

ASTORIA SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

DATE: November 4, 2014

SCHOOL: Astoria High School

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

- **Engagement Strategies:** One of Astoria High School’s fundamental goals for the year is to increase Bell to Bell Engagement throughout the course of a class period. Twice during the month of October for 30 minutes sessions, staff members shared and participated in activities that offer new or insightful ways to increase student engagement.

October 9, 2014	1. Glen Fromwiller	“Different Place, Different Faces”
	2. Clint Hill	“White Tiger” game
October 23, 2014	1. Matt Love	Theme Quotes, Write, Verb Substitution
	2. Casey Litwin	Math Jigsaw Activity

The activities proved to be not only for the sharing and practicing of quality instructional strategies, but also allowed for staff to interact in a professional yet social manner. It was an energizing experience. The next session is scheduled for Thursday, November 13, 2014.

- **Tutorial Refresh Day:** On November 4, 2014, Advisors took the opportunity to “refresh” organizational strategies and practices with 9th and 10th grade students with whom they work. This was also an opportunity for them to discuss in more depth grades, study skills, and priorities for the upcoming quarter as we enter the midway point of the semester. This was an initiative originating from the work of the Engagement PLC.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES

- **Social Sciences** – The Social Science PLC continues to work with the following SMART Goal: “By November 20, 2014, 80% of the 10th Grade Global Studies and 11th Grade U.S. History students will meet expectations/proficiency (scoring a 4 or higher) or improve by one level/standard their ability to cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources as measured by the AHS Social Studies PLC adopted reading rubric. Attainment of this improvement will be determined through the use of formative assessments throughout the cycle.” They continue to use primary documents ranging from informational text from the Italian government to curriculum resources sponsored by a teacher lead website: **teachingthecore.com**.

- **English** – The High School English PLC is happy to report that their new website, "AHS Writes!" is nearly ready for launch. The only obstacle prior to launch is the domain name, ahswrites.org, which has to be paid for by the district and set up by Scott Holmstedt. The site addresses instruction and intervention - specifically, how we can help students who need extra help on the writing process. The site will provide resources that will improve student performance in a Khan Academy manner. The English PLC is planning a “soft launch” as soon as the domain name is available and to begin using it in our classes immediately. The “Launch Party” is planned for December 18, the last PLC meeting before Winter Break. The PLC will invite members of the School Board, the Superintendent, as well as the staff of both AHS and AMS - not to show off, but to make everyone aware of what we have available for our district to use, as well as get feedback and suggestions for additional resources we could add to the system.
- **Mathematics** – Each teacher in the Math PLC has had one round of data collection and analysis. Gains were not what we had hoped. The first round (Geometry) saw gains of 5% (from 74% proficient to 79% proficient). Second round (Pre-Algebra) saw gains of 0% (from 68.75% to 68.75%). Third round (Algebra 2) saw gains of 8.5% (from 61.5% proficient to 70% proficient). The math department has explored intervention options including adding additional math support during tutorials (Mrs. Kinman). This will continue to be a topic of focus. We will also start calibrating scoring of targets and tests in order to ensure that students' scores align with students' knowledge.
- **Science:** The Science PLC continues to work on the standard, “Analyzing data and identifying uncertainties.” All team members have pre-assessed the above standard. The overall average was 22.6% of students met or exceeded this standard. Only one of the four instructors has post-test data, documenting a proficiency of 79%. The team is working on strategies to teach the above standard which include:

 - mini-conferences with small teams while looking at collected and graphed data;
 - teacher explanation of methods in class, student practice, followed by class discussion; and
 - discussion of data collection and reporting/displaying methodology.

The team will finalize the analysis of this standard and corresponding student performance on December 4, 2014.
- **Engagement** – The engagement team has been exploring ideas to provide enrichment opportunities during tutorial in addition to the academic intervention that is already taking place during this time. We also wanted a chance to tap into the many skills and experiences our staff or community members possess that may not be taught in their traditional classrooms. Free School is created to give teachers the chance to teach a lesson in a subject matter of their choosing during tutorial on various Tuesdays throughout the year. This concept not only provides enriching opportunities for students but also helps connect students to teachers in ways that may not have been available through their standard classroom curriculum. Our first Free School lesson is scheduled for November. We have even tentatively scheduled a “Free School” enrichment with 6 guest master artists from New Zealand for May 5th.

