



# Ranger Roundup



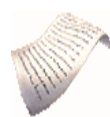
## Calendar of Events

### January 1997

- 1<sup>st</sup> ..... New Year's Day
- 2<sup>nd</sup> ..... School resumes
- 2<sup>nd</sup> ..... Jr High BB at Huntington 4:00
- 4<sup>th</sup> ..... GBB & BBB At Garden Valley 5:00
- 7<sup>th</sup> ..... Jr High BB - Huntington HOME 4:00
- 8<sup>th</sup> ..... Booster Club Mtg at 2:00 in Library
- 10<sup>th</sup> ..... End of 1<sup>st</sup> Semester
- 10<sup>th</sup> . GBB & BBB - Salmon River HOME 5:00
- 11<sup>th</sup> ..... GBB & BBB at Meadows 5:00
- 13<sup>th</sup> ..... Teacher In-service - No School
- 13<sup>th</sup> ..... School Board Meeting - 8:00
- 14<sup>th</sup> ... GBB & BBB - Cambridge HOME 6:30
- 17<sup>th</sup> .... GBB & BBB at Horseshoe Bend 6:30
- 18<sup>th</sup> ..... GBB & BBB - Council HOME 5:00
- 20<sup>th</sup> .... Jr/Sr High Substance Abuse Assembly
- 21<sup>st</sup> ..... GBB & BBB at Cambridge 6:30
- 24<sup>th</sup> ..... GBB & BBB - Cascade HOME 6:00
- 25<sup>th</sup> ... GBB JV Tourney begins at Cambridge
- 28<sup>th</sup> .. GBB JV Tourney finishes at Cambridge
- 28<sup>th</sup> ..... Direct Math Assessment Test
- 31<sup>st</sup> ..... BBB - Garden Valley HOME 5:00

**Please mark the above dates on your calendars!!**

## New Attendance Policy



The School Board approved a new Attendance Policy for the students enrolled in the Midvale Schools. This policy will go into effect beginning with the second semester of the 1996-97 school year. A full copy of the policy will be mailed to the parents of Midvale students.

A brief description of the policy is that students are to be in attendance at school and are permitted up to 9 days per semester to be absent from school. In the high school, attendance is kept separate for each class. Any student who exceeds 9 days absent per class per semester will lose credit for that class. Parents will be notified when their child has had five absences, again when they reach eight absences and finally, will be notified when their child has reached ten absences resulting in the withholding of credit for that class.

A high school student can petition to the Attendance Board to have their credit restored. Each student will be limited to two petitions during their high school years. Parents can appeal to the School Board for credit restoration if the Attendance Board determines that credit will not be granted.

Parents and/or guardians can request an attendance waiver from the School Board if their request is in advance of the absences and arrangements have been made with the student's teachers for the work they will miss.

Parents are requested to contact the school by phone or by note whenever their child is absent from school. A student who returns to school without a note or telephone contact from the parents or guardians will be considered truant and will be disciplined as such. A student who is truant will also lose their right to waive their semester tests, as stated in the following paragraph.

Students will now be able to waive taking their semester tests provided they have missed three days or less in their classes. If a student has

missed three days or less, they can choose to take the semester test in the hope of increasing their grade, with the assurance that taking the semester test will not be used to lower their grade.

The tardy policy has been changed. Students will receive a warning from their teacher for their first tardy in each class. At the student's second tardy, the parent's will receive a letter from the school informing them of the second tardy and reminding them that the third tardy will result in an absence from that class and that each additional tardy will result in a absence. For example, 5 tardies during 1<sup>st</sup> period translates into 3 absences for that class period. PLEASE NOTE that only 1 letter concerning tardies will be mailed from the school for each semester.

In addition to the tardy policy — all tardies will accumulate for all classes. A one-hour detention will be assigned for every three tardies that a student accumulates. Detention, as determined by Board policy, is a Saturday School beginning at 8 a.m. on the first and third Saturday of each month.

## Semester Tests Waived



At the November School Board meeting, the Board approved permitting the waiver of semester tests for those students who have missed three days or less for the first semester. The only stipulation is that the student's absences must be excused absences. Any unexcused absences are considered truancy and will therefore not be eligible to waive their semester tests.

**REMINDER:** Any student who is eligible to waive their semester tests can still take the semester tests in the hopes of bettering their final grade. The semester tests will NOT be used to lower their final grade if that student is eligible to waive the test.

## Alumni Update

Miss Tonya Springer (Class of 1993), daughter of Dave & Peggy Springer, has been named Employee of the Year by the Argus Observer. Congratulations, Tonya.

## Plant Facility Levy

The Plant Facility Committee has been meeting the last couple of months, touring the school, to determine the needs regarding maintenance and the betterment of our school.

Community members serving on the committee included: Dan Warfield, David Craig, Wilfred Fox, Amy Fairchild, Paul Sutton, Ted Keck, Terry Bonner, Jodi Doggett, Bob Doggett, Rick Graham, Ivan Wolfe and Sherry Crawford.

Facility inadequacies that were identified included the need for the following:

- Replacement of single pane windows throughout the elementary and secondary school
- upgrade heating system in elementary classrooms
- insulate elementary classrooms
- lower ceilings in elementary and secondary classrooms
- replacement of student desks
- renovate high school restrooms
- convert garage into outside restroom facility
- purchase school bus
- purchase lawn tractor
- construct wood shop
- refinish gym roof
- remodel Home Ec classroom
- paint, insulate & replace windows in music room
- renovate elementary playground

The district is considering running a plant facilities levy this spring to help finance some of these identified needs. There will be a community meeting scheduled in February or early March to go over the following items:

- explain the purpose and guidelines for Plant Facility Levies
- explain the district budget and finances
- determine community interest in supporting facility improvements and the levy
- cost to the taxpayers of the district

If it is determined that there is sufficient community support for pursuing a Plant Facilities levy, the following issues will require further community input:

- number of years the levy would span
- dollars per year that the levy would generate
- facility improvement priorities

## Principal's Report

*from the desk of Jim Warren*



The Midvale School District, as in all districts in the State, tests students to evaluate their progress in comparison to their peers throughout the state and the nation.

This statewide testing program is an important way to ensure that the Midvale educational program is on par with programs offered in other districts and states.

The test that the State schools utilize is the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) for grades 3-8, and the Test of Achievement and Proficiency (TAP) in the 9-11 grades. Student's scores can range from 1% - 99%, with the low average being 25% and the high average being 75%.

I was encouraged by the continuing progress and outstanding achievement of our students this year. The class with the highest average was the 8<sup>th</sup> grade (65.4), followed by the 7<sup>th</sup> grade (64.6).

The class that demonstrated the most improvement was the 4<sup>th</sup> grade, with Jimmy Crawford improving his score from last year by nearly fifty points.



Students scoring above the 80<sup>th</sup> percentile on the core of reading, language and mathematics included:

- Kai Petrich
- Justin Sutton
- Lana Mittelsteadt
- Brook Partin
- Shera Piper
- Jenna Scott
- Jeremy Sutton
- Diane Evans
- Dulcey Felton
- Laci Holmes
- Bethany James
- Kylee Doggett
- Ann-Marie Wiggins
- Jennifer Davis
- Kris Felton
- Forest Gibson
- Johannas Gibson
- Summer Partin
- John Piper

I commend these students for their outstanding educational achievement and effort.

At this time, I would like to take the opportunity to wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year!

