

District News

Curriculum & Assessment

Homedale School District AYP Report

Homedale Schools Exceed State Achievement Targets!

All three Homedale Schools met state achievement goals and made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for 2010-2011 school year. For the first time ever, the school district and all three schools met AYP in the same year.

- Homedale High School met all state goals for the third consecutive year.
- Homedale Middle School met all state goals for the fourth consecutive year.
- Homedale Elementary School met all goals for the second consecutive year.
- Homedale School District as a whole met and exceeded the state proficiency goals in each subject for all students combined, as well as for White, Hispanic, and Economically Disadvantaged subgroups.



Debbie Pfeifer

Each year, all districts and schools are required to reach state academic achievement goals in Reading, Mathematics, and Language Arts. Progress toward these goals is measured by student performance on the spring Idaho Standards Achievement Test given to all 4th – 8th grade and 10th grade students. Districts and schools must meet the proficiency targets in 41 different areas within these subjects to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). Those 41 areas include student subgroups based upon ethnicity, economic status, language development (LEP), and students with disabilities. In order to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) a district and school must reach the target in all subgroups.

In addition, our district significantly exceeds the state targets in Reading and Math content areas.

- 93.9% of Homedale students met the state reading target for 2011.
 - State Goal: 85.6%
- 92.3% of Homedale students met the state math target for 2011.
 - State Goal: 83%

Some subgroups are too small to count as a group at the school level, but when combined at the district level they become a district target for AYP. For the 2010-2011 school year, we did not have enough students in the LEP (Limited English) and students with disabilities to make a subgroup at the school level or at the district level. While our numbers of these student groups are small, we continue to focus on improvement in this area as we closely monitor student performance and align

instruction directly to the needs of students.

There are many ways that parents can be involved in helping us address the issues around District Improvement. Below are some ways local patrons can become involved:

- ✓ Stay informed by attending parent meetings and reading notices from school
- ✓ Attend parent-teacher conferences
- ✓ Serve on parent involvement or school leadership committees
- ✓ Monitor your child's attendance at school
- ✓ Make sure that homework is completed and returned
- ✓ Volunteer in the schools
- ✓ Actively engage in your child's learning

Homedale School District continues to strive for the success of all students. School and district teams engage in on-going improvement planning that involves the careful analysis of assessment data and action plans aligned to meet the needs of students. The district and each school have completed improvement plans for the 2011-12 school year that will support our continued growth and focus on the success for all students.

We are fortunate to have outstanding administrators and teachers in this district. Quality instruction, hard work and dedication are evident as we review our progress and plans for continued growth. Congratulations to all students, parents and educators in the Homedale School District for a successful 2010-11 school year. We look forward to continued success in the coming year.

For more detailed information regarding school, district and state AYP status you can visit the Homedale School District website www.homedaleschools.org and follow the link to the **Homedale School District Report Card** on the District Office page .

Regarding Right to Receive Teacher Information

Federal law requires that each school district receiving Title 1 funds notify parents of each student attending any school receiving these funds that information regarding the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teacher(s) may be requested.

As a parent of a student attending a school receiving federal program funds, you have the right to know:

- ◆ Is my child's teacher licensed to teach the grades and subject(s) assigned?
- ◆ Is my child's teacher teaching with a provisional license, meaning the state has waived requirements for my child's teacher?
- ◆ What is the college major of my child's teacher?
- ◆ What degree or degrees does my child's teacher hold?
- ◆ If there are instructional aides working with my child, what are their qualifications?
- ◆ If my child is or will be taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks this year by a teacher who is not highly qualified, will I be notified in a timely manner?

