



Spring 2011
March, April, May

"The measure of success is not whether you have tough problems to deal with, but whether it is the same problem you had last year."

- John Foster Dulles

PTSA President's Message:

Kamiakin PTSA has been very active this year in many services for the students, including:

Keeping us in touch with LWSD changes
Start of the year BBQ
The school directory
Parent education
Special needs info
Reflections
This newsletter
Gifts for families in our community in need
The book fair
The school play
9th Grade Dinner Dance
Staff appreciation
Emergency supplies
Dance chaperones
Health screening

We need folks for the following positions for the upcoming year:

Treasurer – or no PTSA next year!

Volunteer chair – email for volunteers around once a month.

Bookfair chair – liaison between the librarian and Scholastic to deliver the books. Intense in a week in December, ensuring that the shifts in the library are covered.

Reflections chair – promoting the arts competition in the school.

The staff are very enthusiastic, so making sure that they have the materials, and then going through the entries in a group.

Health screening chair – Organizing, with the health worker, a day of health screening in the library. A one-day gig.

Please let me know if you would like to support your child by taking on one or more of these roles: or if you know someone who can.

Holly Brewer: holly@hollybrewer.com, 509 270 3457.

Principal's Message:

Greetings!

I hope you enjoyed an amazing spring break with family and friends! It's still hard to believe that we've almost made it through three quarters of another school year. Our focus and energy for this 4th quarter is to finish this year on an academic upswing, continue to build the skills that will take us successfully into and through next year, and do our very best on the end of year state and math exams!

Principal's Message Con't:

We are looking forward to celebrating several events in the coming months.

- Our last Spirit week to celebrate our 4th quarter sports and student achievement will be April 25th – April 29th, kicking off with our first ever "**COUGAR COMMUNITY CELEBRATION**" breakfast on Monday, April 25th from 7:15 – 8:30am. Come have breakfast and be catered to by our great staff!
- 9th graders will share their CAPstone projects with parents and the community on Tuesday, May 17th. Whether you have a 9th grader or a "soon to be" 9th grader it is definitely worth your while to stop in on this night and see what this year's class has accomplished.

Each 9th grade student is responsible for researching a "community need" and then finding the best volunteer opportunity for them to perform a minimum of 15 hours helping the organization address this need. Elementary schools, daycare facilities, retirement homes, churches, foodbanks, etc. have all received the benefit from hardworking Kamiakin students. Our Celebration Night in May is an opportunity for students to show off and describe the work they accomplished.

Most importantly, students will have the opportunity to share their progress through the state "Measures of Student Progress" (MSP) and "End of Course" (EOC) Mathematics exam for Algebra, Geometry and Advanced Algebra. Both exams occur in May & June, more information to follow. Help us encourage your student to do their very best and take pride in their accomplishments!

We round out the school year with our 9th grade Dinner/Dance on Friday June 10th, celebrating our great Cougars and future Rebels. PLEASE plan to join us for breakfast on Monday, April 25th!! I hope to see you all then and share how great your student is and the contribution they have made here at Kamiakin this year! I am ALWAYS looking for volunteers to join our PTSA, help in our classrooms, student store, homework club, etc. Don't be a stranger...call me!

Thanks for another wonderful year at the best junior high in the UNIVERSE! We couldn't do this without all of you!

Joe Joss, jjoss@lwsd.org

Counselor's Corner

by Debbie Lanzafame (8th & 9th)
and Jenny Burgess (7th)

The Counseling Center is always a hub of much activity and excitement. Registration is complete and forms have been turned in.

The end of 3rd quarter, April 6th is quickly approaching. When grades arrive in the mail, take time to look at your child's most recent progress on StandardScore. If you do not have Parent Access then you can give us a call in the counseling office. Our Counseling Secretary, Micki Skutvik is happy to give you a hand in gaining access or providing you an up-to-date report on your child's progress. If your child failed any first semester required courses and still is not passing those classes in third quarter, or if you have any concerns about your child's progress contact teachers at your earliest convenience. Keeping a watchful eye on a students' progress is a shared responsibility, and parents are encouraged to ask for the information they need.

With spring bringing longer daylight hours, involvement in spring sports and the restlessness with school kids sometime feel at this time of year, we need to help students prepare for the fourth and final grading period. As a parent you might be faced with more excuses for not sitting down to complete nightly assignments, but encourage your child to stay the course. The time for continued expectations with a set daily homework time and the monitoring of assignments falls heavily into your hands. You may discover that study time works better if it is delayed until after the evening meal. This way free time is available right after school when many teens need to vent energy.

