

Klamath Falls City Schools

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One of the big district-wide initiatives this year has been to increase our partnerships with the community. Each teacher and principal in each school has established ways to increase two-way communication and collaboration with parents and community. This very successful initiative will continue into next year and receive even more emphasis.

Part of the improvement is a result of having parent volunteer coordinators at each elementary school. These individuals have worked hard to increase the number of volunteers in our K-6 buildings. As a result, each school has seen a strong uptick in volunteer help.

Teachers have done a good job of increasing service opportunities for students. This is an area that we hope to increase even more for next year. It is very important for students to experience the satisfaction that one has when giving back to others. Volunteer work helps teach this key truth.

Another great positive from this work has been the number of businesses who have stepped forward to provide support for schools. There are many generous people in our Klamath Falls business community. I hesitate to mention them by name for fear of leaving a number of them off the list.

This business generosity was also seen this year in the many organizations that were willing to sponsor internships for KU and Link River students through our Credit for Proficiency Program. Over 30 students received work-skill training and employment experience through this class.

Some of the fruits of this labor were seen in the number of KFCS' volunteers who were finalists for the United Way Volunteer of the Year. Four KFCS' volunteers were finalists and Sharon Miller, a Roosevelt volunteer, was the Basin Volunteer of the Year.

Increasing community partnerships is a key district strategic planning goal that will be given increasing emphasis next year. This effort is a win-win for students, schools, and community. It also helps marshal our resources in support of student development.

Other Notes:

- Remember to vote! Ballots are due into the courthouse no later than May 15th at 8:00 p.m.
- The YMCA in partnership with Pelican School has received the first Youth Education Success Grant given to a Basin school. They will use the \$1500 to provide swimming lessons for Pelican second graders. The Y has already provided these lessons free of charge to Mills and Fairview students. We will have more on the "YES" program in the next district newsletter.
- The difference between the number of students who transferred from KFCS and the number who transferred in, is seven students. More on this in the next newsletter also.