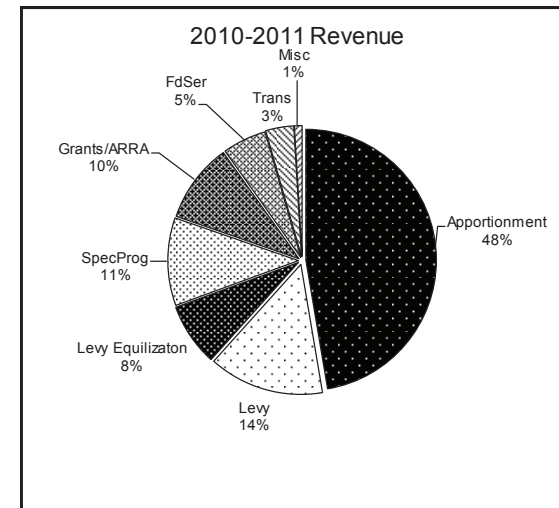


School Levy Newsletter



ECRWSS
 BOXHOLDER
 Rural Routes
 Kennewick, WA 99337

▶▶▶ Replacement Maintenance & Operation Levy



The Finley School District Board of Directors is proposing a maintenance and operations levy amount of \$1,700,000 for 2013 and \$1,750,000 for 2014. This is not an added tax. Please remember: This levy **REPLACES** the expiring two-year levy which voters approved in 2010.

This proposed levy will only maintain current programs and staffing levels.

Total 2013 levy (\$1,700,000) = Approximately \$4.32/\$1000

Total 2014 levy (\$1,750,000) = Approximately \$4.36/\$1000

The formula for figuring your own tax is as follows:
 Your assessed valuation divided by 1,000 X (\$\$rate) = tax

We Are Focused On Achievement and Assessment

Finley School District and its staff are focused on improving student achievement and assessment through instructional strategies, evaluation and a district wide academic strategic plan. With the help of various State and Federal grants specifically designed for professional development, staff and administrators have been trained in a number of successful programs.

Currently the entire elementary staff as well as 90% of the middle school staff have been trained in Guided Language Acquisition Design (GLAD). GLAD is a model of professional development in the area of language acquisition and literacy. The strategies and model promote English language acquisition, academic achievement, and cross cultural skills.

Our secondary staff (6-12) will be 100% trained in Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) by the end of this summer. The AVID system accelerates student learning, uses research based methods of effective instruction, and provides meaningful and motivational professional development for systemic reform and change. There are currently three (3) AVID classes at FMS and two (2) AVID classes at RVHS. The training is funded through our GEAR – UP grant and the instructional costs are covered by Basic Education funds.

Thank you for providing our students with a variety of educational and learning opportunities.



Lance Hahn
 Superintendent

Our Strategic Plan

In 2010, the state legislature charged OSPI with creating a pilot program to develop and test new evaluation systems. The goal is to create a state-wide evaluation system by the 2013-14 school year. Finley School District was selected to be part of the Teacher Principal Evaluation Pilot (TPEP). This has given us a new perspective on both instruction and evaluation and the need for improvement. Next year we will be implementing a new criteria and evaluation system for our administration team and specific staff members.

Using the new evaluation criteria, collecting test and survey data, receiving input from our District Advisory Committee (DAC) and Washington State Leadership Academy (WSLA) teams, we have developed a strategic academic district wide plan. The focus at all grade levels will be on 5 key areas

- Develop annual student achievement goals
- Create objective-driven lesson plans
- Engage students at all learning levels in rigorous work
- Provide students multiple ways to engage with content, and
- Improve practice and re-teach in response to data.



Levy Funding

Finley School District receives funding from the State of Washington. These state dollars are not enough to allow the district to maintain the current programs we have.

Levy dollars are used to lower class sizes, maintain progress in textbook and technology updates, teaching and support staff, update library materials, provide bus transportation to and from school and extracurricular activities, pay for heat, lights, custodial supplies and equipment and fund extracurricular activities for our students.

State and federal funding do not cover all of the cost of the District's regular basic education program nor do they cover the cost of extracurricular activities, all staff, and other important elements of providing a balanced educational program for Finley students.

PLEASE NOTE: Senior Citizens and Disabled Citizens may upon application, obtain exemption from a portion of their property tax. For more information please contact the Benton County Assessor's Office at 509-735-2394.

Finley School District #53
 Board Of Directors
Levy Report to the Community

PLEASE

VOTE



On or Before Tuesday

February 14, 2012

All Mail In Ballots

Finley School District
#53 Board Directors

Larry Ayre Chair/Leg. Rep.
Ken Cox Vice Chair
Pete Buck
Scott Conley
Stephen McGaughey

Lance Hahn, Superintendent
224606 E Game Farm Rd
Kennewick WA 99337
586-3217

www.finleysd.org

☆ The Finley School District bond to remodel the middle school and high school was paid off in December 2011. ☆



Graduation 2011



Mathematicians Honor Table

▶▶▶ **We Are Proud of Our Kids**

Honor Roll First Quarter 2011-12:

RVHS

- 4.0 GPA - 6 students
- 3.5+GPA - 28 students
- 3.0+GPA - 7 students

Spring 2010 National Honor Society inducted 9 new members

Middle School

- 4.0 GPA - 5 students
- 3.0+ GPA - 81 Students

FCCLA State Gold: **Kaetlyn Melton, Amy Olive, Cody Picker, Shaylynn Rogers, and Kayla MacDonald**

Blood Drive: 49 pints were donated, event Jr. Project Leaders **Samantha Zermeno** and **Jorgan Anderson**.