On the other hand, if you child requires extra tutoring you may want to take advantage of Homework Club every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 3:00 to 4:00 in the library. Remind your child how important it is to come to classes prepared with supplies, notebooks and *completed* homework. If dramatic improvement does not occur, it may be necessary for your child to enroll in summer school. For more information, please contact us in the counseling office here at Kamiakin.

Happy spring!

Cougar Calendar

March

- 22nd Special Needs PTSA Meeting (7-9pm Resource Center)
- 25th Parent Class: Career Development.. (10am-noon Resource Center)
- 28th -31st No School--Spring Break

April

- 1st No School--Spring Break
- 5th KaJH Band Concert 7:30-9pm
- 6th Parent Class: Teen Decision Making (10am-noon Resource Center)
- 8th Last day of 3rd Quarter
- 11th JHS Cheerleader Tryouts: Mandatory Parent Meeting
- 12th PTSA Board Meeting
- 16th J.H. Band Solo / Ensemble Festival
- 25th Cougar Community Celebration Breakfast
- 25th-29th Spirit Week
- 27th Administrative Professional Day (Thank a secretary!)

May

- 3rd National Teacher Day (Thank a teacher!)
- 17th Capstone Project Presentations

June

- 10th 9th Grade Dinner Dance
- 20th 9th Grade Picnic

Emergency Prep. Update

by Martha Smith- E. Prep Chairperson

Take some time NOW to refresh your existing home emergency supplies or put a new kit together. Make it a family project! Or choose the most important items to you and do them now and the rest later when you have time and money. If you want buy your items or already prepared kits at www.preparesmart.com and help out Kamiakin JH -click on school. Or you can buy individually needed items on your own. Add it to your grocery list.

Container – Use something portable like a plastic tub with tight fitting lid or even better one on wheels. Locate it as close to your primary house exit as possible, under a window inside the garage or in a separate building or shed on your property. If you also store items in your cars, especially if parked outside, these are available to you when you are home. If you have a camper stored at your house this is ideal! Load it up!

See the [attached flier](#) for a list of essential items to have in your emergency kit, as well as the Kamiakin [emergency pick-up map!](#)



Global Citizenship Award!

Great news! **Elena Plenefisch**, a 9th grade Spanish 2 student, has received a full tuition scholarship to attend a two-week Spanish immersion program this summer at the Concordia Language Villages in Minnesota. This is quite an honor, as there were many qualified applicants and only 10 in the country received the scholarship.

Applicants for the scholarship had to be in grades 8, 9 or 10 this year and have received medal placement in last year's National Spanish Exam sponsored by the AATSP (American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese). The exam last year for secondary students drew over 100,000 total participants nationwide. Elena scored in the 96th percentile earning a gold medal for her performance.

Elena had to submit a DVD with an interview conducted by her teacher in Spanish, write an essay to address what it means to be a global citizen and why studying Spanish is important, submit a transcript, and include two letters of recommendation.

Elena exemplifies what I think we, as teachers, strive to see manifested in our students - to become the best they can be - and just maybe along the way to think beyond themselves and act in ways that will make them more effective, caring global citizens in this ever-complicated world.

If you know Elena, please congratulate her on having won this coveted award. As an aside, for her CAPstone project, Elena is teaching Spanish to John Muir 6th grade students after school!

Rona Chumbook
Kamiskin Jr. High
French and Spanish



JHS Varsity Cheer Tryouts for 2011-2012!

Questions? Please email Coach Nelson at jnelson@lwsd.org

Come to our informational meeting to learn more about what it takes to be a member of the JHS Varsity Cheer Squad! All interested candidates, in grades 9-11, are welcome to attend! Please bring a parent with you to learn about the tryout process and expectations for squad members throughout the school year. You will also receive your tryout packet at this mandatory meeting. Important dates to know:

Monday, April 11th- MANDATORY Parent/Candidate Informational Meeting for all interested cheer candidates-5 pm-JHS Library

Monday, April 18th-Thursday, April 21st- CHEER TRYOUT CLINICS - 5:00-6:15 pm – JHS Mat Room

Monday, April 25th –JHS Varsity Cheer Tryouts (this is a closed tryout-not open to spectators) –JHS Mat Room – starting at 3pm



Ms. Brown's Second Quarter Star Students

Allen Jung
Dana Short
Madison Goodwin
Asia Lor
Will Gear



The students are selected by peers. To qualify to be a star student they must contain certain qualities such as kindness, preparedness and leadership skills.

