

THE PONY EXPRESS

Volume 11, February, 2009



Important Dates!!

2/16- No School

President's Day

2/28- High School

Discovery Day for
8th Graders

3/10-Bond Election!!!

Please Vote!!

3/20 - No School

Professional Day

3/30 - 4/3 Spring

Break



Is There School Today???

It is that time of the year when road conditions can quickly change! You can: Log onto the KSD.org website for current school closures. You need to periodically refresh the screen for current updates. Or listen to local radio and television stations. Please do not call the school!!

From Sue Denslow's Desk

KSD School Bond – Why Now?

Our elementary schools are overcrowded.

Our elementary school population has grown by 450 students over the last three years. To accommodate this growth, the district currently has 23 portables at our elementary school sites. A typical elementary school has about 20 classrooms; therefore we have an elementary school represented in portables. The crunch is especially apparent at schools on the west side of town, such as Ridge View and Sunset View. A new elementary school in the Badger Canyon/Cottonwood Springs area would help ease overcrowding in our elementary schools across the district.

Our older elementary schools need to be renovated.

Canyon View, Southgate, Sunset View, and Cascade elementary schools are all 25-30 year old buildings. Internal systems such as HVAC and plumbing, as well as wiring, are showing their age. The district works hard to make repairs, but these are costly and difficult—and sometimes not possible—to do while the building is occupied.

It makes sense to start now.

We are running the bond this year because we know investing in our building projects now will save taxpayers money. Historically, school construction costs have been increasing 4-8% every year. However, with the economic climate today we are seeing construction bids going down – offering a rare opportunity. The need for the district to do these projects isn't going to change; it makes sense to start these projects now.

For \$5.00 a month on a \$200,000 home, taxpayers will own one new elementary school, four renovated and expanded elementary schools, and make district-wide health, safety, educational, and infrastructure improvements possible. The tax dollars stay here, working for us locally and may help provide a boost to our local economy. Work on these projects would commence in 2009 and continue through 2013.

Susan Denslow

Principal, Horse Heaven Hills Middle School

susan.denslow@ksd.org



PTO NEWS



2008-2009 Officers:

Co-Presidents: **Debbie Bayless** 582-6326
mark_deb_bayless@msn.com

Jennifer Brinkworth 582-5296 jbrinkworth@charter.net

Vice President: Lisa Henson 582-0142

Treasurer: Rob Richmond 586-3589

Secretary:

Mrs. Veronica Baldrige

We would like to welcome our new PTO Secretary, Mrs. Veronica Baldrige!!

Thank you to everyone who helped make Holiday Gram sales a success.

Congratulations to **Terri Movick** (\$20 Starbucks gift card winner) and thanks to everyone else who volunteered to help with PTO!

Our next PTO meeting will be **Monday, February 23rd, 6:30 P.M. in the H3MS Library.**

ASB NEWS

The 2008/2009 Community Service for H3MS ASB was "Change for Change". We were helping students in Pakistan receive an education. Along with the education, the students will have a school built, supplies, and a teacher employed in their village.

Our goal for the project was \$900.00. Our students collected a total of \$960.60!!!! We have sent the money to Greg Mortenson, founder of the International organization, "Pennies for Peace".

This project was to help specifically, the Bangti village for boys and girls in Pakistan. As you can see, our project was a huge success!

Thank you for supporting less-fortunate students and our project.

H3MS 6th Graders raised the most money and their reward was duct taping Mrs. Denslow to the wall

Ryan Snell
2008/2009 H3MS ASB
President



Congratulations!!!

Mrs. Grubaugh, Mr. Gebers, and Mrs. Guajardo who recently received National Board Certification. We applaud their work on this rigorous professional development program, and we Celebrate their accomplishments!!!!!!

"Having 1 child makes you a parent, having 2 children makes you a referee!"....David Frost

Access the newsletter or e-mail teachers at:

<http://www.ksd.org/hhh/>



Horse Heaven Hills M.S.
Kennewick S. D.
524 S. Auburn St.
Kennewick, WA 99336

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 123
Kennewick, WA 99336