

HELIX

SCHOOL DISTRICT #1R • HELIX, OREGON • NOVEMBER 2022

CONTACT

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The GHS Freshmen make up the largest share of the 44-person high school at 15 students (13 are shown here on picture day.)



SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

Thanks to the Helix parents, guardians, and students who were able to join us last week for parent-teacher conferences. The junior class feed of Mac and Cheese on Thursday evening was a huge success! And, most of our teacher's reported 100% participation in conferences! Teachers are connecting with parent and guardians

Kindergarteners and Seniors welcome the start of the school year by participating in the Rose Ceremony.



this week with the few folks that weren't able to attend. I am proud to

report that all our seniors are on track to graduate.

in numbers

75

k-5 students

36

6-8 students

44

high school students

Enrollment has held fairly steady

Honor Roll Released

On November 3rd, we finished our first quarter of instruction with 69% of middle school students and 52% of our high school students being recognized on the honor roll. A total of 18 students total received a 4.0 grade point average for the quarter! **Congratulations to our students for their academic achievements!**

DISTRICT NEWS

DISTRICT SURVEY

ODE is again requiring school districts seek input from their community, students, staff, and parents/guardians on future plans to expend federal and state grant money.

ODE is streamlining the applications process and combining the planning and reporting process across a number of different grants. To meet the ODE requirement and to begin gathering feedback, Mr. Bixler has asked a few individuals for their assistance and support: Friday Bracher, Shannon Peters, Julie Goodwin, and Tim Kahl.

The first part of this process was to develop a planning survey and to start gathering information. The survey went out last week to our parents/guardians during parent-teacher conferences. A short video will be coming out this week to encourage broader community involvement.

REPAIRS

One Call Restoration completed the countertop repair in our 1st grade classroom and Rob Merriman Plumbing and Heating reconnected the sink and drinking fountain. The repair looks great!

GRANT AUDIT

ODE is auditing the Helix School related to our federal grant expenditure and processes for the 2021-2022 school year. Last week representatives of Helix SD met with a panel from ODE in an "Entrance Interview" to get a better understanding of the audit requirements.

Since the Helix School District is no longer eligible for Title I funds due to our updated census poverty count, we will be exempt from some of the audit requirements. The audit will be completed by mid-January 2023.

SEISMIC GRANT

The Helix School District is partnering with WRK Structure & Seismic Engineers to apply for a Seismic Rehabilitation Grant (SRG) - <https://www.oregon.gov/biz/programs/SRGP/Pages/default.aspx>.

If funded, the grant will be used to make structural changes to our main gym. The main gym roof would be replaced during the retrofit. The maximum grant award is \$2.5 million. There are no cost share (match) requirements with this grant.

ASB students attended the Oregon Association of Student Council's annual Fall conference in Seaside, Oregon. They listened to

ON THE CALENDAR: NOV/DEC

N14 The high school officially starts their basketball season practices. For more information contact Coach Rory Simpson for the girls and Coach Chris Peters for the boys.

N17 The Senior Class starts their Christmas Tree Fundraiser to raise money for their Senior Gift to the school and their class trip.

D11 The 13th annual Wreaths for Remembrance ceremony sponsored by the Helix EuroClub will be held at Olney Cemetery on **December 11 at 1:00.**

D15 The annual K - 12 band holiday concert is coming up on **December 15th at 7 pm** in the new gym. This concert will feature works from the Polar Express and the Trans Siberian Orchestra. Free admission, and donations are appreciated.

GYM BLEACHERS

On October 18th and 19th, Northwest Installation Ent, Inc. did a complete service on our bleachers and backstops in both gyms.

The equipment had not been serviced in a number of years, so for safety reasons it was important to replace broken or missing hardware and make sure our backstops continue to function properly. With the installation of a new safety strap in the practice gym, the total bill for labor and parts came to just under \$5,000 for both gyms.

two keynote speakers and participated in idea share workshops with students from across the state.

WELDING SHOP

Dave Baty (East Umatilla Fire & Rescue Chief) and Mr. Bixler have been in conversation about the potential of entering into an agreement for the Helix School District to use part of the old Moon shop for our metals program. We are interested in a no cost or low cost agreement. Mr. Baty is willing to take the general idea to his board in the next month.

GREENHOUSE

Dave Krumbein is working with Tami Martino in the Oregon Building Codes Division to get our greenhouse approved by the state. If additional engineering plans are required, Mr. Bixler is hopeful we can get the project approved before the New Year.

The High School hosts their Sadie Hawkins dance on November 18th.

Thanksgiving break begins on November 23 with a 12:30 p.m. dismissal

Middle School ASB is putting on a Canned Food Drive that ends on November 18th.

The Senior Class is hosting a Chili Cook-Off on December 15th to raise money for their senior gift to the school and their class trip.