



PORT ORFORD - LANGLOIS SCHOOL DISTRICT MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

April 2025 | Issue 2

MAKING A DIFFERENCE AFTER THE BELL: The Success of Our After-School Tutoring Program

*By Amanda Carlton
Grades 7-12 Social Studies Teacher*

When the school day ends, many students head home, but for some, the learning continues in the social studies classroom. At Pacific High School, our after-school tutoring program has been making a significant impact—especially for students who have struggled with attendance and falling behind in their coursework.

I took over the thriving program when a previous educator left, and I've worked to make it my own as well as an effective place where students can get the support they need to succeed. One student put it perfectly: "After-school tutoring is great because we are used to doing work at school, and we are more likely to get the work done. Plus, there is an adult in the room that is there to judge us if we are goofing off."

I've found this work incredibly rewarding. Seeing students who were failing turn things around and start passing makes every effort worth it.



The program provides a structured environment where students can catch up on assignments and enjoy an afterschool snack. But the benefits go beyond grades. Students gain confidence, develop better study habits, and feel supported in their learning. One student shared, "It is very helpful when you can stay after school while you're still motivated."

Another agreed: "When you can't find motivation at home, it is motivating to stay after school to get your homework done."

Running the after school program is rewarding, but time is the biggest hurdle—balancing tutoring with family, teaching responsibilities, drama club, and chess club is difficult at times. But despite the juggling act, I remain committed to making it work because I see firsthand the difference it makes in students' lives.

I am excited to see this program continue to thrive. A little extra time after school can make a world of difference in a student's academic success.

Tutoring at Pacific High School is available on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:20-5:20 PM, and an activity bus is available to take students home.

For more information, you can reach me, Amanda Carlton, at 541-294-3498 or directly through the PHS office at 541-348-2293.

Project Graduation Auction Bringing Community Together

By Logan Bradford Senior Student

Soon approaching is the 2025 senior graduation. With this year being the same as every year's graduation, the parents of the seniors form "Project Graduation." The parents of Project Graduation got together and planned the event auction. The auction is put on by the parents and with the help of the seniors themselves, this is one of the biggest fundraisers in general. In the years prior, we have seen that this auction comes with great success in raising funds for the senior class. All of the items that were being auctioned off were donated by families of the seniors, people of the community who wanted to help out, or just anybody who wanted to get rid of something.

On March 8th (a Saturday), Project Graduation put on the senior auction, which was held in the gym at Pacific High School from 5 to 7 p.m. On that Saturday, many seniors came out and helped with setting up and whatever little tasks needed to be done. However, the seniors' main job came later; as they had to parade the auction items around the tables so that everyone present could get a very good look at what they were about to bid for, or if they even wanted to. This was fun for them due to the fact that they

were able to get creative with the items they were showing off, and this helped people get to know the seniors they were supporting. The turnout of people who showed up was impressive in the sense that all of the set out tables were filled and some people even had to sit in chairs in the back. It was a true sight of the community getting together to have fun and support a local fundraiser.

On top of the auction and all of its importance, the event had food service. The food being served was a choice of soups and salad, with drinks and desert. "The 2025 senior class is a great group of kids. Many of them have gone to school together for most of their years at 2CJ," said Christy Phillips. Project Graduation's goal this year was to not lean too hard on their local businesses for donation to their annual auction. As a result, the seniors, friends, families and community members really stepped up and helped them raise a good amount of money to ensure this great group of young adults has a safe and sober graduation night. This was a true testament of what a great group of seniors the class of 2025 is. Auctioneer Pat Ross said he has never had a class where so many students came up to him after the auction ended and thanked him; he was very impressed with the group for that. In the end, the auction was one huge success both for those who got something and for those who helped put it together.

