

## Hockinson Community Ed

### See what's new in Hockinson Community Education!

Hockinson Community Education has some great classes this winter. Look on our website for more information. Our winter brochure will be delivered the week of January 5, 2015.

Hockinson School District facilities are available after school hours for use or rent by community members, groups and organizations. Arrangement for all school locations are made through the Community Education office by calling (360) 448-6480. Facility requests must be submitted at least 5 business days prior to use. Schools may be rented for community purposes, provided that such use does not interfere with educational or district programs. The school district welcomes the use of its facilities by members of the surrounding community for various types of activities,

which must be consistent with the best interests of the district and not interfere with the regular conduct of the educational program.

For more information on any of our classes or camps, please visit our website at [www.hocksd.org](http://www.hocksd.org), look under the Community link, then Community Education, or you may call Janet Hawkins, Hockinson Community Education at (360) 448-6480.

Hours: 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

**Would you like to teach a class? Do you have a hobby or knowledge in a certain subject area? We are looking for instructors to teach new class offerings. Please contact us for more information.**



Winter 2014



### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### December

22-31—Winter Break, No School

#### January

1-4—Winter Break, No School

5—School Resumes

12—6:00 PM, Board Work Session, DO Board Room

19—MLK Holiday, No School

26—6:00 PM, Regular Board Meeting, DO Board Room

29-30—3-Hour Early Release

# Hockinson School District

Volume 4, Issue 2

To inspire all to live with strong core values, to become competent, responsible learners, independent thinkers, and positive contributors to our changing world.

### News and Information from your schools

Dear Hockinson Community,

With the holiday season upon us, I am so thankful for our amazing students, teachers, principals, staff members, and families. I am also grateful for our School Board members, who recognized our need for much-needed capital facilities improvements. On November 24th they voted in favor of placing a \$39.9 million dollar bond on the February 10, 2015 ballot. If you have not already, I encourage you to make sure that you have registered to vote. It only takes a few minutes and you can do so online at [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov).

If approved by the voters, this bond will help us replace our aging Middle School with a safe and secure campus that meets the educational needs of our students, including science, technology, and career and technical programs. Our proposed combined tax rate is expected to be lower than our current combined tax rate. It also allows us to access \$3 million in state matching funds for the new Middle School. The bond would also allow us to meet our

educational and extracurricular space challenges at the High School by adding a baseball field, two soccer fields, tennis courts, a wrestling room, and a band room.

In addition, the bond would allow us to plan for future changes to the Elementary School, including added security measures, addressing on-site food preparation issues and improving traffic flow for student pick up and drop off. We could also develop a plan to receive up to \$7 million in state matching funds for this school.

We want to be good stewards of our funding, while meeting the needs of our students.

I hope you all enjoy the winter break and holidays. I wish you all of the best in 2015!

Warmest Regards,

Sandra Yager  
Superintendent



## Inside this Issue

- ▶ Community Education
- ▶ Bond Facts
- ▶ District Highlights

Winter



### DATE CORRECTIONS BELOW

## Soup with the Supe

Superintendent Sandra Yager would like to invite you to the District Office for a hot bowl of soup and some warm conversation about school district activities.

**Choose your date:**

January 13, 2015

March 10, 2015

Soup will be served from noon to 1:00.



### Child Find Information

Child Find is a component of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) that requires all states to identify, locate and evaluate all children with disabilities who are in need of early intervention or special education services.

For more information, you may contact Jenny Ristau at (360) 448-6400 or visit our website at [www.hocksd.org](http://www.hocksd.org).

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"Preparing All Students for Lifelong Success"

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Brush Prairie, WA 98606

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HOCKINSON SCHOOL DISTRICT

From Your Schools

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## District Highlights

### Our Students

#### High School Band

For the first time since 2010, the Hockinson High School Jazz Band took first place in their division at the 18th Annual Skyview High School "Storm of Cool Jazz" Festival on December 6th.

They also took first place in the sight reading competition—performing a piece of music for a judge without ever having seen or rehearsed it before.

Senior trombonist Caidin Cheney was named the outstanding trombone soloist for the entire festival.

#### Fall Sports

Boys Cross Country—2nd in District, entire team went to State;

Girls Cross Country—one runner went to State;

Boys Football—1st in League, undefeated in District, made Elite 8 for State;

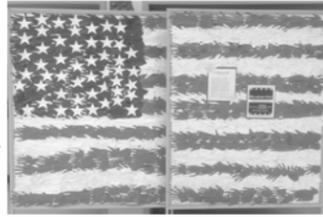
Boys Golf—1st in League, 2nd in District, two golfers and one alternate going to State in May 2015;

Girls Soccer—2nd in League, made Elite 8 in State; and

Girls Swim—Four swimmers went to Districts, two went to State

#### Elementary School Art

What can 770 small hands do? Well for one thing, they can come together to create an amazing work of art. The flag pictured at right is made up of cut-out images of those hands, created to celebrate Veterans Day. Students learned a lot about this day of recognition, including why we celebrate it on November 11th each year. Thank you, Veterans!



