



## Classified Employees Week

Governor Jay Inslee has declared March 9-13 as Classified School Employees week. Classified employees are involved in nearly every aspect of education—maintaining buildings and grounds, preparing and serving meals, keeping school facilities clean and orderly, assisting in the classrooms, safely transporting our students, providing a secure and healthy environment, and many other specialized services. These dedicated individuals deserve recognition and thanks for the outstanding work they do for Liberty School District.

Thank you, Liberty cooks, custodians, buildings and grounds staff, bus drivers, mechanic, paraeducators and secretaries—we appreciate your dedication to the students at Liberty.



Xay Xiong is one of our outstanding custodians. Classified Employees Week is March 9-13.

# The Liberty Lancer

March 2015

## Message from the Superintendent

Dear Parents, Staff and Community members:

Another month is in the books! Our winter sports are wrapping up with Lancer boys basketball continuing their season into the state tournament and our high school wrestlers earning an academic state championship. We had a great deal of positive news over the month of February including a packed cafeteria full of dads for our annual K-8 Dad's Donut Day breakfast.



These funds will continue to provide Liberty students with a well-rounded educational program. As a reminder, this levy will replace our expiring 2013-2015 levy and will begin next spring.

Once again, thank you for your continued support of our schools and district. Your partnership and dedication to our students is vital to the success of our community. If you have any questions, please contact me.



**Kyle Rydell**

Superintendent/K-8 Principal  
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## Sheriff's Corner Spice (synthetic marijuana)

What is "spice"? It's a mixture of herbs and spices sprayed with synthetic chemicals that, when smoked, produces similar effects to that of smoking marijuana. It's also called other names such as "K2, fake weed, Yucatan fire, Skunk, and Moon Rocks" to name a few. Spice falls under the heading called "synthetic cannabinoids." This drug has a mind-altering effect on the brain which causes substantial hallucinations in both the visual and auditory fields. It may slip under your radar as a parent because "spice" is sometimes mislabeled as herbal incense or potpourri. So, as parents, should we be concerned? Absolutely!

In July 2014, the National Institute on Drug Abuse reported that hospital emergency rooms in New York had a 220% increase in spice-related incidents.

Spice is a completely unpredictable drug. It can cause depression in one person while another may become agitated. Scientific testing has concluded that this drug is far more potent than marijuana. In fact, its potency can result in long-term health effects to those who use it. The reality is, smoking spice can kill you. Each time a person smokes it, it's like playing Russian roulette.



Deputy Ron Nye

Youth today think this drug is just like marijuana and that it's harmless. Parents, it's nothing like marijuana. Spice or synthetic marijuana is deadly! It's illegal to possess, purchase, and sell.

Please have a conversation with your student about the dangers of smoking this drug. As a parent, we owe it to our kids to educate them on this product that is rapidly becoming popular among teens and young adults.

# 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.

March 2015

## Board of Directors

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Board member phone numbers are available on the district website.

Superintendent  
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## Upcoming Board Meetings

All meetings are held at 6:00 PM  
in the Elementary/Junior High Library

Thursday, March 26

Thursday, April 23

Thursday, May 28

Thursday, June 25

# Liberty Elementary & Junior High

## Calling All Actors and Actresses!

For the 11th consecutive year, Liberty Junior Boosters is partnering with Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT) to bring an entertaining theatrical presentation of *The Little Mermaid* on-site to showcase our talented students.

Students in grades K-12 are invited to stay after school on Monday, March 16, to audition for a part in this year's play. Professional actors from Missoula Children's Theatre will conduct the audition and independently select students for age-appropriate roles as well as serve as mentors throughout the week. If selected for a part, students must be able to attend all daily rehearsals March 16-20, either right after school or during the evening hours. Students and parents alike have previously described this MCT week as busy, exciting and well worth the experience.

After a week of hard work, students will entertain audience members with their performance in the High School Gym on Friday, March 20, at 7:00 p.m. You will be amazed at the show the students put together in just a few short days. A nominal entrance fee will be charged at the door, and after the play everyone is invited to stop by the High School Home Ec Room to support the Band Boosters' ice cream social.

Permission slips and additional information will circulate to students in early March. If you have any questions before then or would like to volunteer to help out, feel free to contact Tanya Reedy at [juniormboosters@libertysd.us](mailto:juniormboosters@libertysd.us) or (509) 448-3598.

MCT & Liberty  
students present:  
***The Little Mermaid***  
Friday, March 20  
7:00 p.m.