9th Grade Dinner Dance!!

The 9th Grade Class has chosen the theme for the dinner dance and it will be...

"Hollywood Premier"

The event will be on Friday June 10th here at Kamiskin in the gym. The annual 9th grade picnic will be on Monday June 20th. All the information was emailed home to all 9th grade families. If you have any questions or concerns you may contact any one of us.

Deanna Crowe, Trish Fleming, Elaine Mariano, Nancy Miller, Tracy Stevens, Karyn Taggart



Staff Appreciation

Friday December 17th we had a Holiday Cookie buffet for the staff. Yummy treats were enjoyed by all. Thank you to our bakers: Susan Baird-Joshi, Suzy McNabb, Angie Duke, Amber Peterson, Tammy Rae, Nalini Iyer, Caroline Roetcisoender, Ellen Beeman, Kristin Retzlaff and Karen Larson.

January 12th the staff was treated to a fabulous Salad Bar – thank you to those who donated salads: Cassandra Sage, Nancy Miller, Lolita Cederblom, Debbie Nelson, Jill Chwojko-Frank, Tammy Wollmuth, Karen Larson, Michelle Esponiza, Joli Hansson, Cathy Benson, Deanna Crowe, Nalini Iyer, Caroline Roetcisoender, Sandra Dixon, Stephanie Taylor, Brandy Potter and Suzie Brenner. February the staff lounge was decorated by Cassandra and Nancie Sage in a Chinese New Year theme. Lolita Cederblom personalized Chinese takeout boxes, filled them with fortune cookies, and delivered them to the staff. It's the Year of the Rabbit.

March was Baked Potato month. On Wednesday March 7th the Staff enjoyed a Gourmet Baked Potato bar with all the trimmings and more. Thank you Deanna Crowe, Sandra Dixon, Susan Baird-Joshi, Brandy Potter, Debbie Nelson, Karen Larson, Lile Ellifsen, Nancy Miller, Danette Klundt, Suzy Hudson, Ellen Beeman, and Tammy Wollmuth.

April 6th we will be providing a Yogurt bar. May 2nd – 6th will be staff appreciation week we are still looking for any items you would like to donate for gifts/prizes for the staff. There is a box in the front office marked Staff Appreciation and you are welcome drop items off. The week will end with a Friday morning coffee bar, Scones and Devonshire Cream, and chocolate dipped strawberries.

The Staff Appreciation Team
Lolita Cederblom, Deanna Crowe,
and Cassandra Sage



Soccer Ladies?



Attention any up and coming 9th grade girls who are interested in playing soccer next fall (2011) for Juanita High School!!!! Please be sure to check out our website at

[www. ladyrebelsoccer.org](http://www.ladyrebelsoccer.org)
or contact Coach John Mach at
jhsgirlssoccer@gmail.com

to be added to the mailing list so you can be included and updated on any future parent meetings, summer training or fundraising events.

Spring Break Opportunity!

My name is Dora Taylor and I will be offering Spring Break classes for students in the Lake Washington School District during the week of March 28th. The topic will be Town Planning and below is a description of the class:

Town Planning: *We will look at layouts of cities around the world and use those ideas for designing a town at a pre-determined location.*

The students will develop a layout of the town and become aware of adjacencies and how towns and cities are zoned. The class will divide into teams to create models of the different types of buildings that make up a town.

Ecological issues will also be discussed during the planning phase of the project.

For additional information about the program please see: Architecture 101, <http://archforkids.blogspot.com>.

If you have any questions, I can be reached by e-mail or by calling 206-853-9790.

Dora

Architecture 101
<http://archforkids.blogspot.com>

PTSA Legislative Chair
Nova High School
Seattle, WA

SAMBRANO'S SHINING STARS

Each semester I have certain students who enter my class and just seem to brighten all that is around them. They may not always be the fastest, strongest or the best athletes however they are students I look forward to seeing each day. They arrive to class with a positive attitude and a willingness to always give their best effort. They are kind, courteous, respectful, and compassionate. They are outstanding students and a pleasure to have in class. I would like to recognize these "Shining Stars" and let them know how much I appreciate what they bring to my class and Kamiakin Junior High.

