

# Northern Lights

Weekly News and Notes from Hanna, Elk Mountain, and Medicine Bow Elementary Schools



## Notes from the Principal

### More on Assessments

Today is a day that most of us will pause and reflect on the tragedy of the attacks on the World Trade Center 13 years ago. Although none of our elementary students were alive on that day, none of the rest of us will ever forget where we were on that day, and how much the world has changed since before that time. As always, our commitment is to do everything we can to make sure our students are safe and secure in our schools.

Last week I talked about the amount of time we spend on assessments. Most of our students are finishing up the MAP this week, and we are still waiting for the release of last year's PAWS scores. One of the first things we do with this information is gather the results and conduct grade-level data meetings. The classroom teacher, Title I teacher, a teacher from an adjacent grade level, resource room teacher, principal, and other staff members all meet to look over the data and discuss classroom progress. From these meetings, recommendations are made for changes in classroom instruction, interventions and adjustments for individual students, and plans for reconvening to see if these adjustments are working.

Another way we use the data is in developing our overall school improvement plan. For example, if by looking at the PAWS, MAP, DIBELS, other assessments, and classroom observations we note that our school is not performing in a particular area, we can plan for how as a school and district we can address that. That may include further

training, meeting with other staff across the district to discuss classroom techniques that are working especially well, or other changes.

To summarize, we do spend significant time during the school year assessing, but we are making a great effort to make sure we use the results for the benefit of our students. Results of all the assessments will be reported to you by parent-teacher conference time, if not sooner. You are welcome and encouraged to call your child's teacher to inquire about these reports at any time.



Hanna third graders show off the harvest from our greenhouse. These tasty tomatoes were featured in our fresh fruit and vegetable bar.

#### Next Week

- Monday

4:00 School Board Meeting at Saratoga Elementary  
Mr. Shipp in Elk Mountain in AM

- Tuesday

5:30 HES Fifth Grade Parent Meeting

- Wednesday

9:30 HES Immunization Clinic

- Thursday

- Friday

School in session, early release at 1:00 p.m.

HES Kindergarten & 6th Grade Field Trip  
HEM Homecoming



With the help of Mrs. Tlustos, a second grader laces a tipi together. Thanks again to Mrs. Grant for hosting such a great program on Native American lore.



Left: Elk Mountain and Medicine Bow students listening attentively to Mrs. Grant.

-Mr. Shipp