

Springtime in Kahlotus!

An Update from Kate

Welcome, everyone, to March! Declaring springtime is a little optimistic on my part, isn't it, with temperatures still dipping into the teens on some nights?

I continue to reflect on how privileged I am to be able to live, work and learn alongside our students, families, staff, and board members here in Kahlotus..



There are many accomplishments and lots of learning to celebrate as we welcome March!

IditaREAD:

Our Elementary Team is focused on encouraging reading among our youngest readers through a program they have established that focuses on the Iditarod. During the "IditaREAD" event our students are learning about the Iditarod race, while also celebrating reading at school and at home. Students reach reading checkpoints, following what the Musher's are doing in the Alaskan race. When students read enough to reach a checkpoint their teacher and classmates celebrate their accomplishment and IditaREAD readers receive small prizes. Our elementary team has invited a "real live" musher from Sandpoint, Idaho to come join our students to share with them his experiences of the race.

Our February "2nd Thursday" Event:

Our high schoolers successfully planned and facilitated the Family Valentines Dance several weeks ago. The turnout was good, and families and community members enjoyed a spaghetti dinner, with music and dancing in the decorated gym after the meal. Middle and High School FBLA members sold baked goods they had made prior to the event.

Remember the next 2nd Thursday event will be on April 13th. The evening will be outdoors, similar to the October event. There will be food and beverages sold by local businesses and food truck vendors. Live music will take center stage at the event, with a band coming from Spokane to entertain our community. Expect to see more details about the event.

Project Lead the Way:

Our Middle School and High School students have been actively involved in engineering and robotics in their Project Lead the Way Classes. Recently, Middle Schoolers designed and built pull-toys with moving parts, and then displayed them in action for our elementary students, who voted on which toys they liked the most.

Photography:

A number of our high school students are exploring photography in Art Class. Expect to see some of their published work soon!

Speaking of Publication...

If you haven't had a chance yet to check out our monthly Kahlotus student news publication, called The Kahlotus Times, treat yourself and go online to read a copy, or pick up a hard copy at the high school. Our writers from the publishing class are doing a tremendous job of capturing school news and including excellent photography to augment their articles. Way to go, Student Publishers!

FBLA:

Our Future Business Leaders of America (both Middle School and High School) did exceptionally well at regionals several weeks ago. Six of our students who placed at regionals shared their presentations with our School Board trustees during the February meeting. Currently, our FBLA team is working to garner financial support to help them be able to attend the State FBLA conference in Spokane in several weeks.

From Novel to Broadway:

A couple of our Middle and High School English classes have been studying the novel *Dear Evan Hansen*. Through their experiences of the novel they are learning about social and emotional issues that affect teenagers, while also studying good writing, poetry, and reading skills. Our students are excited that their study of the novel will culminate in a trip to Spokane to attend the Broadway performance of Dear Evan Hansen this month.