Shining Stars for February, 2011		
Gianina Banda	Alex La Combe	Minh-Ahn Nguyen
Andy Touhey	Grant Mackey	Alonso Moreno
Dalya Lor	Dominique Yoder	Dalina Luangalath
Joseph Buhl		Aidan Staunton
Shining Stars for March, 2011		
Parker Nunez	Caitlin Buskley	Jade Stitzman
Thomas Mikkelson	Madyson Scherr	Will Gear
Brannon Yee	Bruce Lee	Beatriz Sousa
		Phong Nguyen
Shining Stars for April, 2011		
Anna Ellefsen	Morgan Gilbert	Kathy Matey
Steven Hart	Allen Jung	Brent Patterson
Luke Wetherbee	Nitika Ahmed	
Tabatha Wollmuth	Naomi Vlasin	





BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF KING COUNTY
KIRKLAND BRANCH

LAUGH

Kamiakin Jr. High Van Shuttle & Teen Programs

Check out our brand new
1,500 sq ft Teen Room!
Teen Drop-In is open every
day after school until 7:30

Registration:

Registrations are being accepted online at
www.onepositiveplace.org
Fee: \$55-\$75/ month plus membership
Membership: \$30.00/year

Information:

For more information please contact Tom Olson at (425) 250-4753 or via email at tolson@positiveplace.org. The Kirkland Boys & Girls Club is located at 10805 124th Ave N.E. Kirkland, WA 98033

Teen Van Pick-UP Services:

The van will pick up your teen at school and bring him/her to the club where they are welcome to stay until you pick them up by 7:30pm. We also provide early pick-up on school half-days and early release days. Sign-ups are being accepted online. Each month requires a separate registration. Months with week-long breaks will be pro-rated.

Drop-In Teen Members:

Mondays- Game Tournaments

Join us for some classic billiard and ping-pong tournaments starting at 4pm, followed by random trivia for prizes.

Tuesdays- Movies

View a recent release or timeless classic in 5.1 Dolby surround with a 50' PLASMA!

Wednesdays- Field Trips

Get out and about on various field trips, both educational and recreational. These casual trips are during club hours and members must have a signed permission slip completed by a guardian to participate.

Thursdays- Video Games

Check out our XBOX 360 & Kinect and see if you got what it takes to be a true Rock Star while playing Rockband or get your dance on with Dance Central.

Fridays- Teen's Choice

Teens choose what we do... will we play video games, watch a movie or play a kids vs. teen game? Come find out!

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EARTHQUAKE!!! ARE YOU AWAKE NOW?!

By Martha Smith – Eprep Chair

**YES, what we saw in Japan CAN happen here!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
Time to Prepare NOW at Home!!!**

Here is a list of what to include:

ITEMS	Restock/ check Timeframe	How much	What	Your check- list when done
WATER	Rotate every 6 months	3 day supply or 12 liters/person	Use camping water totes or commercial water bottles.	
FOOD -	Resupply and rotate every 6 months to your inside food supply so you don't waste food	3 day supply-non perishable foods – use things that don't need cooking or refrigeration and little or no water. Or store a camp stove and pots to cook.	Canned meats, fruits, vegetables, juices, soups. High energy foods – peanut butter, granola bars, trail mix, beef jerky. High calorie food bars Comfort foods – cookies, hard candy, etc. Utensils, cups, plates, washing supplies, can opener Pet food.	
FIRST AID SUPPLIES	Check every 6-12 months	Enough for each person in house.	Bandages, gloves, tweezers, tape, scissors, aspirin, other needed meds, plastic bags, sanitary pads, cold packs, splinting items, needle, thread. Pet medicines.	
TOOLS/ SUPPLIES	Check every 6-12 months	As needed	Crank or battery Radio, batteries, flashlights, lightstix, hand warmers, bucket for toilet, TP, soap or hand-wipes, duct tape, plastic bags, feminine supplies, heavy work gloves, fire extinguisher, gas shut off wrench	
CLOTHING/ BEDDING	Check every 6-12 months	As needed	1 complete change of clothes, warm clothes, coats, extra sturdy shoes, warm socks, hat, gloves, poncho, mylar blankets, sheets, tarps, sleeping bags, tents.	
SPECIAL ITEMS	Check every 6-12 months	As needed	Extra glasses, contact lens solution, medications, baby items, family picture, cards, games, books, disposable camera to document damage, family records, bank acct numbers, insurance information, \$	

