

RED LAND HIGH SCHOOL
BOARD REPORT
March 21, 2019



Delivered by: Jessica Rowzer, Junior

GOOD EVENING LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS, ADMINISTRATION, TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND MEMBERS OF THE WEST SHORE COMMUNITY. My name is Jessica Rowzer and I am pleased and honored to report to you this evening.

I am a Junior at Red Land High School and am excited to present to you my interests and other activities available at my high school.

To start out, I would like to say a little bit about myself and why I choose certain activities in school. As I grow older each day, I find my love of music more and more. As Shakespeare said, "If music be the food of love, play on." I started playing piano when I began school at the age of 5. This has sparked my interests for all the things I am going to talk to you about this evening.

Before mini-THON, Red Land had their High School Musical. As you are aware, it was *Shrek*. I was the gingerbread man and the Sugar Plum Fairy. I would recommend the musical for just about anybody. There's so many different opportunities in theatrical performances, from singing to dancing to lighting, to computer programming. Many people are unaware as to how much hard work goes into performing productions like musicals.

Most high school students in the arts pick one instrument or one type of art and stick with it the whole way. In a musical, students have to learn how to sing and dance with a live pit. In other words, live instruments! Other students learn how to use a soundboard and microphone systems. Even the parents that are involved learn how to build set pieces and how to paint the pieces so they look correct on stage under lighting. For example, I bet you didn't know that to have the color brown on stage, we actually paint the wood purple! On top of that, these students have to act and become a character. In my opinion this is the best part. This is when I feel most alive. When I step onto that stage, I am no longer Jessica Rowzer who has math homework and is trying to understand what psychology is; I am that character, that being, and sometimes that object. My feet hit that stage and I have taken on a new identity giving me an adrenaline rush.

This year in particular, I had a challenge in many ways. Normally, high school puts on a play, but this year we put on a mini musical in the fall. I played, Papa Ge, in *Once On This Island*. This particular role was quite a challenge for me. The character was dark and cruel, something I had never taken on before and that it is what made the part so much fun. The experience and the understanding of how this character would interpret the entire story was such a challenge, but I overcame it. For the spring musical, *Shrek*, there were many challenges in the part of Gingy. First, because I had just focused so much on how to be a bad guy, I had to change my stage presence and attitude. Then, I was actually going to control a puppet in front of an entire

audience! I was supposed to be a fairy tale cookie and a Russian sugar plum fairy. In the end, in my opinion and many others', Red Land put on a fantastic musical.

One reason I enjoyed these challenges is because they improved my skills.

When I am not performing on stage, I am in the choir room. I am a member of Women's Chorale, Chamber Singers, and even started my own club at Red Land High School - Glee Club. My friends and I share the same interests and this summer we were brainstorming. One of our ideas was starting Glee Club at our high school. At first, I had no idea how I was going to do this. To be honest with myself, I wasn't even sure it was possible. During the first month of school when everything kicks off, I heard an announcement about clubs and how students could create their own club if they obtained a teacher as an advisor and had enough people to join. My foot was in the door. I asked Mrs. Gonce to be my advisor for this club so I could tie it into the annual talent show. If the Glee Club could perform outside of school, then all the money raised by the club could go to the talent show. Mrs. Gonce helped me put it together and the Glee Club was born. I learned a great deal of responsibility from my creation of this club, but I was yet to realize how much work I was going to have to do. This year, I warned every single student that joined that this was the year to get all the kinks worked out. So, it was all hands-on deck and all minds open. I think that I will devote more time to it during the next school year because I now have a better understanding of the challenges and material we need to overcome.

The annual talent show will be coming up April 26. Please come join us to see the acts that students, like myself, are putting together. I'm sure you're not surprised that I also took Theatre Arts.

Mrs. Karen Martin is our teacher. We wrote a series of three anti-bullying skits and performed them on March 7, at Newberry Elementary School for some of the third-grade students. This year is different from past years; however, because the high school performers incorporated music and audience participation into their student-made program. Mia Clark, one of the Theatre Arts students, found an anti-bullying rap/song that matched the group's message. We taught the third-graders the refrain, and then performed it once.

