



# Quarterly Newsletter

Vol. 9 No. 2

Winter 2024

[www.blackbutte.k12.or.us](http://www.blackbutte.k12.or.us)



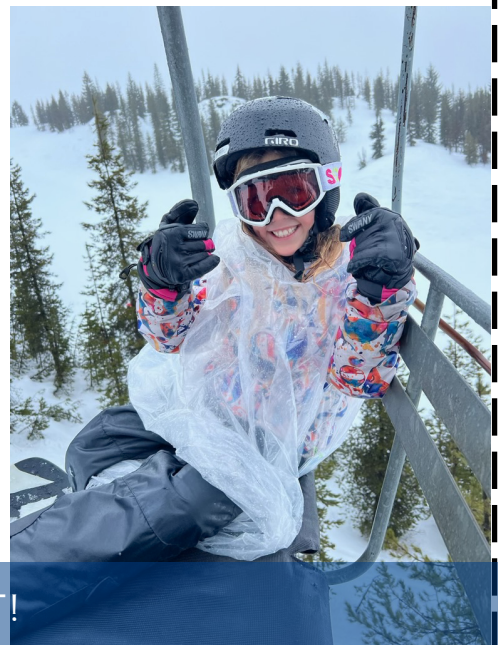
Camp Sherman was blanketed with over two feet of snow in mid-January. Students love snowy recess!

Welcome to the BBS Quarterly Newsletter!

Find news and updates, student journalism, photos, and more.



Ski, snowboard, sled, REPEAT!





# News & Updates

## Thank you to our volunteers!

Volunteers are at the *heart* of our community and we are so grateful to the amazing individuals who give their time and energy to Black Butte School.



*"The softer your heart,  
the more beautiful  
your life will be."*

- Guruji Gede Prama



*To ALL our neighbors, parents and staff who volunteer their time, and especially to the following who have gone above and beyond the call of duty, a **heartfelt** THANK YOU!*

**Board Members:** Bear Brown, Karen Lajoy, Siobhan Gray, Gary Lovegren and Pamela Lovegren

**Core PTO Crew:** Rachel Gonzalez, Koli Williams-Anderson, McKenzie Ruckman, and Jennie Sharp

**Community:** Lorie Hancock, Hollie Foster, Arnella Hennig, and Robin Bunch (Robin made 60+ bows!)

**Parent Volunteers:** Brian Schultz, Abraham Gonzalez, Jon Spurgeon, Gary Gray, Liz Flage, Raven Yaniro, Kelly Howell, Sarah Conroy, Matt Ruckman, and Molly Schultz

**All our staff members put in time beyond their paid hours.** A special shout out to Simon Levear for picking up wreaths and Kirstin Anglea for teaching the students ceramics.

### Felred Hearts for a Heartfelt Thanks

The quote above was a guidepost for Ms. Kassie as she taught the students how to sew felted hearts, which they exchanged with their class buddies on Valentine's Day.

Additional hearts were sewn by students and gifted to our BBS volunteers.





# Student Journalism

## Oregon Battle of the Books

By Roxanna, Grade 6

This year Black Butte School is doing the Battle of the Books. The battle of the books is a group that comes together and reads specific books, at the end we compete with other schools that read the same books. This year there are 16 books in each age group to read. According to the Oregon Battle of the Books website says "OBOB's mission is to encourage and recognize students who enjoy reading, to broaden reading interests, to increase reading comprehension, promote academic excellence, and to promote cooperative learning and teamwork among students."

BBS has two groups. The 6th grade group has 3 people and the 3-5th grade group has 7 people. Ms. Lindsay is the person in charge of the battle of the books, she helps us practice the questions at lunch time. The 3-5th tournament is at Madras on March 5th and 6-8th at Remond on March 13th. Ms. Lindsay and the group are practicing some questions like what's the author, what's the main character, and what's the plot.

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## A Museum in Bend Opened Two Exciting New Exhibits

By Arlo, Grade 4

The High Desert Museum (HDM) in Bend has two exciting new things. They opened a new wolf exhibit, and a baby beaver is getting trained! The wolf exhibit, titled Wolves: Photography by Ronan Donovan, is open from October 21, 2023 - February 11, 2024. I went to the museum a few weeks ago and saw the wolf exhibit. I saw some really cool photography of wolves, but I didn't get to see the baby beaver.

The guy that did the photography is called Ronan Donovan. He is a famous photographer that took most of the photos on an island near Greenland. The photos and videos are amazing. That's why it is so special that HDM got his exhibit. One video showed wolves hunting huge muskoxen. Ronan's photos capture wolves' lives.