## Read-A-Thon 2015



Liberty's "Thrilling Adventures of Reading" Read-A-Thon is in full swing! Students in grades K-8 are encouraged to READ, READ, READ as they track their minutes and work toward earning banner ribbons and free tickets to Silverwood for logging at least 10 hours of reading.

Remaining Read-A-Thon dress up days:

**Thursday, March 5**  
Playing All Day at the Adventure Park  
(sports attire day)

**Friday, March 13**  
Roller Coaster Hair or Hat Day  
(hats or crazy hair day)

**Thursday, March 19**  
Travel through the Adventure Park with a Buddy  
(twin day)



## K-8 Dates to Remember

### March (Trustworthiness)

- 6 NO SCHOOL
- 8 Daylight Saving Time begins
- 9-13 Classified Employees Week
- 12 Bi-County Academic Contest
- 16 MCT auditions
- 16-19 MCT practices after school
- 20 MCT performance, 7:00pm
- 1st day of spring
- 23 2-hour late start
- Read-A-Thon ends
- JH baseball & softball begin
- 24 FINAL day to turn in minutes
- 26 Board meeting, 6:00pm
- 27 End of 3rd quarter
- 30 JH track begins
- Grades 5-12 band concert, 7pm
- 31 Parent-teacher conferences



## Elementary Excellence Awards

# February



*Congratulations to our elementary citizens of the month who exemplified February's "Character Counts" trait—encouragement: (top, l-r) Christiana Cervantes, Paige Bethel, Joey Matherly, Alicia Kimball, Sylus Feltwell, Samantha Holling, (bottom, l-r) Jackson Wilson, Faith Rice, Mason Simmons, Ava Budde, Logan Smith.*



### E Award for Excellence

Congratulations to Jesse Turner for being awarded an E for Excellence award. The cafeteria staff nominated him for having a respectful and positive attitude.

### Spring State Testing

This spring, students in grades 3-8 and 10-11 will take the Smarter Balanced assessments for reading and/or math, and students in grades 5 and 8 will continue to take the MSP for science as well. A parent meeting will be set sometime during the week of March 23 to discuss the changes for this year. More information will follow!

## Liberty High School

Aaron Fletcher, Principal  
[afletcher@libertysd.us](mailto:afletcher@libertysd.us)

### Character Counts

Each month Liberty School District focuses on a character trait of the month. For the month of March students will be focusing on trustworthiness. For February the student body focused on encouragement. Students and staff recognized the following students for displaying encouragement in a variety of ways: Alyssa Rhoads, Harley Rhoads, Chase Burnham, Jodi Carrell, Abby Karlis, and Emilee Crump.

### State Testing

**Class of 2015 & 2016:** Students graduating in the class of 2015 and 2016 must pass the reading and writing HSPE, one math EOC and the biology EOC. Students will be notified as to which exam they will be taking. The high school staff continues to do an excellent job preparing our students for these exams. Testing dates and times:

Test	When	Time	Who
HSPE Reading	March 17	8:30-11:30	11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> students who have not passed.
HSPE Writing	March 18 & 19	8:30-11:30	11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> students who have not passed.

**Class of 2017 & 2018:** Students graduating in the class of 2017 and beyond must meet the graduation cut score on the Smarter Balanced ELA exam, pass one math EOC and the biology EOC. Students will be notified as to which exam they will be taking. Our staff at the high school continues to do an excellent job preparing our students for these exams.



*Jodi Carrell, Abby Karlis, Chase Burnham, Harley Rhoads (pictured above, l-r), Alyssa Rhoads, and Emilee Crump (not pictured) were chosen by their peers and teachers for displaying **encouragement** in a variety of ways.*

## Brad Henning Assembly

Thank you to the Liberty High School Booster Club and Liberty Junior Boosters for helping us bring Mr. Brad Henning and his presentation "Building Healthy Relationships" to Liberty High School on Wednesday, February 25.



Mr. Henning is a passionate presenter of information that seeks to keep students in healthy relationships—both among friends and in the realm of dating. Brad is an entertaining, thought-provoking and humorous speaker who captivated his audience and kept them on the edge of their seats as he challenged them with standards for their current and future relationships.

Students and staff from Tekoa and Rosalia School Districts joined us in the gymnasium for the presentation as well.