Next, we had the elementary students stand to dance and sing along for a second run-through. I was very impressed with the jump splits that the one little girl did multiple times. It was so much fun to see the elementary school students get so involved!

We have also scheduled performances at Fairview Elementary and Rossmoyne Elementary. Along with the skits, there is a panel of students who define the different types of bullying and provide advice on how to prevent and handle bullying.

As Mrs. Sayre says, "Get involved in the total high school experience!" I have gotten involved in the total high school experience and am loving it! Whether you are on the football team and visiting the local Veterans of Foreign Wars, participating in mini-THON, or part of the anti-bullying group that visits feeder schools to Red Land High School, get involved and make your high school experience count!

Art Department:

Loomis Gallery's Master and Grasshopper 2019 Juried Exhibition

Mr. Clay Peffer selected Brynley Heil to apply for the Loomis Gallery's Master and Grasshopper 2019 Juried Exhibition. Both Mr. Peffer and Brynley had to submit a work of art and an artist's statement digitally. Since Mansfield University is located so close to the Pennsylvania and New York state line, the contest was open to all of Pennsylvania and New York. Last Thursday, they received confirmation that their work was selected to be in the show. Mr. Peffer will deliver the work to the gallery this Friday. The show will be up from March 25, 2019, to April 18, 2019. There will be a reception and awards on Friday, April 5, 2019, at 6:00 PM.

Business Department:

Let's Go Camping!

Mrs. Taylor Wiggins's Introduction to Business classes are learning about marketing and what it takes to have a good promotion! Students are creating a promotion for Mountain Creek Campground in Gardners, Pennsylvania. The promotion is taking place the third week of September 2019. The month of September is a rough month for campgrounds because after Labor Day, most people do not go camping. However, during the third week of October, the campgrounds start their Halloween parties and end of season specials. Students have a budget of \$3,500.00 available for the entire promotion. They are coming up with so many unique ideas! Marketing is all around us and the students are now more aware to what is going on in our community!

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)

On March 6, 2019, twelve (12) members of the Red Land Chapter of FBLA travelled to York College to attend the FBLA Region 6 Winter Leadership Dinner. At the dinner, Mande Halbrook, a Junior at Red Land, was inducted as the Region Vice President. The speaker at the dinner was Dr. Norrie of York College. He spoke about cyberattacks. Approximately 75 students from schools across York and Adams counties attended the dinner.

Health and Physical Education Department:

Personalized Fitness and Weight Training

The Health and Physical Education Department is currently guiding the students, parents, and guidance counselors through an entire revamping of the Health and Physical Education curriculum for the upcoming school year. They have removed three courses and are adding four new courses that have no grade level restrictions. We are also in the process of putting the Driver's Education course online, that students will complete prior to graduating. We think these changes will allow students to cater more towards their unique and individual needs and help them with their career paths.

Junior Reserve Officer's Training Corps (JROTC) Department:

Community Service and Leadership, Education, and Training

Outside the classroom, the JROTC department is happy to report that it's recent food drive, serving both the Central PA Food Bank and New Hope Ministries, was a great success. We far

exceeded our goal both in food and financial support donated to the cause of helping to feed those in need in our area. Both organizations were sincerely appreciative of the school's effort and claimed that our drive helped to feed well over 600 families.

Inside our classrooms, our Leadership, Education, and Training (LET) 4s are designing, developing and presenting history lessons to our LET 2 students. This project allows our senior students to put into practice those skills that they have developed over their time in our program such as; presentation skills, leadership and time management. It also introduces them to challenges of classroom management, activity development and assessment. Feedback from both LET 4 and LET 2 students is, and always is, positive about this experience.

Mathematics Department: THE "PERFECT" STUDENT

In Mr. Kyle Wagner's Algebra II Essentials class, students rate themselves on the following categories. 1-10 scale was used.

1. Love of Pets
2. Promptness
3. Frugality
4. Addiction to Social Media
5. Foot Speed
6. Friendliness
7. Artistic Ability
8. Direction Skills
9. Problem Solving
10. Quickness to Anger

The class discussed the fact that in each category, some people are better than others. Being quick to anger doesn't imply you're addicted to social media. Yet, an average takes individual categories and minimizes it down to one number. That number represents the nature of all the categories. The class ranges fell from a 5 to 8.1. We discussed what areas averages are used in and in what ways averages are fair and just. The conversation ranged from average being a quick way to organize things, but often and unfair way to judge things. They came to see average as necessary for an efficiency tool, but sometimes misguided as a precision tool.