To request the state qualifications for your child's teacher or instructional aide, or if you would like more information about your child's school, please feel free to contact the building principal:

High School—Luci Asumendi-Mereness 337-4613

Middle School—Amy Winters 337-5780

Elementary School—Yvonne Ihli 337-4033

High School News

Principal's Column

Creating a College Going Culture at HHS

Preparing students to enroll in college and graduate on time starts with creating a college-going culture at Homedale High School. This is a challenge that we are embracing. Our students, upon entering Homedale High School, should hear the message and understand the clear expectations:

- ⇒ a four year plan for all students,
- ⇒ frequent communication with students about their college options,
- ⇒ on-going opportunities to discuss college preparation and define goals,
- ⇒ participation in college fairs for students and families,
- ⇒ evening and weekend workshops to learn about college preparation and financial planning,
- ⇒ parental support in the belief that their child is college material.



Luci Asumendi-Mereness

According to research, a "college-going culture refers to the environment, attitudes, and practices in schools and communities that encourage students and their families to obtain the information, tools, and perspective to enhance access to and success in post-secondary education." Research on college access tells us that having college plans by tenth grade increases the likelihood of attending college by 21%, compared to plans formulated during the senior year.

The research clearly supports that, "A college education provides a life of options, rather than limitations. It provides students with opportunities by making high school a place where college is the next step for everyone. When students have school, parental, and community support, college is seen as the norm: **higher education is the expectation rather than the exception.**" (College Board)

Students, don't ever take that "NO" in your head as an answer about post-secondary opportunities. Let everyone know that you're going to college and you need their help.

In addition to college-going, the broad goal is for students to believe they can have a great future, and that they can plan and prepare for many options leading to a creative and productive life after high school. Students may think they know what they want, but we know their interests and career aspirations may and most likely will change, and they need to be prepared for those possibilities. Students need to know that there are many paths they can take to have a successful life journey.

A college-going culture helps all students set and achieve high goals and generates other important values, like an appreciation of academics, a desire to succeed, and a drive to attend college and become a lifelong learner. This culture is especially important for low-achieving students and students from families where no one has attended college before.

Educators in college-going cultures send strong consistent messages that every student is college material. One way to do this is to encourage all students to enroll in college-preparatory courses. It's never too early to begin building a rigorous academic structure. The introduction to challenging coursework must begin at the middle school level for students to have the best chance of success in college.

As we embark on this journey we want your input. We want to learn from you our areas of strength and our areas that need improvement. Please take a few minutes to fill out the online survey before October 31st. Go to www.homedaleschools.org, click High School in the menu at the left, and look for the survey link.

Juniors! Seniors!

This year the GEAR UP program is offering the ACT test **free of charge** to all juniors and seniors at Homedale High School. Test dates will be February 11 for Seniors and April 14 for Juniors with the goal of testing all students in both classes.

HHS CALENDAR of EVENTS

Oct. 17	CWI Reps/Library at Lunchtime
Oct. 20	NNU Reps/Library at Lunchtime
Oct. 21	Early Release/Staff Inservice
Oct. 25	Military Recruiters/Library at Lunchtime
Oct. 25	PLAN Test/Sophomores
Nov. 7	U of I Reps/Library at Lunchtime
Nov. 10	Financial Aid Night/6-8 pm.
Nov. 21	P/T Conferences 3:30-7:30 pm
Nov. 23-25	No School - Thanksgiving
Nov. 28	No School/Staff Inservice
Dec. 6-8	Fall ISAT Testing/Jrs./Srs. As Needed

Complete listings of future events for both Students and Staff can be found on the District Website > Calendar page

www.homedaleschools.org/calendars

Middle School News

Principal's Column

Parent Involvement



Amy Winters

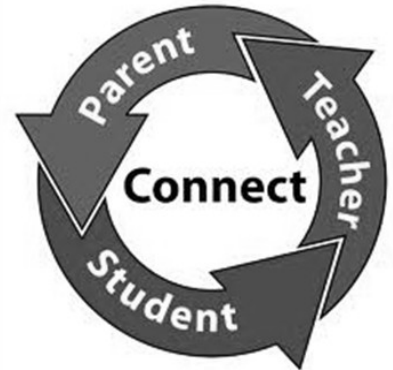
Parents are crucial to student success in school. Over the past few years, Homedale Middle School has seen tremendous student growth in academics, as well as athletic and music competitions—all because of you, parents, who support our efforts on a daily basis. We so appreciate your dedication to provide your children with every opportunity to do well in life. You can be sure that the administration, teachers, and staff are working diligently to make certain every student is learning every day.