*Shown at left: Students were on the edge of their seats as Brad Henning challenged them with standards for current and future relationships.*



### March

- 2 Spring sports begin
- 6 NO SCHOOL
- 7 Robotics @ WVHS
- 11 FFA Sub-Districts
- 14 Prom
- 16 Honors Band @ INB
- 17 Reading HSPE
- 18 Writing HSPE
- 19 Writing HSPE
- 23 Late Start
- 25 FFA District
- 27 End of 3rd quarter
- 30 Spring band concert

## Ag Issues

Congratulations to Mr. Kimble and the 2014-15 Ag Issues team for their recent second place finish at the District competitions. The Lancers have qualified for the State Convention May 13-16 in Pullman. Team members include Matthew Burley, Lillie Marsh, Elizabeth Brown, Madelynne Flaig, and Lindsay Stern. The group will be focusing on the topic "Is Federal Crop Insurance a Necessary Safety Net or a Taxpayer Funded Fat Cat?"

The 2013-14 Liberty FFA Ag Issues Team was awarded the Agribusiness Council's Excellence in Agriculture Award for 2015. This group was recognized for their positive influence, industry awareness and outreach through their research, development, and presentation of various topics over the last 10+ years. The 2013-14 Ag Issues team of Abby Karlis, Christine Denny, Nathan Burley, Devin Billington, Kaitlyn Rambo, Bridgette Roll (*pictured at right, l-r*), and Meghan Grumbly (*not pictured*) were Sub-District, District and State Champions as well as a National Semi-finalist with their topic of "Drones in Agriculture." Thanks to all who support Liberty FFA!



## State Choir



James Heer

Outstanding music students from across Washington received top honors by being selected to participate in one of the 2015 Washington Music Educators Association (WMEA) All-State

performing groups. James Heer joined other outstanding high school student musicians in this gala event. WMEA All-State high school bands, orchestras and choirs met in Spokane February 13-15. The finest high school musicians from our state rehearsed and performed in concert under the direction of a world-renowned conductor. These WMEA All-State musicians were selected from over 2600 students who auditioned to participate in this special annual event.

## National Honor Society

The National Honor Society has been busy this year! Under the direction of Mrs. Chambers, the group of over thirty students continues to provide positive contributions to Liberty and our communities. The NHS hosts a semi-annual blood drive through the Inland NW Blood Center. Watch the district calendar for an update on the next NHS event. Everyone is welcome to join the NHS in honoring new inductees on April 2 at 6:00 in the High School cafeteria. You can contact Mrs. Chambers at [tchambers@libertysd.us](mailto:tchambers@libertysd.us) for information about any of these events.

*Everyone is welcome to join the NHS in honoring new inductees on April 2 at 6:00 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.*



## FBLA



Ms. Whittall and the Future Business Leaders of America recently participated in their annual Regional competition. Liberty High School had an outstanding competition, qualifying 12 students for the state event in Spokane April 15-18.

Here is a list of students and their events:

**Parliamentary Procedures:** Kaitlyn Rambo, Bridgette Roll, Christine Denny, Lillie Marsh, Lindsay Stern, Austin Rambo, Madelynne Flaig, and Michaela Tee

**Emerging Business Issues:**  
Bridgette Roll and Devin Billington

**Marketing:** Jacki Carrell/Trishia McTaggart and Emilee Shinkle/Taylor Brown

**Sports Management:** Patrick Parades/Chase Burnham

## Athletics

### Lancer Wrestlers Named Academic State Champions

The Lancer boys wrestling program has earned the WIAA Winter Academic State Championship for 2014-15. They were acknowledged for their Academic State Championship on Saturday, February 21, at the Tacoma Dome. Members of this squad include Kain Feltwell, Kaleb Hafner, Jake Harrington, Vincent Fowler, Maxwell Johnson, Kyle DeGon, Matt DeGon, Garrett Rogers, Glen Johnson, Coach Adam Thies, Coach Rick Mumby, and Coach Matt Hafner.

Congratulations to state medalists Kain Feltwell for his 2nd place finish in the 132 pound weight class and Kaleb Hafner for his 3rd place finish in the 152 pound weight class.



### Boys Basketball Headed to State!



The Lancer boys basketball team won its regional game against Warden High School on Saturday, February 28, in Cheney to punch their ticket to the 2015 2B Boys Hardwood Classic state championships March 5-7 at the Spokane Arena.

Liberty will play Life Christian on Thursday, March 5, at 12:15 p.m.

For brackets and scheduling information, please visit the high school basketball page via [www.libertysd.us/athletics](http://www.libertysd.us/athletics).

**Spring sports have begun @ LHS!**

For the most up-to-date athletics schedules, visit the athletics webpage at [www.libertysd.us/athletics](http://www.libertysd.us/athletics).