Also – **WANTED: Emergency Preparedness (EPREP) Assistant for this year – see below:**

- Someone to work with me for the rest of the year and take over the Eprep job next year at Kamiakin.
- All you need is interest in the topic, and a bit of organization skill to help you out.
- If you are a nurse or other medical person you are a perfect candidate. But, no medical knowledge necessary.
- You work with the assistant principal and plan and buy supplies for the emergency container at Kamiakin.
- The PTSA already has a budget for it, and you also learn how to do your job by attending some meetings at the District level with other PTSA eprep chairs to learn how to do your job.
- Give me a call or email me today to find out more information. You can also do this job is a group – grab a friend and sign up to try it out today!

Martha Smith – 425-823-2409, paulksmith@mindspring.com

Kamiakin Parent Emergency Information

Below is very important information that you need to know. Please review it and make sure anyone authorized to pickup your child is familiar with it. After any type of emergency where the students and staff have had to evacuate the building and cannot return to inside, the following procedures will be in place. If it is a severe emergency then the full incident command system will be in place and most likely volunteers will be needed.

Getting to School After an Emergency

- **BRING YOUR PICTURE IDENTIFICATION**
- **Wait for 1 hour.** If it's a city-wide emergency, it may be safest for you to stay where you are. The roads may be damaged, power lines may be down. Please use your judgement.
- Our school has a complete plan for caring for the students so you do not need to get to the school immediately.
- The parking lot may be closed off to allow access only for emergency vehicles
- If you live close, please walk. Traffic will be congested.
- If you drive, please be courteous, park where there is space.
- Please try and stay calm

▶ You have 2 options when arriving at school:

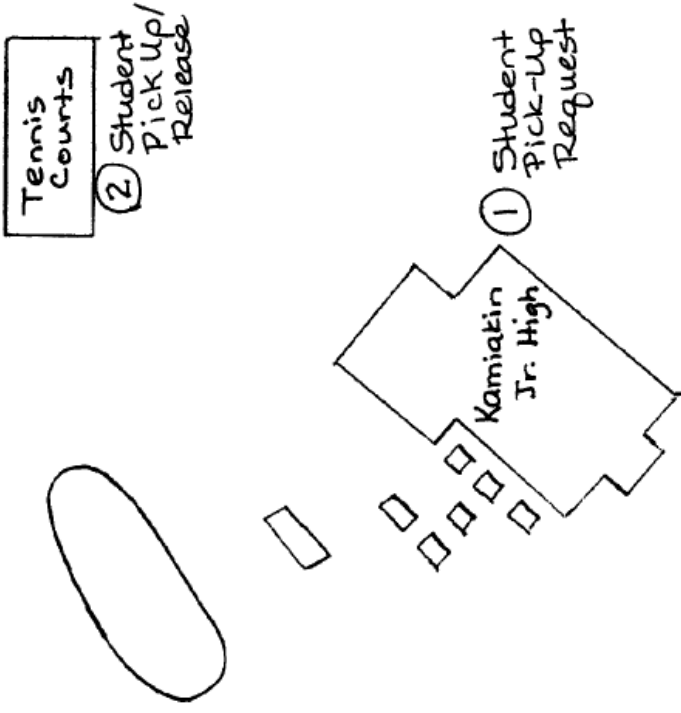
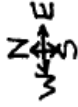
1. Pick up your children and leave
2. Stay and volunteer

1. Pick-up Procedures

- ▶ If you arrive before things are set up, please wait patiently at the request area until we are set up. It is VERY important you DO NOT leave without signing out your child/ren.
- ▶ Pick up Children/ Go Home
 - Go to Parent Pick Up (in front area of school)
 - Fill out Student Release Form for each child
 - Staff will verify your authorization for the children you request
 - A runner will be sent to get your children
 - Move to Release Gate (staff will direct you)

2. Volunteering Procedure

- Go to the volunteer table right next to the Student Pick Up area
- They will sign you in, get you a nametag, and assign you an area to help with
- When you are done volunteering proceed to the Student Pick Up area as listed above to sign out your child



NE 140th St.

EMERGENCY STUDENT PICK-UP

1. Bring your picture ID
2. Go to area #1 on map
 - a. Fill out request papers for each student
 - b. Show picture ID
3. Walk to area #2 the pick up area
 - a. Show picture ID again
 - b. Receive student or student location
 - c. Sign student out with destination