- Greater Good** – The Greater Good PLC continues to pay specific attention to health and wellness, stress, teaching strategies, teacher burnout, and Social Emotional Learning (SEL) awareness/knowledge. This process will be completed by the end of the semester while Greater Good PLC members will continue to develop their own awareness/knowledge of SEL. We will create the survey based on group collaboration and discussion. We will also use micro-moves to apply strategies in our own professional lives. We are learning information from resources available at the Greater Good Science Center at Berkeley.

STUDENT AND STAFF SUCCESS

Fall 2015 Activities Fair: The Activity Fair this year had nearly 60 sports, clubs, and groups represented, including 21 community organizations. The aim of the Activity Fair is to showcase opportunities for all students to be involved at school and in the community and develop protective factors and developmental assets (e.g. community involvement, personal values and interests, supportive relationships with adults, structured time outside of school). Freshmen and Sophomores all attended as part of their tutorial time on October 21st. Juniors and Seniors were also encouraged to attend, and many participated by promoting activities they are involved in. The diversity of those represented at the 2014 Activity Fair can be seen in the list below.

Activity	Student Contact	Adult Contact	Type	Best Contact Info
Arts Club & Art Night	Ruby Reed, Emily Hol, Adrianna Long	Mickey Cereghino	class	AHS
Choirs		Matt Pierce	class	AHS
Marching Band		Scott Cuthbert	class	AHS
Woods & Industrial Arts		Dan Foss	class	AHS
Zephyrus		Lindy O'Bryan	class	AHS
Business Leaders of Tomorrow		Lindy OBryan	club	AHS
Chess Club	Michael Mcgregor	Cyndi Klee	club	AHS
Creative Writing Club		Matt Love	club	AHS
Debate Club	Victoria Holcom,	Mike Sparks	club	AHS
Film Club	Michelle Patterson	Clint Hill	club	AHS
French Club	Kaneah Owen, Sonia Ahrens, Lili Meiffren, Johanna Hankel	Rebecca Pierce	club	AHS
Japanese Society	KK, Raina	Sarah Price	club	AHS
Key Club	Nayelli	Casey Litwin	club	AHS

	Velazquez, Patrick Ingmire			
Mu Alpha Theta	Lily Teadke	Casey Litwin	club	AHS
Outdoor Club		Delaney Sharp	club	AHS
Rainbow Club: AHS GSA	Emma Gaueman, Greer Sund, Emily Matlock, Ethan Huls, Izzy Hunt, Lane Andersen	Andrew Fick	club	AHS
Spanish Club		Garrett Parks	club	AHS
Speed Cubing	Enoch Gray, Michael Zavalza	Scott Perkins	club	AHS
Thespians	Keanu Sultan	Jenni Newton/Scott Perkins	club	AHS
4-H Programs		Sandra Carlson, Jared Delay	community	503-325-8573
Astor Street Opry Co.	Haley Werst, Makayla Mestrich	Mary Ritter	community	503-791-7127, marylienritter@gmail.com
Astoria Arts and Movement Center		Jessamyn Grace, Marco Davis	community	info@astoriaartsandmovement.com; marcogerarddavis@gmail.com
Astoria Parks & Recreation		Terra Patterson, Angela Cosby	community	503-741-3035
Astoria Public Library		Lindsey Johnson/ Ami Kreider	community	325-7323
CCA Foodbank/ Support Services		Viviana Matthews	community	(503) 861-3663/503.325.1400 x106
Clatsop Care Center		Mandy Brenchley/Rosetta Hurley	community	325-0313 x209
Clatsop Co. Animal Shelter		Stephen Hildreth	community	shildreth@co.clatsop.or.us
Clatsop County Youth Programs/ Prevention Works		Jill Quackenbush, Robert McClellan	community	JQuackenbush@co.clatsop.or.us
Columbia River Maritime Museum		Scott Thiele, Director of Education	community	503-325-2323
Historic Preservation & Restoration Program (CCC)		John Goodenberger/Lucien Swerdloff	community	jgoodenberger@clatsopcc.edu

