

**RED LAND HIGH SCHOOL**  
**BOARD REPORT**  
**September 20, 2018**

**Delivered by: Lucas Cunningham, Senior Class President**

---



Good evening, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Board of School Directors, Dr. Stoltz, Dr. Whye, Administration, Teachers, Students and Members of the West Shore Community. My name is Lucas Cunningham, and I am pleased and honored to report to you this evening.

My senior year right now is nothing like I imagined it would be as a freshman, and in a good way. I have more opportunities right now to find my passion than any senior class that came before and I am thankful. Currently, I am participating in the pathway internship program with Superintendent of Schools Dr. Stoltz and my Principal Mrs. Sayre. With these two unique experiences I am able to see how the District administration operates firsthand. The pathway program has given me the opportunity to plan the District's first, student-Led public safety committee. I look forward to being a part of this committee and contributing to the safety of schools.

This year, I also enrolled in the Open Campus program. The Open Campus setting gives me a preview of a college-like atmosphere and in a sense more responsibility. This program has afforded me the chance to discuss school events with students in the lobby seating area and extra time to work on upcoming assignments, which gives me the ability to really dive into my college composition class.

Looking ahead, as the senior class president, the class officers and I are beginning preparation for the upcoming year and making the last year for the Class of 2019 it's best.

There are many ways to look at a school: from the perspective of a student, a teacher or administrator or by peering through the many dimensions that make Red Land interesting, dynamic and multi-featured with engaging activities that are layered with imaginative ideas and up-to-date strategies. Now, for some of those engaging activities.

**Red Land-News Headlines:**

**First Day of School**

In August, Red Land enthusiastically opened its doors to one thousand one hundred and fifteen students. We are excited and optimistic for the best school year ever!

**Red Land Starts Strong with Academics**

Orientation assemblies were held the first and second day of school for each grade level. Emphasis was placed on each grade level to continue the tradition of academic progression at Red Land. Mrs. Sayre, Mr. Edwards, and Mr. McGlynn reviewed this year's goals for Academic Excellence, Communication, and Community

Involvement all while embracing Patriot Pride. School board policies and other pertinent information were also presented to the student body.

### **Back-to-School, It's Cool**

This year's Back-to-School Night Program was held on September 5, 2018, beginning at 6:00 PM. Madison Dicely (Cello), Ashley Follett (Viola), Paris Henning (Violin), and Kaylena Travitz (Violin) played classical music for our guests in the lobby prior to the festivities while Sarah Border, Gabriella Messenger, Mark Shanks, and Halleigh Shildt presented The Colors. Parents attended 12-minute classroom periods following a welcoming and introductory message from Mrs. Sayre. Teachers highlighted course expectations, objectives, special projects, course requirements, and grading methods. Parents were invited to sign-up for our Principal Advisory Committee meetings, All-Sports Booster Meetings, Music Booster Meetings, Homecoming Dance, PowerSchool, Parent Guest Speaker volunteer information, and the Giant A+ Program. Throughout the evening, parents were also invited to join the faculty and administration in the cafeteria for light refreshments provided by the New Cumberland Federal Credit Union.

This year, Mrs. Sayre included a video invitation to parents. The link to the video invitation is listed below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O-myz7weEVs>

### **Constitution Day Celebration**

Ever hear of U.S. Constitution Day? It is the day that commemorates the signing of the U.S. Constitution - September 17, 1787. And yes, it is a federal holiday. This year, Red Land did some building-wide trivia to celebrate the day.

### **Activity Fair**

On September 14, 2018, Red Land High School held its annual Fall Activities Fair. Twelve groups, including two brand new clubs, were represented at the fair. Students spent their lunches perusing the school's offerings, having the chance to get more information, ask questions, offer suggestions, and sign up to be members of the clubs. World Language teacher Mrs. Aubrey Graeser organized the fair, and participation was 100% student-led. It was well-attended, with many clubs seeing increased membership as a result. Red Land is proud to offer so many extra-curricular activities to its students and to have such dedicated and enthusiastic students leading these groups!

### **National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalist Student**

Congratulations to Lance Miller who was recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program as a Semi-Finalist student. About 16,000 students, or approximately one-third of the 50,000 high scores throughout the nation qualified as Semi-Finalists. The award recognizes student accomplishments in academics, leadership and involvement in the school and community. Students who are recognized as Commended Students are notified in late September.

### **Art Department News**

#### **Water Lilies**

Mrs. Devin Miller's Honors Art students have developed their own series of works in their choice of medium after looking at Van Gogh's sunflowers, Degas' dancers, Monet's haystacks, and water lilies series. Students were FASCINATED to learn that Monet painted over 200 paintings of water lilies!

## **Business Department News**

### **Microsoft Office Personalization**

Mrs. Taylor Wiggins Microsoft Office class is taking a personalized learning spin the school year. Students have the opportunity to choose two pathways to complete; those pathways being Microsoft Word, Microsoft PowerPoint and Microsoft Excel. The students work at their own pace working through a checklist for their pathway! With this new experience students are able to choose pathways that line up with future careers they are interested in after their Red Land education!

