**Message from the Superintendent**

I hope the summer is going well for you all! I want to say hello and reiterate how excited I am to be here at Liberty. Leading up to my July starting date, I was made to feel very welcome by everyone at the school and by those we met from the community—not only on the day of my interview, but also on all the other visits I made to the school and area. My wife Lisa and I truly feel like we are moving home and into a supportive and caring community. We have enjoyed settling in so far and look forward to meeting more of our neighbors in the coming months.

So, who am I and where did I come from? I was born in Spokane but grew up in the Palouse, attending school at Steptoe in grades 1-6 then Colfax through graduation. I earned my college degree from EWU, graduating with a degree in secondary social studies education. I taught one year in Lakeview, Oregon, then 11 years at Othello. While teaching I also coached many sports and was an athletic director for several years as well. In 2000 we moved to Okanogan, where I began as the 7-12 Assistant Principal and in 2003 was named the principal of Okanogan Middle School. I served there until being hired by Liberty.

I am a strong supporter of schools and of extra-curricular activities including music, drama, FFA, and other activities as well as sports. Mr. Rydell did an excellent job of leading Liberty forward over the last five years, and I plan to continue to do the same.

I look forward to visiting and meeting the community members all across our district. I will be meeting individually with all district staff members as part of my integration to get to know the district better. I also plan to set up a poll for community members to answer the same questions I will be asking the staff:

1) **What do you love most about Liberty SD?**
2) **What is the biggest need for improvement within the school district?**
3) **What do you feel you can do or provide to help the district?**

From these discussions I hope to gain the information needed to help build and recommend goals for the district moving forward.

If you have any questions for me, please feel free to contact me at bbaum@libertysd.us or in the office at (509) 245-3211, ext. 7-2213. I hope everyone continues to have a great summer, and we’ll see you at the end of August for the start of the new school year!

**Open School Board Position—Director District #5**

School board chair Andy Schenk has resigned his position on the Liberty School Board after moving outside of the district. Andy was appointed in July of 2017 and has served the Liberty community with dedication. The Schenk family will remain active in the Liberty community as their son Tanner plans to graduate from LHS in 2021.

If you are interested in running for the open board position and live within director district #5 (in the NW portion depicted in pink on the map), please seek additional information by contacting the district office at (509) 624-4415.
Attendance Reporting and Bus Dispatching
Attendance messages can be left for both schools by calling (509) 245-3211 or 245-3229 and selecting option 8. When reporting an absence for your student, please also let us know if your child’s bus route will be impacted. In addition to the office secretaries, transportation assistant Jenny Janson will be monitoring messages left on the attendance line and dispatching morning route changes to the bus drivers.

Staffing Updates
This summer has brought several staffing changes within the district:

Candy Tusler has retired from her position at Liberty High School. Mrs. Tusler started as a classified substitute at Liberty and was hired as a paraeducator in 1993, serving as Liberty’s librarian for many of her years in the district. We thank Mrs. Tusler for her 25+ years of service to Liberty’s students and wish her a wonderful, well-deserved retirement!

Kim Wrenchey is not leaving Liberty after all. After 10 years in the elementary/junior high office, Mrs. Wrenchey has now moved into the district office as the AP/purchasing administrative assistant.

We welcome Stacey Fisk as the new elementary/JH secretary joining Mrs. Schuman in the front office. Mrs. Fisk served as a paraeducator last year and helped as a classified substitute in the district for several years prior. Mrs. Fisk is a familiar friendly face to the students and will be a great addition to the office.

Kyle Dodge joins the Liberty team as the new Athletic Director and JH history teacher. Mr. Dodge comes to us with a wealth of knowledge in the classroom and as an Athletic Director, with 23 years of teaching experience and 14 years as the A.D. for Mary Walker School District.

Charis Bair is moving into the 3rd grade classroom replacing Miss DeRuwe, who accepted a teaching position in the Mukilteo School District. Ms. Bair has held the positions of bus driver, paraeducator, and elementary music teacher at Liberty and is excited and ready for her own classroom. The replacement for the LAP teacher/elementary music teaching position previously filled by Ms. Bair was not yet selected by the time of printing and will be announced once finalized.

Julie Smith is the newest addition to the transportation department as a regular bus route driver, filling the vacancy left by the resignation of Rob Bergland. Mr. Bergland will stay on staff as the part-time bus mechanic and substitute driver. There will be additional changes within the transportation department as drivers have the option to move to other routes in a lottery system by seniority. Those changes will be announced at the start of the new school year.

