

BRASS TACKS

Key Communicator Newsletter

Why football in California?



By: Larry Glaze, Superintendent

Supt. Larry Glaze

Lately, I have been asked questions from community members regarding why La Grande High School played a football game in Sacramento, California and who paid for the trip. This is a very appropriate and

legitimate question and I am glad to have the opportunity to provide an answer for others in the community who may have the same question.

Football scheduling and athletic scheduling in general takes place up to a year before the season starts. In May of last school year LHS Athletic Director, Bill Burns received notification from Fruitland High School that they were canceling their game with LHS. Mr. Burns quickly responded to this news by contacting schools all over northeast Oregon, Idaho and Washington to find a new game opponent. Teams had their schedules set and no opponents were available to play a game.

Fruitland High School had heard about the difficulties Mr. Burns was having in finding another game and let him know about a charity fund raising football event in Sacramento, California that was looking for teams to play. After following appropriate District channels for out of state approval

Mr. Burns scheduled a game with Hiram Johnson High School in Sacramento, California.

The event called Football for Families was a fund raiser for the Sierra Forever Families, a non-profit agency that helps find nurturing permanent families for children and teens living in foster care. A total of twelve football teams participated in the two days of games with teams from California, Idaho, Oregon and Washington.

The La Grande football players raised the majority of money used to pay for this trip. Players spent last summer washing house windows, selling 4th of July raffle tickets and having spaghetti feeds to pay for the trip. La Grande School District provided financial support, at the same level, it would have funded a typical non-league game like Fruitland.

According to LHS Athletic Director, Bill Burns our high school athletes represented La Grande with flying colors both on the field with outstanding sportsmanship and off the field with excellent behavior. All in all, what looked to be a problem last May turned into a valuable experience for everyone involved.

Readers may contact Mr. Glaze at larry.glaze@lagrandesd.org regarding this article or other school related matters.

LGSD wants your opinion!

The La Grande School District has launched its second annual "Communication Needs" survey to find out how parents and community members want to receive information from the District this year. This online survey solicits how you prefer to receive information, how you currently receive information from La Grande schools, and what types of information you want to know about.

To take the survey, which will be open through September, please visit the La Grande School District Web site, www.lagrandesd.org, where you'll find a link. Thanks for your support as we continue to improve our communications with our community!

Please call Gaye Young at 541-663-3202 or email her at gaye.young@lagrandesd.org to join our Key Communicator email list

Upcoming Events

Sept. 20

Central Open House, Gr. 1-2
6-7 p.m.

Oct. 10

School Board Meeting
7 p.m., Willow Conference Rm.

Oct. 12

Statewide In-Service Day
No School for Students

Oct. 30

End of First Quarter

Nov. 1-2

Parent-Teacher Conferences
All Schools

E-mail addresses for La Grande School District staff have changed. The new e-mail address format is:

firstname.lastname@lagrandesd.org

The District's web site has also changed. Please now visit us at www.lagrandesd.org

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