Science Department: Persuasive Essays in Astronomy

In Mr. James Beebe's Astronomy class students are fully utilizing the training and tactics learned from the Penn Literacy Network. In a class that is traditionally based on mathematics, we have begun incorporating practical and useful reading and writing. Students have learned the proper format and have been writing persuasive essays. These essays are based on a decision to be made. In other words, which model of rocket engine to use, how much funding is appropriate for NASA, and which of Jupiter's moons to explore first. Students are not only thinking critically about these topics but they are also creating logical arguments which are then put to paper. These skills are sure to aid students not only in their other classes but also in their future careers.

Mrs. Megan Arnesdorf's Freshman Class Dean Report

Red Land's Freshman Advisory chose Medard's House as the recipient of their outreach projects this year. In order to learn more about the organization, the advisory members are visiting Medard's House on March 19, 2019. We will be given a tour of the facilities and learn about their community programs. We'll also enjoy some time in their recreation room and have lunch with the director. We are looking forward to the trip and to helping the organization with some well-deserved donations.

Social Studies Department: Senior Exit Interviews

On March 15, 2019, both high schools organized senior exit interviews. Students were scheduled a time for the interview on the afternoon of the early dismissal. At Red Land, 94% of the students attended interviews! There was no grade or consequence tied to not showing for the interview. Mrs. Holly Sayre, Mr. Frank Gay, Mr. Jevon Ford, and Mrs. Heather Wolfe worked hard to communicate expectations and the importance of attendance at the interviews. The interviews give staff powerful information as it relates to the plans of the seniors, if seniors still need guidance on career readiness, and educational programs at the high school.

World Language Department: Personalized Instruction

This month, Señora Aubrey Graeser spent three days at Student Assistance Program training. She has been looking forward to this training all school year and is excited to increase her level of involvement in Red Land's school community while serving students in another capacity. However, three consecutive days out of the classroom can leave any teacher feeling a little anxious? What would her students do without a Spanish-speaking substitute?

During a recent quiz, students were unable to list zoo animals in order from shortest to tallest, and Señora Graeser was feeling confused. An informal poll showed that more than half of the sophomores and juniors had never been to a zoo! Cue the perfect solution for what to do during her 3-day absence: learn about zoo animals, specifically those living in the jungle.

Señora Graeser designed a three-day unit around the movie Madagascar. Spanish 3 students watched it in the Spanish language, completing activities each day that allowed them to practice current and past vocabulary while also making personal connections to the characters and their personalities. On Day 1, they completed a chart in which they described the physical characters of each animal and speculated on how they imagined their personalities. During the movie, they completed the chart with information about each character's actual personality. On Day 2, they matched personality traits with each character. On the final day, they chose the character with whom they related the most, completed a graphic organizer before writing a two-paragraph essay comparing themselves to that animal and writing a description of the animal's characteristics.

Missing consecutive days of school can be hard for teachers, but thanks to technology and her PLN training, Señora Graeser was able to ensure her students were exploring and learning in meaningful ways during her absence.

Scores and Schedules

Athletics

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

2018-19 Spring Sports Team Results

Tennis

Varsity **1-3**

Baseball

Varsity **0-0**

JV **0-0**

Softball

Varsity **0-0**

JV **0-0**

Track and Field

Boys **0-0**

Girls **0-0**

Boys Lacrosse

Varsity **0-0**

Freshmen **0-0**

Girls Lacrosse

Varsity **0-0**

JV **0-0**

Boys Volleyball

Varsity **0-0**

JV **0-0**

For a comprehensive sports schedule, please visit www.HighSchoolSports.net.

mini-THON Update

Red Land High School hosted its annual mini-THON on February 28, 2019, from 8:00 PM to 8:00 AM. While everyone had a blast, most importantly we raised \$90,121.98 for Four Diamonds families. In comparison, the first year we held mini-THON in 2015, we raised \$18,216.14.

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.