To continue our efforts to provide students with effective educational opportunities, we are forming a School Improvement Parent Committee. The purpose of this committee is for parents to provide the school's leadership team with suggestions and feedback regarding school improvement plans. In other words, we want you to join us in making goal-oriented, academic decisions for our students. If you are interested in being a part of this first-time opportunity, please call Amy Winters at 208-337-5780 or e-mail to awinters@homedaleschools.org.

Homedale Middle School has also started a **parent volunteer program**. We wish to say thank you to everyone who has signed up to support our school—especially Michele Snyders, our parent volunteer coordinator. Below is a list of the types of opportunities for parents to contribute to our school. Please call Jason Kiester at 337-5780 or email jkiester@homedaleschools.org if you are interested.

Parent Volunteer Opportunities

- ⇒ Listening to students read
- ⇒ Reading to students
- ⇒ Providing homework help during school hours
- ⇒ Providing homework help during the after-school program
- ⇒ Mentoring students by eating lunch with them
- ⇒ Running copies for teachers
- ⇒ Answering the office phone
- ⇒ Monitoring extended school detention
- ⇒ Shelving books in the library
- ⇒ Opening the library for student use before school hours
- ⇒ Creating theme-based bulletin boards
- ⇒ Providing supervision during noon recess
- ⇒ Monitoring computer labs
- ⇒ Assisting teachers with classroom activities
- ⇒ Providing materials for art or craft-related projects
- ⇒ Joining the school improvement parent committee



We need Sunny Delight Labels to get free books!

Eligible: UPCs from bottles 16 oz. and larger and shrink-wrapped packs

Ineligible: Any cans and individual 12 oz. or smaller bottles

Deadline: Nov. 30, 2011

Turn-in: Mrs. Cornwall, HMS Library
<http://www.sunnyd.com/bookspre/>

HMS CALENDAR of EVENTS

Oct. 19	1st quarter grades mailed home
Oct. 21	Early Release/Staff Inservice
Oct. 26	Idaho Lottery Scratch for Schools
Oct. 28	No School
Nov. 7	National Junior Honor Society Ceremony—6:30 pm
Nov. 14-15	National Blue Ribbon Ceremony in Washington, D.C.
Nov. 23-25	Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 28	No School/Staff Inservice
Dec. 21	Early Release/End of 2nd quarter
Dec. 22-30	No School/Christmas Vacation
Jan. 2-3	No School/Christmas Vacation
Jan. 4	Back to School/3rd quarter begins

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Box Tops for Education has helped America's schools earn over \$400 million since 1996. You can help Homedale Middle School earn cash by clipping Box Tops coupons from hundreds of participating products. Box tops can be turned in at the school office throughout the year!

Elementary School News

Principal's Column

100,000 Miles Celebrated



Yvonne Ihli

On Friday, September 30th, the students at the elementary and a number of parents and community members gathered together to celebrate a milestone for the Walkin' Talkin' Trojans. Last spring the elementary passed their goal of walking 100,000 miles (400,000) laps. A celebration was held to commemorate this accomplishment. Channel 6 sent a news team to cover this event. It was also covered by the Owyhee Avalanche. The president of the Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation spoke to the crowd about how honored they were to be a part of making this event possible. It was this organization that granted the elementary the funds in 2007 to build the walking track.

The Walkin' Talkin' Trojans program began 11 years ago. Mr. Moore, the elementary P.E. teacher came up with the idea to have students walk during their lunch recess time. A focus of the program has always been to get parents, grandparents, relatives and community members to come out and walk with the students or even come and walk on the track at other times. Mr. Moore reports that the program averages

at least 125 student walkers each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. We also average about 25 adults who come and walk with us as well. In order to keep the students motivated to participate, Mr. Moore offers many different incentives to the students who achieve different mileage goals. All of us at the elementary feel that this program has been extremely beneficial to the wellness of our school and community and we look forward to working on the next 100,000 miles!

