

# WHAT'S HAPPENING!

Hansen Alternative Program Newsletter  
May 2016

## ***HAP families' cultures celebrated at this year's International Night***



Thanks to Laurie Mott and Amanda Eaton for organizing a successful International Night. Delicious food and traditions were shared and fun was had by all. / Photo credit: Laurie Mott

## **Enormous thank you to Debi Besser**

We are going to miss outgoing HAP Co-Chair Debi Besser! Thank you so much for the countless hours you have invested in this program. HAP will not be the same without you.

### **2016-2017 HAP Leadership**

- **Co-Chairs:** Rebekkah Vielbaum\* and Kelli Samson
- **Secretary:** Corina McCleary
- **Treasurer:** Jessica Starr-Coco

*\*Rebekkah will remain as co-chair if her family stays in HAP. If not, Laurie Mott will finish Rebekkah's one-year term.*

# Classroom Updates: Ms. Abrams' class holds first HAP Gallery Night on May 20

## *Kindergarten: Mrs. Swett*

We have just wrapped up our study of paper, and all the students have the origami bug now :) We will start to explore with magnets this week. We've finished up our letter focus and are now working on advanced phonics patterns. We are also busy writing stories about our families, and space is a big theme for authors this year. In math we've been talking a lot about place value as we look at 1-100 chart and are exploring patterns we see. We are also writing our own story problems.

## *1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>: Ms. Abrams*

We had an amazing time at this year's Procession of the Species, celebrating all of the research we've done about ocean plants and animals.

We've been busy taking photos and selecting our favorites in preparation for **Photo Gallery Night this Friday, May 20**. We've also been thoroughly enjoying our new pillows during reading time (thanks, Liz!) and checking out the new books Mrs. Arbuckle got for the Hansen Library.

As the school year winds down and the temperature heats up, students can become more restless. To help with this in the classroom we've been taking extra brain breaks and getting outside more for both learning and playing. You can help by packing healthy snacks and water bottles, checking in with your kiddo about their day, and asking about their goals. weeks.



Avery Lambert worked hard on her costume for this year's Procession of the Species. / Photo credit: Laurie Mott

## **Save The Date:**

- **Friday, May 20**, at 6 p.m. in Room #3: Photo Gallery Night, which will be similar to HAP Author's Night, where students share their photos with families and friends.
- **Thursday, May 26**, at 9:45 a.m.: Music assembly
- **Tuesday, June 7**: Science Fair

## *2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>: Mr. Halvorson*

This week began our city. This is a large, integrated project that takes three to four

We weave together math, science, writing, reading and social studies. We design

buildings, streets, parks, etc., using blueprints. We describe our buildings using expository skills. Then we build the city in the middle of our classroom. During the city unit we elect mayors, have a working city council and wrestle with typical city issues. Lots of fun!

**4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>: Mr. Samson**

We are finishing our unit on government, the Constitution, and Bill of Rights.

Cispus was a success, despite programmatic changes and a shortening of our time there.

Science Fair is coming up and kids are preparing their reports and conducting their experiments at home.

“Energy” is our last unit of study

## **After 19 years, Halvorson leaving Hansen**

As you’ve probably already heard, our beloved Mr. Halvorson will be leaving Hansen at the end of the school year to take a sixth-grade Language Arts position at Washington Middle School.

He is half-way through the administrative program at Seattle Pacific University and he feels that teaching in a middle school will broaden his experiences as a teacher and make him a better candidate as a future administrator.

“This was really a hard decision,” Halvorson said via e-mail. “I love Hansen and HAP. I love the students, families, teachers and administrators. It has been an honor to teach here for the past 19 years.”

In case you missed the e-mail about the process to fill the vacancy, it is as follows:

The vacancy is first advertised to the Hansen teaching staff. Those interested in filling the vacancy must let Hansen administration know by Friday, May 20. If there is someone interested and the

employee is qualified, that teacher will be placed into the vacant classroom position. If there is more than one applicant, we will interview and choose.

If there is no one from the Hansen teaching staff who expresses an interest, the job will be posted within the Olympia School District to all Olympia Education Association (O.E.A.) members for 10 calendar work days. If the interested O.E.A applicants are qualified, one will be placed into the HAP vacancy.

If after 10 calendar work days, there are no interested applicants from the O.E.A. bargaining unit, the job will be posted at the E.S.D. 113 Public Schools Personnel Cooperative until filled. At that time interested outside applicants can submit their application for consideration.

During this time, HAP parent teaching vacancy committee members Kelli Samson, Sean Flynn and Abir Biswas will be updated by Principal Rascon and keep you apprised of progress.

