyson Schenk
Heaven Schultz
Kyleigh Shaw
Faith Shinner
Sydney Siron
Ariel Skutley
Logan Smith
Lindsay Stern
Sara Tarbert
Michaela Tee
Brandi Thieren
Natalie Voigt
Brett Watson
Kellan Watson

3.00-3.49 GPA

Ashley Anderson
Grant Beam
Amelia Bennett
Logan Billington
Catherine Brown
Stephen Carr
Ethan Curtis
Jon Denny
Miranda Field
Korbin Finch
Austin Flaig
Tristan Foster
Trace Gale
Jenna Garcia
Robyn Garcia
Kalem Gardiner
Cheyanne Gleave
Delaney Goodwin
Peter Haxton
Jacob Holling
Emma Holwegner
Austen Hubbard
Kylee Hubbard
Kyle Johnson
Stacia Johnson
Paul Kaze
Logan Kettner
Jared Kimball
Daniel Knudson
Emily Lindquist
Viktorija Miller
Faith Moczulski
Samuel Nelson
Diana Nikolaychuk
Cole Prince
Austin Roberts
Tanner Schenk
Jonah Shrode
Caleb Sievers
Noah Sievers
Evan Smith
Johnathan Stitt
Jesse Turner

Ag Issues Mr. Braun and the LHS FFA Ag Issues teams have begun their annual spring competitions. Liberty has two Ag Issues teams competing for a trip to FFA State held at WSU in May. Both teams did very well at the FFA District 5 Ag Issues Leadership Development Event held in Cheney in December. The team that presented on *Immigration in Agriculture* placed third and has qualified for State. That team consists of **Isaak Ottmar, Jon Denny, Jacob Biegert, Emma Kate Bartels, Ashlyn Bartels, Cheyanne Gleave, and Emma Holwegner** (at left, l-r).



The Ag Issues group that presented *In-Vitro Meat* (pictured below) placed sixth in the event. They improved and beat three teams and are now in a lottery to see if they will draw a spot at state in May. Both teams represented our school and community well. Best of luck to all of our FFA members as they continue their run of Career Development Events this spring!



At left, l-r:
Madison Greer
Levi Kettner
Kylee Hubbard
Annika Hennington
Josh Haas

Robotics

The Liberty Robotics team #3220 kicked off their season at Eastern Washington University where they discovered what this year's game will be. The game is called Power Up, and teams score



points by collecting boxes and stacking them on the team scale. Team #3220 has six weeks to build a robot that will compete at two district contests.

The team will compete at the Yakima Valley SunDome March 16-17, and at

West Valley High School March 22 and 24, for a chance to attend the district championships. Approximately 20 students will work on the robot to get it competition-ready.

Art Contest Award

Congratulations to **Daniel Knudson** for placing 5th in the teen art contest at First Night in Spokane. Daniel was one of 30 entrants competing for the top spot in the contest with the crest he created in Metal Art class. His attention to detail and vivid imagination helped him place in the top ten. Great job, Daniel!





LEVY FACT SHEET

Every three years we run replacement levies, which represent about 17 percent of our district's total budget. These funds fill the gap between what we receive in state funding and what is necessary to provide a well-rounded educational program for our students. We are grateful for your ongoing support. Please vote! Mail-in ballots are due on or before Tuesday, February 13, 2018.

Replacement

Educational Programs & Operations (EPO) Levy

- ☑ The EPO Levy is a **replacement** of the expiring three-year levy. **It is NOT a new tax.**
- ☑ The EPO Levy helps maintain current educational programs, smaller class sizes, maintenance of facilities and grounds, and student activities not funded by state or federal dollars.
- ☑ The EPO Levy will provide approximately 17 percent of Liberty School District's total budget:
 - ⇒ \$1,068,175 in 2019 (based on an estimated tax rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed property value)
 - ⇒ \$1,281,811 in 2020 (tax rate = \$1.50 per \$1,000)
 - ⇒ \$1,538,173 in 2021 (tax rate = \$1.50 per \$1,000)

Levies Fund:

SAFETY

TEACHERS

SUPPLIES

MUSIC

ART

FOOD SERVICE

ACTIVITY BUSES

NURSE

COUNSELORS

SOFTWARE

COMPUTERS

FIELD TRIPS

FACILITIES

MAINTENANCE

Did you know?

On February 13, Liberty School District voters will be asked to **renew the Educational Programs and Operations Levy and the Technology, Safety and Security Levy**, both of which expire in 2018.

These are NOT new taxes.

Approximately 500 students and 100 staff members are directly affected by the levy.

Co-curricular, extra-curricular and activities programs are dependent on levy dollars.

Levy rates will decrease by **48 percent.**

\$2.88/\$1,000 assessed value in 2018
down to \$1.50/\$1,000 thereafter.

Levy tax exemptions are available.

Contact the Spokane County Assessor's office,
(509) 477-5754.

Replacement

Technology, Safety & Security (TSS) Levy

- ☑ The TSS Levy is a **replacement** of the expiring three-year levy. **It is NOT a new tax.**
- ☑ The TSS Levy is used to:
 - ⇒ Maintain district servers and networks
 - ⇒ Supply classrooms and labs with up-to-date 1:1 equipment
 - ⇒ Pay for annual software licenses and internet connection fees
 - ⇒ Train instructional staff
 - ⇒ Improve campus security, security cameras, and door access
- ☑ The TSS Levy will provide \$175,000 per year, taxed at an approximate rate of \$0.25 per \$1,000 of assessed property value.

Monthly Cost Based on Sample Property Values:

EPO Levy

Proposed change:

\$2.88
per \$1000 of
assessed property
value

Levy & Rate
EPO: \$1.50/\$1,000

TSS: \$0.25/\$1,000

\$1.50

Assessed Value
\$100,000 = \$13
\$300,000 = \$28

\$100,000 = \$2
\$300,000 = \$6



TEXTBOOKS

SUBSTITUTES

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

SECURITY CAMERAS

Please

VOTE

Mail-in ballots are
due on or before
February 13.

For more information, contact Kyle Rydell
District Superintendent & K-8 Principal
(509) 245-3211 ext. 7-2213
krydell@libertysd.us