PTO Officers Elected

Homedale Elementary's newly-formed PTO met on Monday evening to elect officers. Officers for this school year are:

- ◆ President—Stephanie Garcia
- ◆ Vice President—Michelle Larzelier
- ◆ Secretary—Jamie Kraupp
- ◆ Treasurer—Kacey Hyer
- ◆ Fundraising Coordinators—Maria Cardenas and Tammy Nelson
- ◆ Volunteer Coordinators—Carina Purdom and Nikki Christensen

The PTO has met twice now and discussed such topics as fundraising, communication, volunteers and parent/staff surveys. Plans are in place for PTO meetings to be the 3rd Monday of the month at 6:30 pm. The focus of the PTO is for teachers to help parents and parents to help teachers—to create the best educational environment for our kids. Please consider attending the next meeting on October 17th and keep an eye out for more PTO news!

Gone Fishing!

At Homedale Elementary, we're all "Gone Fishing!" Typically, the ole fishing hole is a pretty happy and relaxed place to be. That's exactly our goal at the elementary when it comes to the environment and atmosphere in our building. We have been working hard to make sure every child in the building knows and understands the rules and expectations and is rewarded regularly for following those rules. We believe that our discipline program also helps make your child feel safe as he or she learns in a predictable and consistent environment. Our efforts at creating this positive school environment are known as "School-Wide Positive Behavior Support." We have four school-wide behavior expectations that we have taught every student in the building (also known as our "F.I.S.H." Rules):

- ◆ F. "Find Your Things and Your Place"
- ◆ I. "I Am Responsible"
- ◆ S. "Show Respect"
- ◆ H. "Have Safe Fun"



If you take a tour of our building, you will find posters that tell you what it looks like to "F.I.S.H." in the classroom, hallway, restroom, on the playground, in the lunchroom and library and on the bus. We reward students regularly for "F.I.S.H.ing" at school by handing out many "Starfish" to those who are "caught" being good. In fact, our goal is to provide four positive rewards (or Starfish) to every behavior correction or discipline that takes place. All "Starfish" are placed in a fishbowl near the office

and several are drawn out on Monday mornings for prizes. On a bad day, a child might be sent to the office with a "Stinky Fish Award," and reminded to change their "F.I.S.H.ing" strategies. We also choose a "Starfish of the Week"—typically a classroom that has worked especially hard or behaved just "swimmingly."

One of our goals is that any adult could walk into our building, ask any child what the rules are and 80% or more of our students could tell them. In fact, 80% of our students could not only tell you how to F.I.S.H., but they could recite the rules to you in sign language. After all, you only catch the big one if you're very quiet at the ole fishing hole! As a parent you might even try F.I.S.H.ing at home—everyone needs a break!

~~Rande Garret, Counselor

HES CALENDAR of EVENTS

Oct. 14	End of First Quarter
Oct. 17	PTO Mtg/Library 6:30 pm
Oct. 21	"Lights on After School" After School Program 7:00-8:00 pm in the gym
Oct. 22-28	No After School Program
Oct. 26	Parent Teacher Conferences Kinder: 8:00 am - 7:30 pm Gr 1-4: 3:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Oct. 27	No School for Students Parent Teacher Conferences K-4: 10:00 am - 7:30 pm
Oct. 28	No School - Students & Staff
Oct. 31	Classroom Halloween Parties 2:00-3:00 pm
Nov. 11	Veterans Day Program Gym at 1:30 pm
Nov. 21-25	No After School Program
Nov. 23-25	Thanksgiving Vacation
Nov. 28	No School for Students—Staff Inservice
Complete listings of future events can be found on the District Website > Calendar page	
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More High School News

Student Services

Attention! Parents of College-Bound Students!