If you are interested in working at Liberty, District employment opportunities are posted on our website at www.LibertySD.us/jobs and emailed to our parent email contact group as they become available. Substitutes for teachers, paraeducators, office positions, and bus drivers are needed!
Elementary Character Awards

February - ENCOURAGEMENT

March - HONESTY

April - FAIRNESS

May - PERSEVERANCE

Congratulations to our students of the month—recognized for their respect, encouragement, honesty, fairness, and perseverance (pictured above, top-to-bottom, L-R):

February: Amelia Schurr, Oliver Gentry, Ethan Fuchs, Blakely Strobel, Addy Karlis, Henry Johnson, Kevin Clark, Kameron Rosebrook, Parker Myers, Drew Piersol, Amberlyn Lawson, Kaleb Vanwert, Harley Segaline

March: Kenzie Thompson, Halle Hasenoehrl, Gaven Merrill, Piper Pluff, Barrett Johnson, Elsie Buys, Sonia Widman, Jocelyn Thomas, Jayden Selke, Estrella Trejo, Katy Belles, Jake Soriano

April: Paige Yarber, Lorelei Sharp, Callie McKay, Noah Wilson, Claire Culley, Ashton Herrick, Jenna Lee, Tim Pyankov, Lillie Felgenhauer, Daniel Nollmeyer, Addilee Buys, Marie Eden

May: Greylyn Herrick, Eli Gwinn, Ruby Smith, Brishen McBeth, Noah Rogers, Alaina Plaksin, Rylee Omlin, Kamryn Tee, Keagan Neeley, Ava DeLeon, Kyla Schulken, Phoenix George

Junior High Honor Roll - Term 4

4.0 GPA: Kenzie Barta, Hailey Carter, Teagan Colvin, Elizabeth Denny, Grace Grumbly, Madison Haas, Claie Holling, Samantha Holling, Mischka Leno, Quinn Morgan, Isabelle Murphy, Caleb Nollmeyer, Lucas Paul, Anna Pittmann, Brooke Redder, Annah Schulken, Shaley Tiets, Angelina Widman


School Supplies

Supply lists for grades K-8 are available on our website at www.LiberitySD.us.

Check out the $20 easy option once again offered by Jr. Boosters to save some time and hassle!

School office opens Tuesday, August 20!
Graduation

Congratulations to the Class of 2019! Thank you to all who came to recognize and support Liberty High School’s graduating seniors. All students worked extremely hard at meeting this goal in their life. Many of them will continue their education at numerous colleges around the area. This group was awarded over $1.2 million in scholarship and award money, $45,000 of which came from local groups in our community. Thank you to those who provided scholarships to our students.

The class was represented by Valedictorian Kolbey Browning and Salutatorian Gloria Nikityuk. The following students also graduated with honors: Annie Karlis, Justin King, Haley Marsh, Isaak Ottmar, Sam Pritchett and Aleah Rydell. Congratulations to all of the graduates; we are proud of you and wish you the best of luck in your futures.

Summer Office Hours & Registration

All continuing students registered for classes last spring and should have a copy of their 2019-20 schedules. The high school office will open Tuesday, August 20, for new student registrations, and office hours will be 8am-4pm until school starts. Once school begins, the high school office is open from 7:30-4:00.

Character Counts

Throughout the school year, Liberty School District focuses on a character trait of the month. For the month of April we focused on FAIRNESS, and the focus for May was on PERSEVERANCE. Students and staff recognized the following students for displaying these character traits in a variety of ways.

Fairness:

Allison Karlis, Olivia Morgan, Charlie Johnson, Trace Gale, and Sam Nelson

Perseverance:

Josh Hircok, Madison Greer, Henry Greer, Justina Larsen-Nowland, Jesse Turner, and Connor Stitt.

Over 60 students were recognized for a character trait throughout the school year.

The ASB also recognized Mr. Harkness as employee of the quarter for fourth quarter (pictured at left).

Welcome, Class of 2023

Beginning August 29 we will welcome another group to Liberty High School. The staff and students would like to welcome the Class of 2023 to the building.

If you are curious what school supplies you will need, here is short list to get you started:

- spiral notebook
- pens
- pencils
- loose paper
- 3-ring binder

Teachers may have other specific supplies you will need as the year progresses, but this should get you started.

