

**HELIX SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
APRIL 2013**

**PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES**

The Helix School District Parent Teacher Conferences will be held **Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 pm – 8:00 pm** and on **Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm.**

**Sophomore (Class of 2015) Spaghetti Feed**

The Class of 2015 will be hosting a spaghetti feed fundraiser in the Helix School cafeteria on Thursday, April 4th from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. This event will be in conjunction with the Parent Teacher Conferences.

Tickets will be available at the door or you can purchase one in advance from member of the class of 2015. For more information call Mr. Lee at 457-2175 ex. 3772.

**SPRING TESTING**

The 2013 “testing season” will be in full swing after spring break. OAKS tests on reading, math, science, and social studies will be given at the teachers’ discretion between April 1<sup>st</sup> and May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The results are immediately available to the students upon completion of each test. If students in grade 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> do not pass initially, they have one more opportunity to retest. If, however, a student in grades 3-8 does pass on their first try, we will need permission to retest. Often a student’s first attempt is not the best score they can get and they have been encouraged to retake the test in the past if it is felt the first test does not reflect the student’s knowledge. High school students will have three opportunities to pass on each test.

**NATIONAL HISTORY DAY**

Congratulations to the top Helix NHD documentaries from the sophomore and junior classes:

***Individual Documentaries:***

**Ana Goodwin** – *The Killings at Whitman: A Territorial Turning point*

**Angel Harris** – *Documenting the Downtrodden: The Information Division Photographs America*

***Group Documentaries:***

**Jarred Cope & Willie Wood** – *The Doolittle Raid: Doing the Impossible and Turning the Tide of WWII.*

**Alexis Keene & Morgan Warner** - *One Man for Himself: The March on Washington*

The NHD state competition will be held May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Oregon Historical Society in Portland and the national competition is scheduled for mid June at the University of Maryland.

**CANCER AWARENESS MONTH AT HELIX**

The Helix middle school student council and high school ASB has designated April as Find a Cure for Cancer month. These students will be holding multiple activities (Ipod day, Hat day, bakery sales on Mondays, Pennies for Pies Teacher Competition, and possibly a high school dance) to raise awareness and money. All proceeds will be donated to the American Cancer Society.

**KINDERGARTEN SIGN-UP IN MAY**

Helix Kindergarten Registration for the 2013-2014 school year will be held on Wednesday, May 8th from 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. in the kindergarten classroom. At this mandatory registration, your student will be assessed on kindergarten entrance skills and be able to explore their new classroom. Your incoming kindergarten student needs to be 5 years old before September 1st. Please bring your child’s birth certificate and immunization records with you at this time. We are looking forward to meeting the class of 2026! If you have any questions or are not able to attend, please contact Cindy at 457-2175.

**HELIX HEART OF THE COUNTRY 4-H**

Several members of the Helix Heart of the Country 4-H club went before the Umatilla County Fair Board, in November and then again in February, to request the fair go smoke-free. With assistance from Janet Jones, Community Health Educator from Umatilla County Public Health, 4-h members Jarred Cope, Bethany Newton, Macey Tullis, Charmayne Bennett, Sadie Wilson, Gavin Newton and Annie Wood, use a PowerPoint presentation to illustrate the need for the fair to go smoke-free. On Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, the County Fair Board passed a policy with the limited designated smoking areas in 2013, and 100% smoke-free for 2014. This decision will go to the County Commissioners next, and hopefully the process will be complete. Great job kids! Way to step-up and encourage a positive change for the Umatilla County Fair.

**4-H NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

Congratulations to Jarred Cope for qualifying to represent the state of Oregon at the 4-H National Conference in Chevy Chase, Maryland (six miles from Washington, DC). Jarred was one of two students from Oregon that will be attending this conference.

**BOND UPDATE**

The bond sale occurred on February 21, 2013, and all the paper work was signed two weeks later. The project continues to progress very quickly with multiple meetings having occurred in the last three months between the School District, PSG (program manager), BLRB (architects), and KNCC (contractors). Abatement of the asbestos tile on the stage and middle school hallway will occur over spring break. KNCC will begin mobilizing their equipment in early April and demolition to portions of the stage is planned for mid-April. Construction of the new gym will start toward the end of April or early May.

**EASTER EGG HUNT**

The annual Helix Chamber of Commerce's Easter Egg Hunt will be **Saturday, March 30, 2013 at 10:00 am** at the Helix Community Church. Come and enjoy a fun community egg hunt followed by punch and cookies provided by the Helix Heart of the Country 4-H Club.

**SCHOOL CARNIVAL**

Thank you to the Helix community for supporting the middle school carnival, Hot Dog dinner and Science Fair. We had a fun evening with the elementary students and really enjoyed the family atmosphere.