

HELIX SCHOOL DISTRICT MONTHLY NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER, 2012

If you have an article you would like to submit to the Helix School District's monthly newsletter please email it to Darrick Cope, dcope@helix.k12.or.us

PTO News

The PTO would like to thank all the kids and parents that made the Cookie Dough Sale a success. The cookie dough will be arriving before Thanksgiving. The PTO is still collecting box tops so keep those coming. If anyone would like to sign up to be a Reading Buddy please contact Cindy Wood at 457-2175. We are looking forward to another great year. Thanks for your support!

College Corner

ATTENTION: Junior and Senior Parents:

Senior Parent Night will be on **November 7th at 6:00 pm**. Parents are asked to please RSVP, as Mrs. DeRuwe will be providing pizza, refreshments, and dessert. The seniors and their parents are invited to attend this important meeting.

Ask your sophomore, junior or senior student about the Compass test, the ASVAB and the PSAT which have been administered in the last month. This is an attempt to better prepare students for postsecondary education.

See Mrs. DeRuwe for information regarding scholarship for or call 457-2175, ext. 3779.

Thank You!!

Thank you to everyone who helped with the 4-H Fair during the Community Feed. We had a great turn-out and a lot of interest. If you are interested in joining 4-H, or have questions about the various projects available, please contact Cindy or Sharilyn at (541) 457-2175.

Thank you to Trudy Maney for donating craft supplies to the Helix School District.

Thank you to Friday, Paul, Judy and Cliff Bracher and the PTO members for helping make the Fall Harvest Party an awesome event for the K-5th graders.

Vision Source of Pendleton conducted eye screenings on October 5th for the K-5th graders. Thanks to Dr. Briscoe and Dr. Monkman for providing this great service!

Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Library would like to thank the Helix Community for supporting the book fair sponsored by the Helix Friends of the Library. We increased our sales by \$1,200 over last year! These profits will be returned to the students through RIF distributions.

Parent Teacher Conferences

The Helix School District will be conducting Parent Teacher Conferences on **Thursday, Nov. 8th from 3:30 pm to 8:00 pm**, and again on **Friday, Nov. 9th from 8:00 am to noon**. K-6th grade will be scheduled by the classroom teachers, 7th and 8th will be combined and high school students will be set up by their academic advisor. Please call the office or your student's teacher if you haven't been contacted for a conference

Monthly Newsletter

Community Feed a Huge Success!!

The Community Feed, Open House and Book Fair held on Thursday, October 7th, was a huge success. It was estimated that over 350 students, parents and community members from both Helix and Echo were in attendance. Special thanks goes to Harry Schuening for his famous sauerkraut and German Sausage, the PTO for the desserts, Carrie Bennett, Julie Harper, Kathy DeRuwe, Yvonne Terjeson, Monica and Dustin Curtiss for working in the kitchen, Keith Stahancyk, Larry Parker and Scott Harper for barbecuing the meat, PEPSI for the beverages, Cindy Wood, Janet Wood, and Jack Bascomb for the helping with the Booster Club.

An additional thank you goes out to those that took the time to fill out the Helix School **Community Input Survey**. This survey was created in response to the October Helix School Board meeting in which the board adopted a goal to conduct a feasibility study to determine the infrastructure needs of the Helix School District. In an effort to help the board in developing ideas for this study, those who attended were asked to help prioritize capital improvement needs in the Helix School District. Of the thirty-two surveys filled out, the following four areas were selected as "top priority" from the ten items listed: electrical upgrade in high school, replace diesel boiler with energy efficient furnace, two-classroom expansion/addition in high school and ADA compliant lift and restrooms in high school. The other items listed on the survey, that did not make the top four, were: practice gym/auditorium addition, weight room/workout facility addition, renovate front sidewalk, steps and entry to high school, remodel/expand office to include sick and detention room, add brick facade and assess energy efficiency of library building and replace lockers and carpeting in high school. The results of this survey will assist both the Helix School Board and the Facilities Committee in future endeavors. For more information on this survey or the facilities committee please call the office at 457-2175.

Outstanding, Again and Again and Again!

Helix School District is rated "**Outstanding**" for the fourth year in a row on the annual Oregon report card. Of the public schools in Oregon, 31% of schools were rated *Outstanding*, 59% of schools were rated *Satisfactory* and 10% of schools were rated *In Need of Improvement*. For more information on the Oregon report card, please visit the Helix School District website.

Educational Opportunities Continue Expand for Helix Students

Students at Griswold High School are taking advantage of educational opportunities beyond the normal classroom setting. Students enrolled in the Distance Learning class, choose from the 120 online courses offered through the University of North Dakota. Those enrolled in the Technical Prep class are eligible to receive dual credit (high school and college) from BMCC in Administrative and Financial Services. Freshmen and sophomores are taking language classes through Rosetta Stone in Spanish, French, Italian and German. Juniors and Seniors have the option of taking Advance Biology, Speech, Writing 121 and Math 111 for dual credit through BMCC and/or EOU.

For more information, contact Lorin Kubishta or Darrick Cope at (541) 457-2175.