We are anxiously awaiting our newest group of Lancers and look forward to preparing them to walk across the graduation stage in June 2023.
Student Government

Congratulations to our newest elected ASB officers, and thank you to those students who took the time and energy to run for office. Our ASB officers for 2019-20 are: **President Kellan Watson, Vice President Sam Nelson, Secretary Marissa Powers, Sergeant at Arms Charles Harrington, and Treasurer Charlie Johnson.**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>President</th>
<th>Vice President</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
<th>Sgt. at Arms</th>
<th>Treasurer</th>
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<td>Kellan Watson</td>
<td>Sam Nelson</td>
<td>Marissa Powers</td>
<td>Charles Harrington</td>
<td>Charlie Johnson</td>
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### Semester 2 Honor Roll

**4.0 GPA**
Ashlyn Bartels
Maisie Burnham
Kendyl Fletcher
Sara Hartman
Allison Karlis
Mackenzie Marks
Colton Marsh
Olivia Morgan
Isaak Ottmar
Garrett Stentz
Annika Tee
Kathryn Williams

**3.5-3.99 GPA**
Logan Bailey
Emma Bartels
Dylan Belles
Jacob Biegert
Logan Billington
Amelia Brown
Ava Budde
Tayshawn Colvin
Aleena Cook
Ethan Curtis
Maizy Feltwell
Carson Fisk
Jenna Garcia
Cheyanne Gleave
Delaney Goodwin
Madison Greer
Logan Grumbly
Vivian Harader
Annika Hennington
Keiana Henry
Gage Holling
Jacob Holling
Rachael Ince
Charlie Johnson
Annabelle Karlis
Jared Kimball
Justin King
Logan Kroll
Haley Marsh
Ryleigh Medart
Faith Moczulska
Savanna Moczulska
Gloria Nikityuk
Marissa Powers
Ben Pritchett
Carson Tee
Logan Smith
Connor Stitt
Johnathan Stitt
Amelia Suksdorf
Sara Tarbert
Natalie Voigt
Kellan Watson

**3.0-3.49 GPA**
Justine Barlow
Kyle Belles
Hadlee Brown
Stephen Carr
Jon Denny
Sean Duncan-Day
Jacob Enzler
Miranda Field
Kaylub Finch
Austin Flagg
London Foland
Tristan Foster
Trace Gale
Manuel Gamez-Nativo
Kalem Gardiner
Austen Hubbard
Kylee Hubbard
Mason Hymas
Kyle Johnson
Paul Kaze
Alexandra Kettner
Levi Kettner
Sam Nelson
Diana Nikolaychuk
Mekenzie Pestana
Jenna Piersol
Matthew Heer
Seiya Heikkila
Joshua Hircock
Danner Holling
Emma Holwegner
Austen Hubbard
Mason Simmons
Ariel Skutley
Evan Smith
Damon Thieren
Jesse Turner
Logan Wilson

Open House

Monday, August 26
4:00—6:00 p.m.

High school parents and students are encouraged to come and visit the school, meet teachers, pick up schedules, and start filling lockers.

Financial Aid Night

Wednesday, September 25
6:00 p.m.

Senior Project

The senior project remains a requirement for graduation at Liberty High School. We feel this project holds value and prepares our students for their next steps in their educational journeys. The senior project is a streamlined process allowing students to complete all sections in a timely manner.

Seniors will present their projects to the community panel on Tuesday, November 19. For more information about the senior project, please contact Mr. Hardie at 245-3229 ext. 7-1153 or lhardie@libertysd.us.
Included in this issue:

- Meet Superintendent /K-8 Principal Brett Baum
- Open Board position
- Staffing updates
- Student awards & recognitions
- Semester 2 Honor Roll lists

Enjoy the rest of summer break!
School starts Thursday, August 29.

Summer Campus Projects

The work doesn’t stop when the school year ends! Our custodial and grounds team has been busy all summer painting classrooms, cleaning carpets, and making preparations for another active school year. The grounds and play fields are looking great, thanks in part to a generous donation of fertilizer from Wilbur-Ellis.

Elementary and junior high students will see additional improvements including renovated junior high restrooms and playground safety upgrades with new curbing to retain the play-area wood chips for added cushioning around the climbing toys and swings.

Thank you Charlie, Steve, Jesse, Mike, Connie and Michael for keeping our campus looking great!