KMUN Radio		Elizabeth Menetrey	community	503-325-0010
Lewis & Clark National Historical Park		Cathy Peterson	community	(503) 861-4422
Lower Columbia Diversity Project		Drew Herzig	community	
North Coast Food Web		Rod, Teresa Retzlaf	community	
Northwest Youth Corps	Daniel Stamp	Andrew Fick	community	
Pennies for Peace Dreams	Josh McConnell, Mariah Dann	Marla McConnell	community	AHS
PFLAG		Drew Herzig	community	503-325-1895
Sea Scouts	Josh McConnell, Ryan Tallman	Hal Norman	community	503-861-2127
The Harbor		Julie Soderberg, Chris Wright	community	juliewrc@qwestoffice.net
Wildlife Center of the North Coast		Charnelle, Josh Saranpaa	community	503-338-0331
Holiday Fund Raising	Laya Corrigan		other/senior project	AHS
Leadership & Fisherman Fanatics		Jenni Newton	other	AHS
National Honor Society		Beth Cornell	other	AHS
National Ocean Sciences Bowl	Elijah Hirsch	Lee Cain	other	AHS
TRIO Programs: Upward Bound & Talent Search		John Graves, Moria Golub	other	AHS
Net Shed	Mariah Dann	Linda Ho	other/senior project	AHS
Basketball (Boys)		Mickey Cereghino, Kevin Goin	sport	AHS
Basketball (Girls)	Mykka Abrahams, Ryley DeMander	Gordon Thomson	sport	AHS
Golf (Boys)		Dan Foss	sport	AHS
Golf (Girls)	Chloe Hunt	Chris Hunt	sport	AHS
Softball	Libby DiBartolomeo		sport	AHS

Swimming (Boys & Girls)	Ashley Schacher, Megan Sparks	Amy Emmett	sport	AHS
Track & Field		Garrett Parks	sport	
Wrestling	Wyatt Holiday, Tristan Holiday	Roy Sanchez	sport	AHS
Costa Rica Trip	Rachel Lertora	Garrett Parks, Lee Cain	trip	AHS
Waldorf, Germany Trip		Jim Pierce	trip	503-338-9328
Baseball	Cooper Wullger	Dave Gasser		AHS
CCSO Search and Rescue		Sgt. Matt Philips		503-338-9954

- **KMUN Partnership:** Elizabeth Menetrey, programming director at KMUN, is working in collaboration with students and educators to develop a monthly teen radio news magazine that covers a variety of topics relevant to local teens. Students will learn about producing a radio show including writing, recording, and engineering. Shows will be prerecorded and then played on air and offered in podcast format. Elizabeth represented KMUN at this year's activity fair.
- **The New Astor Post:** With a new group of editors and design, the Astor Post unveiled its first edition of the year. While many of the journalists are young, Mr. Hill and his experienced editors were able to produce an original newspaper with insights and updates from the classrooms of AHS and viewpoints on world affairs. The artwork throughout the newspaper is the genius of Ms. Rachel Speakman. Please take the opportunity to review the paper and enjoy our students' work.
- **Rishiri and Walldorf Student Exchanges:** From October 14-17, 2014, two students from Rishiri, Japan, accompanied by Ms. Nakanishi of Rishiri High School and Mr. Yatabe of Friends of MacDonald, shadowed AHS students and visited local sites of interest. This is a budding exchange program dedicated to the memory of Ranald MacDonald, the grandson of Chinookan Chief Concomly, and his role in opening up Imperial Japan in the 1850s. On the evening of November 3, 2014, the Walldorf, Germany students arrived for their annual visit to Astoria. Walldorf, the birthplace of John Jacob Astor, has participated in a student exchange with Astoria for over 50 years. Astoria High School will be sending students again to Walldorf in March of 2015.
- **AHS Parent Teacher Conferences:** On the evening of Wednesday, October 29, 2014 and during three separate sessions on Thursday, October 30, 2014, Astoria High School hosted Parent Teacher Conferences. Gray School Campus arranged their conferences by appointment and were able to see 75% of their students during the designated time slots. Advisors also met with Freshmen parents to explain the graduation requirements for the class of 2018, when summative exams would be taken, and what additional resources are available to help them navigate high school in partnership with their student. As a whole, Astoria High School was able to visit with 46.7% of the students' families. While this number is not as high as we would wish it to be, it does show improvement from years

past. Furthermore, Mr. Jackson was able to facilitate a conference, similar to that hosted by advisors, for Spanish speaking parents of Astoria High School.

SCHOOL CHALLENGES

- **Vocational Education:** Astoria High School continues to explore avenues by which vocational education and local job placement awareness can be presented to our students. In May of 2014, community and business representatives met with Mr. Jackson and Superintendent Hoppes to discuss vocational education and jobs. On October 23, 2014, Skip Hauke, Kevin Leahy, Debby Robertson, and AHS staff met to discuss how to increase student awareness of job opportunities in the trades as well as partner with local business to connect with students. Exploration for a combined Spring Job/Career fair at the Seaside Convention Center is currently underway as a result of this initial meeting.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES (Upcoming)

- November 10, 2014 – Veterans’ Day Assembly
- November 14, 15, 16 and November 20, 21 – School Play: A Christmas Carol