## **English Department News**

### **Native American Culture**

Mrs. Starr Ariola's 11<sup>th</sup> grade American Literature course has been investigating the Native American experience from pre-colonial days to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The class started their investigation by reading and discussing document-based questions (DBQ) dating from the 15<sup>th</sup> century to modern times. After group discussions, students began analyzing a Native American creation myth and subsequently moved on to the Genesis narrative. Students were asked to define and discuss common literary elements between the two stories. In the final step, students continued their investigation of Native American culture and stereotyping by analyzing contemporary song lyrics, artwork, and political cartoons using Focus Content Area (FCA) questions to guide their thinking and discussion.

## **JROTC Department News**

### **New Staff**

The Army JROTC program has started to prepare for the 2018-2019 school year with a new Cadet staff. This semester the JROTC Battalion will be led by the following students; Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Alexis Sheffield - Cadet Battalion Commander and Cadet Command Sergeant Major Haileigh Shildt. This school year finds the staff already very busy with already performing four (4) color guard activities, four (4) school events and three (3) community support events. We look forward to this school year as we expect it to be a very busy one for the Patriot Battalion.

## **Library Department News**

### **Open!**

The Red Land Administration scheduled a teacher in the library during the 30-minute librarian lunch period. This semester, the teacher is Mrs. Alyson Weaver. She is the new chemistry teacher. Mrs. Metcalfe showed her the pass system, sign-in procedures, using the online catalog, getting printouts, and how to do a manual book check-out. The students, and Mrs. Metcalfe, are thrilled!!!

At the end of last year, Mrs. Metcalfe went to see many of the AP teachers. She asked about their needs for the following year. As a result, she ordered some AP flash card sets and AP study guides. One title was the Kaplan AP Calculus Prep Plus Guide. It was backordered from Follett, a company that handles thousands of publishers. It is our major library book supply source. Mrs. Metcalfe saw, through her online account, that they were holding 15 titles before shipping. This was one of them. She called and asked for a rush order. The book was received on September 4. On September 11, Mr. Ian Winn asked if we had access to the Barron AP Calculus Guide. Mrs. Metcalfe called Barnes and Nobel, picked-it up after school, cataloged it the next

morning, and the library secretary processed the book. It was in Mr. Winn's hands within 24 hours of his request!

## **Mathematics Department News**

### **Opening Day Brain Rigor and Co-Teaching**

Mr. Andrew Campbell and Mrs. Leslie B. Schaefer co-teach Algebra I at Red Land High School during periods 1 and 2. The classes are comprised of mainly freshman. The team decided to start the year off with an exhilarating activity! For the opening day of the 2018-2019 school year, the students entered the room, were told to sit where they wanted and begin working on one of the most challenging order of operations problems they would see this year. There was none of the usual going over classroom expectations and rules and no discussing the grading/homework policy. They were asked to begin working individually on the problem for seven minutes. At the conclusion of the seven minutes there were then asked to work within their groups of four for another seven minutes to problem solve for the solution. After the beginning 14 minutes of class concluded, Mr. Campbell and Mrs. Schaefer asked the students how to go about evaluating the problem. After brainstorming, some of the students realized that Order of Operations was the way to evaluate the problem. Mr. Campbell asked the students for the correct order, wrote the steps on the board and asked if there was any need for clarification. Mrs. Schaefer went over some simple examples on the board. Now the class was asked to once again work within their groups to come up with the solution. It was amazing to see both classes seize the challenge, work collaboratively, listen to their thought processes when trying to solve, all while working so diligently to agree on the final solution. During the final ten minutes of class, both teachers interacted by sharing their thoughts aloud on how to solve the problem. The students compared their work to what was on the board. Throughout the class, the energy level was incredible and the students were mentally exhausted at the conclusion of class when the bell rang. THIS was their introduction to the first day of Algebra !!

### **Feeling Lucky?**

Bingo was the game of the week for Mrs. Heather Wolfe's Algebra 1 classes. Students drew numbers out of a hat and were required to generate expressions that led to the bingo numbers. The following day students put all their expressions in a jug. Numbers were drawn and the students had to solve the expressions.

Three days later, students played simplifying expressions bingo. Students all got cards that had simplified algebraic expressions on them.

### **Music Department News:**

The following students were selected to the Harrisburg Youth Symphony:

Bonnie Calhoun, Cello

Madison Dicely, Cello

Alison Park, Cello

Brianna Fadely, Violin

Paris Henning, Violin

Athena Tolentino, Violin

## **Physical Education Department News**

### **Fitness Testing**

During the first few weeks of school, Physical Education classes engage in Fitness Testing. Fitness Testing consists of a short shuttle run, long shuttle run, push-ups, sit-ups, pull-ups/flexed arm hang, broad jump, mile run, and 15 minute run. The purpose of Fitness Testing is to identify each student's area of strengths and weaknesses, and to work throughout the semester to improve their original scores. We want students to recognize their current fitness-level(s), set realistic goals based on their current level(s), learn how to become more fit and have fun doing it, and reflect on goals and lifelong fitness intention. In order to improve students' scores, each class begins with a 10 minute warm up, which includes jogging, static stretching, dynamic stretching, and various anaerobic exercises. Students will be tested for a second time during the last two weeks of the semester to compare their original scores with their new and final scores.

