



"Home of the Eagles"

Center Elementary School

Providing a quality education for students in
Kindergarten - Fourth Grade

317 Spokane Way

Also home to Grant County Headstart, SHARP KIDS, Community Preschool, WIC

APRIL 2009 BOARD REPORT

Submitted by Sue Hinton, Principal

Annual Celebrations: Mini Bloomsday and Hoe Down

It is hard to believe that it is already time for our annual end-of-the-year celebrations!



This will mark the 31st year we have celebrated Mini-Bloomsday at the elementary. Mrs. McNeil, who began this event, has passed the organizational baton to Mrs. Egbert and Mrs. Portch. Our event will begin at 1:45. Students will run three laps around our school, the equivalent of approximately one mile. All students will be rewarded for their efforts

with a popsicle.

On May 8th we will be holding our annual "Hoe Down". This year we will be using a different format. Instead of the entire school dancing together, each grade level will perform a dance. Our Pow Wow club will also perform a traditional Native American dance. Of course we can't eliminate all traditions, so we will conclude with our favorite, the Chicken Dance, which everyone is invited to participate in. Hoe Down will begin at 1:00.



Third Grade students practice "Achy -Breaky Heart".

Salmon in the Classroom

Actually it is "trout", but the basics are the same! The Third Grade class is



once again raising fish from the embryonic stage to the fingerling stage. During this process they are learning all about salmon—from their life cycle to anatomy. They are even learning about what makes the optimum water environment for their fish. Along this process they have also learned some difficult lessons; fish can be bullies! They have lost some

fish to the bully behavior of others.

This year I once again had the privilege of showing the students the anatomy of the fish from the inside out. Two adult salmon were provided for the classroom. These were dissected (by me) so that the students could see what an actual salmon heart, liver, and gills look like. The fish were also filleted so that we could examine the bone structure of the fish. This was a bloody and stinky lesson—the kids loved it!

On May 29th the fish will be released into Banks Lake. Students will also participate in a variety of educational activities related to the life cycle of the salmon.

In previous years we traveled to the Salmon Festival in Leavenworth. Raising the fish ourselves has proven to be a much more intensive and memorable learning experience for our students.



Under the Big Top

On Friday, April 24th our second and third grade students were able to attend the Shrine Circus in Spokane. Years ago this was an annual event for our students, but due to scheduling and budget constraints had to be discontinued. This year, thanks to the generosity of the Shriners and our local PTA we were able to send 96 students off on this adventure!



Enrollment

Enrollment at Center continues to climb. We began this school year with 224 students (not FTE's) and as of April 27th our enrollment is 232.

It was reported that we had 7 students this year move to neighboring districts or opt for on-line instruction for various reasons. I wanted to see the converse of this so I checked on those students who had moved into our school. Here's my list:

Inchelium	2
Nespelem	6
Wilbur	1
Omak	2
Ephrata	1
Spokane	5
Kennewick	1
Bothell	1
Out of State	7

In total we have had 26 students move into our school. Not included in this count are the two students who enrolled today.

Kindergarten

Kindergarten registration and screening was held on April 16th and 17th. We had 38 students register for next year with 35 participating in the screening. Since then we have received requests for 3 more registration packets.

Upcoming Events...

- May 1st—Rain Forest Assembly (9:00)
- May 1st—31st Mini Bloomsday (1:45)
- May 4th-8th—Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 8th—Center Elementary Hoe Down (1:00)
- May 13th-May 14th—PreSchool Visit
- May 13th—1:30 Dismissal for Teacher Collaboration
- May 19th—Title VII Parent Advisory Committee Meeting
- May 21st-May 22nd—Student Led Conferences
- May 22nd—Pow Wow Club to Sunflower Festival
- May 25th—No School (Memorial Day)
- May 27th—1:30 Dismissal for Teacher Collaboration
- May 29th—Third Grade trip to Steamboat Rock for Fish Release
- June 2nd—Kindergarten Ice Castle Day
- June 4th—Kindergarten Musical (Time to be determined.)
- June 4th—Fourth Grade trip to Waterslides
- June 5th—Kindergarten, First Grade, and Second Grade to Spring Canyon
- June 8th—School Picnic Day
- June 9th—**LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!**