For the first time ever, HHES will be represented in the Winter Holiday Wonderland Light Display at Portland International Raceway. Mrs. Hoffman's 5th Grade class worked with art teacher Mrs. O'Neill-Bratt to create a large holiday mural. The theme is "Holiday Memories." If you get the chance, please visit PIR for this wonderful holiday tradition. You will even have the chance to vote. The winner will receive \$1,000 in art supplies for our Art program. The display is open until December 28, 2014.

### Our Staff

#### Band Director Honored

High School Band Director Corey McEnry is pictured at right with Superintendent Sandra Yager and Chad Sessions of Real Living who are presenting him with the LEARN Here's "Real Hero" award. Real Heroes are honored for their exemplary service to youth and education. The LEARN Here project celebrates quality of education in Southwest Washington by recognizing outstanding alumni, staff and volunteers.



Corey's dedication and enthusiasm for our music program is very evident in our community. He clearly enjoys his job and it shows through in everything he does. We are very fortunate to have him on our staff.

Congratulations, Corey!

#### Principal Nomination

Hockinson Heights Elementary School Principal Lisa Swindell, pictured here with Superintendent Sandra Yager, was the recipient of the Regional Distinguished Principal award for the Columbia River Region.



This award is sponsored by the National Association of Elementary School Principals and recognizes principals who set high standards for instruction,

student achievement, character, and climate for students, families, and staff in their learning communities. Mrs. Swindell was presented a Certificate of Recognition from the School district at the last School Board meeting, held on December 8th. Her husband and three daughters were in attendance to help her celebrate this achievement.

#### Library News

Hello Hockinson Families!

Our year is going so quickly, it's hard to believe our winter celebrations are almost over!

Beginning January 1st we are using a new Library Circulation System called Destiny. Our old system was nearly obsolete and had a great deal of errors. With Destiny, students can check to see what they have checked out, place holds, and look for books in other libraries in our district, just to mention a few benefits.

Teachers will benefit too! They can see Common Core Standards connected to books, find lesson plans, and websites, and other options. I have used this system for over ten years and 90% of the state currently uses it. I plan to offer trainings and informational sessions to all who are interested. Also, I am partnering with our public librarian to increase our resources and provide more options to all. Look for updates in the upcoming weeks.

I continue to be amazed at what readers we have. Not a day goes by without meaningful conversations about books.

I am at HHES Monday-Wednesday, HMS on Thursday and at HHS on Friday. Regardless of where I am, please know that I am always available. Thank you for your continued support!

Emily Crawford  
District Librarian



## Hockinson School District Bond Facts

To meet the needs of our students, the district is seeking approval of a \$39.9 million dollar bond during the February 2015 election.

### If approved, the district will:

#### Replace the Middle School

Replace the current Middle School by constructing a new Middle School on the north end of the current site that would:

- Provide a safe and secure campus
- Provide for current and evolving educational needs, including science, technology, and career and technical programs
- Meet current safety and building code regulations

#### Add to the High School

Increased demand for many of the educational programs and athletic activities on the north end of the current site that would:

- Add a baseball field, two soccer fields, and tennis courts to meet federally mandated Title IX requirements and utilize ecology permits before they expire
- Add a wrestling room and a band room
- Add restrooms, seating and security upgrades to the High School's main athletic field to support highly attended athletic events

#### Improve the Elementary School

Develop a detailed master plan to address the complex challenges of the Elementary School campus while also pursuing state matching funds

- Security updates to better control outside access to school facilities
- Address onsite food preparation and serving facilities to meet current campus layout challenges
- Improving traffic flow for student pick up and drop off

### What is the cost to taxpayers?

The bond would raise \$39.9 million for capital improvements, which would be funded below our current 2014 tax rate. The Hockinson High School bonds from 2000 will be paid off in 2015. Because those bonds are retiring, this will allow the district to complete the new projects at a lower projected combined tax rate than the current 2014 combined tax rate.

**We expect to complete these projects without an increase to the current tax rate.**

### Facilities Symposium

On September 30th, the Hockinson School District Board of Directors and Superintendent Sandra Yager held a Facilities Symposium for the community. This symposium provided an opportunity for people to review the current state of our school facilities and discuss initial recommendations on how to address the educational, maintenance and security needs of district buildings.

There was a good turnout at the meeting and the information gathered was very useful to the Board.



Facilities Symposium