The fall of your student's senior year is a very critical time, especially if your student is college bound the fall of 2012. At Homedale High School we understand how challenging this process can be so we have set up important informational nights for you to attend with your student. A senior field trip to Boise National Career Fair on Wednesday, November 2nd, is scheduled and will take place at the Centre on the Grove. Please keep checking the school website calendar for upcoming details.

At Homedale High School, we have up to date college and career information available in the school library and in the counseling office. Scholarship information is available to students upon request and new scholarships are posted on the school website counselor page regularly. Parents of seniors and students who need information, help or advice about college and career questions, are encouraged to set up an appointment to meet with me, in the Admission Office in the Annex. You may reach me by e-mail at dflaming@homedaleschools.org or by telephone at 337-4613 ext. 224.

Debbie Flaming Homedale High School has a new Gear Up coordinator; Janee Olds, who has helped arrange visits from college and university representatives to Homedale High School. Students and parents interested in certain schools should watch the online calendar for their schools of choice since they will be updated constantly. Visits are scheduled during lunch time from 11:46 a.m. -12:12 p.m. Parents are encouraged to attend. At this time, the following visits are scheduled:



Janee Olds

Monday	October 17	College of Western Idaho
Thursday	October 20	Northwest Nazarene University
Tuesday	October 25	Military Recruiters
Monday	November 7	University of Idaho

Coming Soon

Boise State University, Brigham Young University, College of Southern Idaho, Treasure Valley Community College

FAFSA Application Night

November 10th Thursday 6:00-8:00 p.m.

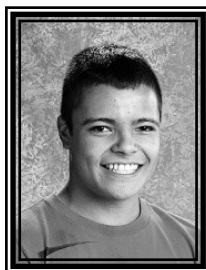
Homedale High School Library & the Computer Lab

Parents & Students will have the opportunity to fill out the FAFSA forms and will be given information on the application process.

Sophomores—PLAN Test

Janee Olds, Gear Up Coordinator, will be administering the PLAN Test to sophomore students on Tuesday, October 25th, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The PLAN Test measures English (Usage/Mechanics and rhetorical skills), Mathematics (Pre-Algebra and Geometry), Reading and Science. It provides feedback to students about career possibilities and options as well. If you have any questions about the PLAN test, e-mail Janee Olds at jolds@homedaleschools.org.

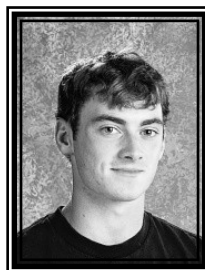
HHS SENIORS in the Spotlight



Nahum Bermudez

Nahum Bermudez, son of Sylvia Reyes, will attend Boise State University and major in Accounting.

Nahum says he chose accounting because he "loves numbers, and accountants make a lot of money, so it should be easy." He plans to live on campus his first year.



Brett Shanley

Brett Shanley is the son of Kurt and Nicole Shanley.

Brett has been involved in the welding program at HHS and COSSA for three years. He plans to attend Idaho State University in Pocatello and will major in Welding.

Student Body Officers

Homedale High School



Lane Matteson, Student Body President, plans to attend college after graduation.



Nichole Hetrick, Student Body Vice President, has plans to attend college after graduation.



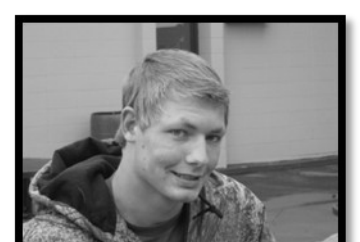
Kylie Farwell, Student Body Secretary, plans to attend college after graduation.



Ashley Leslie, Student Body Treasurer, plans to attend BYU-Idaho after graduation.



Kylie Kushlan, Student Body Historian, plans to attend Paul Mitchell Beauty School after graduation.



Bodie Hyer, Student Body Sergeant-at-Arms, plans to attend BYU-Idaho after graduation.