WINNING WITH COMMUNITY BINGO NIGHT - EVENT RECAP



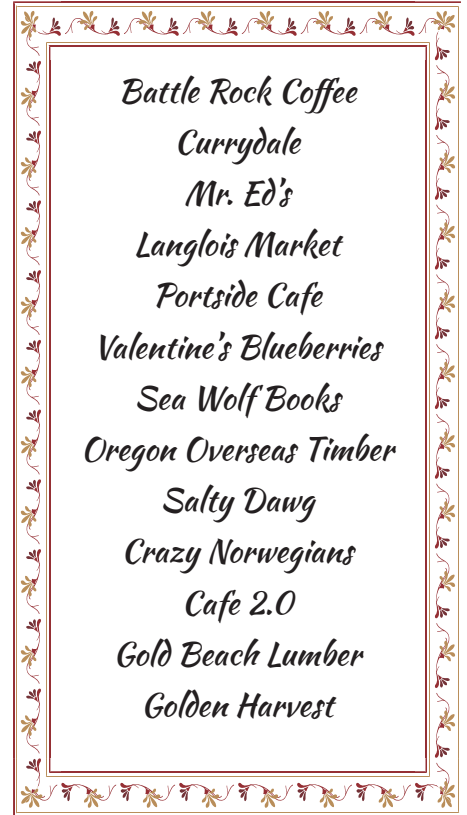
By Brittany Pogwizd, Port Orford - Langlois SD Community Liaison

The Port Orford-Langlois School District hosted a fantastic Community Bingo Night on Thursday, March 6th, as part of our celebration of Read Across America Week. This event was made possible thanks to the dedication of our community, as well as the invaluable support of volunteers from Rogue Credit Union, Curry County Prevention, and staff members from Driftwood Elementary School who put in extra hours to make this event happen.

With over 75 attendees, the night was filled with excitement as participants tried their luck at winning amazing prizes generously donated by local businesses. In the spirit of Read Across America Week, every child who attended was able to take home a book—a wonderful way to celebrate literacy and community engagement!

We are so grateful to everyone who participated, volunteered, and contributed. Thank you for making this night such a success!

A huge thank you to our local businesses whose generous donations made the night extra special:



Free Dinner Community Input Meeting April 2

By Aaron Miller Superintendent

Come join us for a free dinner at Driftwood Elementary on Wednesday, April 2 at 6pm.

On Wednesday, April 2, the POLSD will hold another Parent/Community Input Session. At the sessions in March, Superintendent Miller presented information regarding several Oregon Department of Education grants, and how the district is utilizing those funds. At the April 2 meeting most of the time will be dedicated for attendees to provide opinions and ask questions regarding the following topics:

State Grants and how the District is spending them

Programs and activities that are already benefiting our students that should be kept or expanded

Programs and activities that could be added or improved to benefit our students

The potential to move to a 4-Day school week

Final comments on whether to move 6th grade to Pacific HS, or hold elementary library at the City Library

Everyone a Pirate.....should Driftwood join Pacific High School with Pirates as their mascot

Please call the district office at 541-348-2455 if you have questions prior to the meeting night.

We hope you can join us.

Kinder Start Up - Happening this May


By Aaron Miller - Superintendent

On May 8 from 5:30-7pm, Driftwood Elementary will hold a Kindergarten Start Up night for parents of ALL students entering kindergarten in the Fall of 2025.

There will be treats, an opportunity to meet the teacher, register your incoming kinder for the upcoming school year, and hear a little bit about the expectations, routines and structure of kindergarten at Driftwood Elementary. We will also share our plans for "KinderCamp"

which will provide our incoming little ones with the opportunity to adjust to their new classroom and routines, prior to the "big kids" being in the school and hallways. There will also be time for questions and answers.

If you will have an incoming kindergarten student next year, or know someone else who will, we hope you can join us, and please contact the Driftwood office at 541-332-2712 to get your child on the list, or for more information.




KINDER START - UP PRE-REGISTRATION

FOR THE 2025 - 26 SCHOOL YEAR

MAY 8TH

5:30 - 6:30 PM

Schedule:
Principal Welcome
In the Cafeteria at 5:35 pm
Followed by Classroom Tour
and Meet the Teacher



WHAT TO BRING:
 Certificate of immunizations and Birth
 Certificate (baptismal, hospital, or certified)