## **Science Department News**

### **Measurement Conversions**

Mrs. Lisa Cubbler's Chemistry I students are reviewing basic measurements, getting acquainted with the cool lab gear we will use throughout the year, and learning a new technique (dimensional analysis) to be able to handle tough measurement conversions. We are also mastering element symbols to improve our chemical literacy. Now we can begin to talk the talk and walk the walk of chemistry and beyond! Check in with us **periodically**.

## **School Counseling Department News**

### **Red Land Hosts College Information Night**

Mrs. Leigh Goas and Mrs. Tonya Resto provided valuable information to students and parents of 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Additionally, they coordinated for several postsecondary schools to send representatives and provide additional information regarding their programs. Representatives from HACC, Messiah, PSU, and others were present. The counselor presentations were professional, informative, and engaging. Information Night was held on September 13, 2018, at 6:30 PM. Students and parents learned more about college admission, financial aid, scholarships, applications, and the college matriculation process.

## **Social Studies Department News**

### **Document-Based Questions**

In Mr. Mike Zwatty's 9th grade Level 2 United States History class, Mrs. Allison Gonce has frequently been involved as an instructional and literacy coach. Working with historical documents, students analyzed and interpreted perspectives to respond to the prompt- "Were African Americans free during Reconstruction." Using a document camera, Mrs. Gonce modeled how to properly annotate and reflect upon written text, using the Collins Type 1 writing strategy. Students posted their historical findings and commented on their peers' conclusions on a Schoology discussion thread.

## **Technology Education Department News**

### **New Course Update- Basic Home Repair**

Basic Home Repair is currently working on one of the four rotations for the class. The class is currently working on the Residential Wiring portion of the lab, learning how to wire up circuits with SPST switches, multiple run outlets and 3-way switches to control the circuit from multiple locations. The class will then move into the drywall finishing rotation, plumbing rotation and HVAC rotation. The class is paired up with Handyside Plumbing and Heating whom has so generously donated over \$17,000 worth of equipment so the students can learn the skills on the latest technology of the plumbing and HVAC profession.

## **World Language Department News**

### **Community Classroom**

Students in Señora Aubrey Graeser's Spanish I, II, and III classes started this year getting to know each other and finding purpose in their learning. Rather than handing out syllabuses and going over classroom rules during the first few days of class, Señora Graeser worked on buy-in. Why is it important to study a language other than English? How will it benefit me now? Later in life? What can I realistically leave here hoping to do?

We watched a great Ted Talk on reasons to study another language, and we responded to the quote "Speak to someone in their second language and you speak to their brain; speak to someone in their native language and you speak to their heart." We used Kahoot as a tool to learn random yet intriguing facts about the Spanish language and those who speak it, along with interesting tidbits about our own native English. We also had our first Yoga jueves on the second Thursday of the school year, using some bodily-kinesthetic learning to expand our bodies and minds while following along with a yoga video, in Spanish, that was designed for students.

Most importantly, we built up our classroom community. Learning a new language can be intimidating, and it is easy to want to hide and not take risks. But through daily calendar activities, daily greetings, and knowing that this is a non-judgmental place to try, we have established a place where language exploration is exciting and everyone feels supported. We're looking forward to a great year of risk-taking and language acquisition and development.

## **Athletics**

### **Scores and Schedules**

We are pleased to provide for you in the Board Report an update on athletic scores and highlights of the fall sports season.

### **2018 Fall Sports Team Results**

Through Tuesday, September 18, 2018

#### **Field Hockey**

**3-3**

#### **Girls Volleyball**

**1-5**

**Football****1-3****Boys Soccer****4-3-1****Girls Soccer****3-4****Boys Golf****20-5****Boys XC****1-0****Girls XC****1-0****Girls Tennis****4-5****Upcoming Event**

Spirit Week kicked off on September 17, 2018, when students, teachers, and administrators Glitzed and Glamed for picture day! On Tuesday, we sported our favorite jersey. Wednesday's Wake Up and Work Day (PJ Day) allowed us all to sleep in a few extra minutes before arriving to school, while Throwback Thursday gave us something to talk about. Of course no week is complete without a Red, White, and Blue- Spirit Day (and Pep Assembly) which will be held tomorrow!

Homecoming weekend will be held September 21, 2018. Kickoff for the football game vs. Lower Dauphin High School will be 7:00 PM at the West Shore Stadium. The following night, students will get a little glitz and glamour at this year's Homecoming Dance on September 22, 2018, from 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM. This year's theme is "Glitz and Glam."

On behalf of the students and staff of Red Land High School, thank you for the opportunity to report to you this evening. Good night.