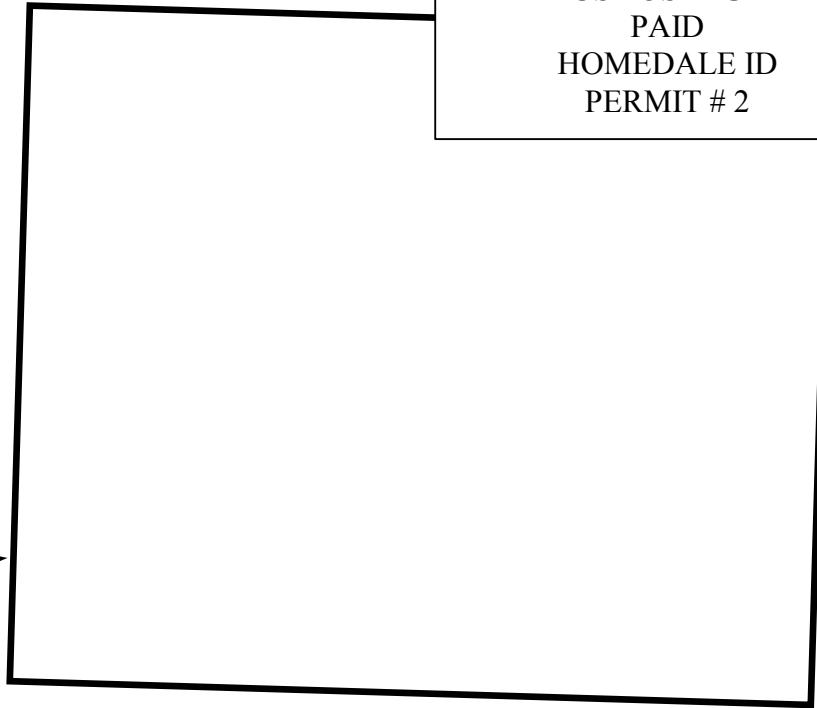
Lane, Nichole, Kylie, Ashley, Kylie, Bodie
College-bound future leaders.

Homedale Jt. School District #370
116 East Owyhee Avenue
Homedale, ID 83628

NONPROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
HOMEDALE ID
PERMIT # 2



Phone: 208-337-4611
Fax: 208-337-4911



Parent Portal Login Information

Parents of High School and Middle School students! Did you know you can access your student's attendance, grades, schedule and other information through a password-protected secure site called the WeBSIS Parent Portal?

The portal gives access to real-time information which changes daily as grades are entered or attendance is marked. The real-time nature of the information provides parents with a "snapshot in time" of their student's progress and gives another avenue for parents to help their students be successful in school. If you don't have your Parent Portal login yet, go to the Homedale School District website. From the main menu choose **Parent Resources > Parent Portal**. A link is provided on this page for you to request a Parent Portal Login.

Communication Updates!

To help increase effective and timely communication between the schools and parents, we need to have accurate up-to-date contact information for all parents. You can view the information that we have on file for you in the Lumen WeBSIS student information system by logging into the **Parent Portal**. Your contact information needs to be updated periodically so please double-check that your residence address, mailing address, phone number(s) and email addresses are accurate and current. You can also update your emergency contacts list.

To view and update your contact information, log into the Parent Portal and access your student's summary information. In the **Information Update** section, click the **more>>** button to see the current information on file in the system. Add or edit as needed and then **Save Changes**.

Recycle Your Old Technology

The District Technology Recycling program turns used inkjet cartridges, toner cartridges, cell phones, and other technology items into **cash** for our schools! Not only does this recycling program earn money for our schools, it also protects the environment and may give you a tax break as well! Information about the recycling program can be found on the district website or by calling Gini Carrow at 337-4033.

- ink cartridges
- toner cartridges
- cellular phones
- digital cameras
- iPods
- laptop computers

If you have items you would like to donate, you can drop them into a recycle bin in the main office at any Homedale school or at the District Office. Donation receipts can be obtained at the offices or downloaded from the district website.