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## The New School in the Old Town

By Brennan, Grade 8

This year the new and crazy cool school will finally come to life in the beautiful forest of Camp Sherman and everyone here can't wait for y'all to see it. The start of the construction is technically the beginning of the spring by taking away the solarium building and moving it but the actual construction will start in June 2024 and will take so many workers, in fact probably dozens of workers. We are thinking the construction of the actual building will take the whole 2024 summer, and into the fall! The building has well deserved a remodel since the school was built way back in the early 1950s. It has held up well but it definitely needs some new features. When I say new features it is really a whole new building. To conclude the build, Camp Sherman civilians had the option to vote back in May 2023 to confirm a bond of 2 million dollars. Now that's a lot of money and, for sure, enough for what we would like to do. I would say almost all the students are really excited for a change!

Things that are included in the design are way more safety features, and maybe one or two new classrooms. We also have all the walls that will be replaced, the roof and even the floors. Because currently the floors in the school contain asbestos which have some cancer causing chemicals in them. When the floors are replaced the carpet will be firm and easy to clean, you know the classic school carpet. One cool thing about the design is the students can make suggestions, like what color the walls are and the carpet. All of the students are aware of the new building and are very excited to see how it turns out. The head teacher Delaney Sharp has meetings with architects often to set the foundation of the plan for the building. Some artists have drawn what they think the school will look like and they are spectacular. I can't wait for the awesome new Black Butte School. And can't wait for the community to see it as well.



Rendering shows west side image of the new BBS

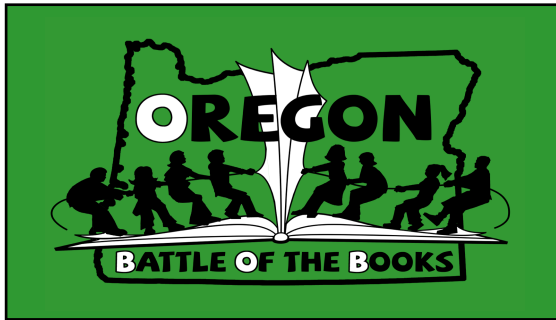


## Oregon Battle of the Books

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Right now we are in the middle of reading most of the books that we were assigned. Let's see how the kids are liking the books. "My favorite part of OBOB is being on a team, and spending time with friends." said Georgia Gray, 5th grade. "My favorite book is called A True Home by Kallie George because it teaches me about animals" said Alexis Gray. "I like the battle of the books because it motivates me to read." said Everett Spurgeon.

This is the first time Black Butte School is doing Battle of the Books. We all are excited to compete. The kids are loving the books and are having a lot of fun.



## High Desert Museum in Bend

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There is a new baby beaver (a kit) at the HDM. It is not out on exhibit yet because it isn't used to humans. The beaver was found in a parking lot in John Day, then it came to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. The beaver was really dehydrated. Then wildlife staff nursed it back to health over the course of several months. There used to be about 60 to 400 million beavers in North America, but few are left in the wild. I can't wait to see the beaver in action!

The beaver will find the company of other amazing animals like a cute fox and 3 otters. Like a wolf on a hunt, I hope you can catch the exhibit before it runs off to the next town! Even if you miss it, the HDM is a really cool place to go.

## Bond Update

- ✓ **Dec 2023:** Community Meeting at BBS. SAJ Architecture shares design plans and renderings with the public.
- ✓ **Jan 2024:** Contractors do a full site inspection on MLK JR Day when there is no school.
- ✓ **Feb 2024:** Construction phasing is determined by Griffin & SAJ: Two phases both beginning in mid-June with Phase 1 complete by Sept. 2024 and Phase 2 complete by Feb. 2025.



**Feb 13, 2024:** Community Meeting with exciting virtual and interactive tour showing the future of Black Butte School!

**For more details and regular updates:**

[www.blackbutte.k12.or.us/facilities/bond-updates](http://www.blackbutte.k12.or.us/facilities/bond-updates)

## Recycle your wreath at BBS!

A message from the PTO

Thank you to all who purchased a holiday wreath and contributed to our PTO fundraising. Funds are going toward enrichment activities for students, such as supplementing the 2024 end-of-year outdoor school trip, AND the 2025 Washington DC trip.

Thanks to parent volunteer McKenzie Ruckman, wreaths can be brought to BBS for recycling. Place your wreath on the post next to the Bus Barn through the end of March. All materials will be separated and appropriately recycled. McKenzie hopes to develop wreath recycling into an annual program. Spread the word to your neighbors and prevent wreaths from filling our landfills!

Students will participate in a Jogathon this Spring. This will be our next fundraiser for the Washington DC trip. Our last BBS Jogathon in 2018 was a big success thanks to family and community involvement. Stay tuned for more details coming soon!

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**



Black Butte School is a public K-8, three-room schoolhouse nestled in the community of Camp Sherman, OR

To learn more about our programs contact Head Teacher, Delaney Sharp [dsharp@blackbutte.k12.or.us](mailto:dsharp@blackbutte.k12.or.us)