FBLA - IA Titan Competition "Top CEO of the Year" Award: **Tucker Hamlin, Dylan Vernam, Zach Patterson, and James Roberson**

FFA

2-Star National Chapter Application - Chapter

8th Place State High Individual Job Interview- **Kodie Ginder-Mill**

11th Place State Overall Food Science & Technology Team- **Zach Fuchs, Cole Puckett, Jon Helton, Bailey Schilling & Dalton Strawn**

3rd Place State Overall FFA Scrapbook- **Mikayla Fazzini**

4th Place State Overall F.A.R.M. Team- **Brittney Salter, Dalton Strawn, Amber McCoy & Kodie Ginder-Mill**

Gold Ranking Chapter at State Level

20th Place State Overall Dairy Foods Team- **Brianna Brown, Tayler Eng, Rebecca Bergman, Jessica Burrus**

Numerous ribbons (grand champions, reserves, blue and reds) for members SAE projects & 2nd place FFA display book at the local fairs.

2011 River View High School Graduates

- Valedictorian - Randy Fishman
- Salutatorian - Hattie Johnson
- Total Class Scholarships Awarded - \$180,000

WIAA Scholastic Team Award Fall 2011

- RVHS Cheer
- RVHS Volleyball
- FMS 7th Grade Volleyball

Scholar Athlete Awards Fall 2011

- RVHS Football - 9 Athletes
- RVHS Cheer - 4 Athletes
- RVHS Volleyball - 18 Athletes
- FMS Football - 4 Athletes
- FMS Volleyball - 13 Athletes

Regional High School Art Show Superintendent's Award - **Crystall Roberts** Honorable Mention Pottery - **Jesse Daniels**

It's Been Flooding at Finley Elementary! - No, it's not a broken pipe, its math flooding.

Four days a week, 3rd, 4th and 5th graders attend 30 minute math classes aimed at specific skills such as addition, money, multiplication of multi-digit numbers, and 6th grade math. The classes use games, drills, activities, timed tests, and packets focusing on computation skills which require quick recall and fluent calculation.

Students are grouped by ability versus grade level. All students start in the addition group. Once a student masters a skill set, they are moved up to the next level. A student can move through the different skills as fast as they are able. The students are in charge and control their movement from group to group.

Math flooding accomplishes the following: Students are able to work at their ability level. If students struggle with basic concepts, they get the extra help and practice they need. If a student is more advanced, they can advance more quickly. We currently have 4th graders working in a 5th grade math book and 5th graders working at the 6th grade level.

Each 3rd, 4th and 5th grade teacher and the principal teaches a math flooding group. Diane Everson coordinates the different classes, places kids in their new group when they are ready to move up, and takes groups of kids that need extra support.

If a student passes a math flooding group, their achievements are recognized at the end of the month by being invited to sit at the "Mathematicians' Honor Table" and they also get their picture in the newsletter.

It's definitely raining math at Finley Elementary. We have more kids working in the fraction group than ever before!

"All Kids Achieving"

We Are Maintaining and Improving Our Facilities ◀◀◀

Since 2010 there have been many improvements to the Finley School District buildings and grounds along with the annual maintenance schedule.

Routine annual maintenance includes, relamping lights, replacing filters, stripping/waxing floors, bleacher maintenance.

In the Fall of 2011 automatic door openers were installed on one set of front doors at each building.

Improvement seen around the district include:

RVHS

- Paint and repair lockers
- New welding booths and ventilation hoods

- Security system in art room
- Parking lot repair
- Sealcoat outside basketball court
- Concrete pads for track shot put and discus throw
- Gym bleacher—added walkways and hand rails.
- Replaced staircase on baseball concession booth
- New softball fields & dugouts

Elementary

- Installed new irrigation well pump, motor and controls
- Installed new fencing on east parking lot.
- Remodeled bathroom in Pre-School for changing table
- Laid new gravel bedding for playground area
- Converted irrigation well to stand by domestic water

Middle School

- Parking lot reasphalted, new curbing around planter.
- New classroom window glass on west side of building
- Upgraded security system

Finley Center

- Upgraded security system

Finley Middle School – **"STAR"** – Students Targeting Academic Responsibility

STAR is 30 minutes of additional time for teachers to work with small groups of students to provide assistance and enrichment time.

Expectations are set for students, some of which are:

- Be on time.
- Bring your binder including planner and pencil pouch.
- Begin by declaring your work intentions in your planner and get to work.
- Be quiet while you work during the entire period.
- Prioritize work.

Expectations are set for staff, some of which are:

- Keep attendance.
- Check students' daily entry tasks.
- Assist students in prioritizing school work needs.
- Monitor student progress.

The purpose of the **STAR** period is to get to know the students and help them to gain the skills to be successful in the classroom. The skills include study habits, organization and, generally, how to study.



Middle School students, success in the classroom.



2012 RVHS home wrestling match. Athlete: Victor Manzo

We Are Achieving

- ⇒ Project GLAD
- ⇒ AVID
- ⇒ All-Day Kindergarten
- ⇒ National Board Certified teachers
- ⇒ Band
- ⇒ Grants received - STEM, Math Partnership, FCS Fuel Up to Play, GEAR UP
- ⇒ Outstanding Bi-Annual Wash. State Patrol School Bus Inspections
- ⇒ Math & Reading Flooding
- ⇒ 15-20% exit rate for qualified ESL students
- ⇒ Bilingual office staff at two of the schools
- ⇒ Continued accreditation RVHS



Elementary students head for the buses. Fall 2011



Drawn on elementary playground by 2nd grade student, Isabell Wooley.

Remember to vote on or before February 14, 2012