

The Jim Ned Standard

Volume 1 Issue 2

March 2016

Jim Ned CISD, 830 Garza, Tuscola, Texas 79562

Steady Progress At Elementary Campuses

Bobby Easterling
JNCISD Superintendent

Until construction is complete at both elementary schools, my article each month will consist of construction updates.

After mudding through the much needed rain and all demo at Lawn, concrete has been poured and steel is now going up along with the safe rooms. One can now see progress moving along. It took a lot of time to demolish the old east wing, along with all the dirt work. All plumbing, gas, sewer lines and electrical lines had to be re-routed prior to pouring concrete, about 84 truckloads of concrete!

The new additions are just about complete at Buffalo Gap, and they look great! Plans are still to move in the new classrooms by or during spring break. After spring break, renovation will begin in the central area of the building. The classrooms are bigger

and the safe rooms are a wonderful addition. Not only will they provide shelter during storms and lockdowns, all student lockers (cubbies) and teacher storage are located in the safe rooms. That allows for more space in the classrooms. Each safe room is constructed with concrete filled, steel reinforced blocks along with a concrete ceiling. The teachers are excited about the move and look forward to being in their new classrooms.

I am very proud of all employees at both Elementary campuses in how they have dealt with all the construction. I appreciate their patience through the noise and adjustments and their professionalism as they carry on with the education and support for their students. Once again, they prove how great it is to be a Jim Ned Indian!



Bobby Easterling

Top: Interior hallway and classrooms at Buffalo Gap. Bottom: Structural work and safe rooms at Lawn.



David Hogan

Jim Ned student Peyton Mendez with his teacher Renee Hussman at her surprise presentation.

A Very Special Tribute

Jim Ned life skills aide, Renee Hussman, honored by one of her students.

David Hogan
JNHS Principal

Walk on to any campus in the Jim Ned district and you'll find great educators. One fine example is Mrs. Renee Hussman, our life skills aide. Recently, one of her students, Peyton Mendez, and his mother wanted to make sure that Mrs. Hussman received the recognition that she so well deserves.

Peyton and his mother submitted a nomination letter to Arrow's Teacher Tribute. An excerpt of their letter is shown below.

"Renee has been with my son since he was 3 years old. She is so much more than an aide to us. The things that she teaches Peyton aren't only from a book. She has taught him life skills that will stay with him for his entire life. She is his job coach and goes with him to work to gain vocational skills that will help him with his life after school. She truly understands him, not to mention that she loves him."

Mrs. Hussman received several gifts as part of the recognition, one of which was a free two-week rental of a car of her choice from Arrow.

JNMS principal Jay Wise added, "It has been my pleasure to know and work with Renee for 23 years. Renee loves working with our special needs children. She has a heart of gold and is concerned about the children's welfare."



JNCISD Board
Considers K-8th
STEM Initiative
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Coach Charles
Parnell & His
'94 State
Champs p.4



Bus Drivers
Needed! Contact
Jay Wise at 554-
7870 for details.

Get Your Yearbook!

Kristi Whitehurst
JNHS Yearbook Sponsor

To purchase your copy of the 2016 The Warrior, the Jim Ned Yearbook, send \$50.00 along with your name, address and phone number to:

Jim Ned High School
Attn: Yearbook
P.O. Box 9
Tuscola, TX 79562

If you have a student in school, you may fill out the order form sent home with your child and return it with your check, money order or cash to your campus office no later than Wednesday, March 30. Orders CANNOT be accepted after this date. The cost of the book is \$50.00. Engraving is also offered for an additional \$5.00. Please make checks payable to Jim Ned Yearbook. If you have any questions, contact Kristi Whitehurst at 554-7755, or you can send an email to kwhiteh@jimned.esc14.net.

Influencing Young Minds

Bri Martinez, Abigail McCoy, and Megan Leissner

Jim Ned High School history teacher Charles Parnell has influenced the young minds of high school students throughout his forty-five years of teaching and coaching. He has taught a variety of subjects and successfully coached many teams to victory.

Through the years he has taught Texas history, U.S. history, world history, health, and physical education. He has also led the 1986 Lingleville baseball team to the state tournament as well as the 1994 Jim Ned basketball team to a state championship.

What many may not know is that Mr. Parnell didn't always see himself teaching.

"I was a chemistry major to begin with," he said. "I wanted to be a doctor."

However, during college, he was drafted into to military the fight in the Vietnam War. He served six years in the military.

"I was in the army for two years and the army reserve National Guard for four years," he said. "I provided behind the line support for other units."

When he returned, he wanted to finish getting his education as soon as he could to begin his new life. He decided he wanted to make a difference in young people's lives through teaching.

Before getting a teaching job, he was a managing editor of a newspaper in Stephenville and later a pharmacist technician. He also had



Kay Whitton

Coach Parnell and his 1994 Lady Indians state champions.

jobs in summer programs that began his work with children.

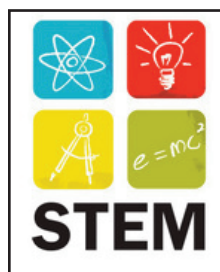
"I spent a lot of time in summer programs and saw how good people import valuable knowledge to kids and not so good people steer kids away from the things they could be good at," he said. "I wanted to be one of the good people."

When asked what the most satisfying part of teaching is for him, Coach Parnell said, "Seeing young minds succeed and go on to become valuable members of society."

Jim Ned is lucky to have a teacher with such experience and dedication who continues to positively impact and inspire his students every day.

K-8th STEM/CTE Initiative

David Hogan
JNHS Principal



The Jim Ned board of trustees has assigned high importance to the development and implementation of a dynamic career and technology (CTE) program.

Over the last few months, campus principals have had the opportunity to attend several site visits on campuses that excel at STEM/CTE. Initial visits made by Mr. Hogan and Ms. Gambrell included TSTC's aviation hangar at Abilene Regional Airport, Rochester VoTech Center, and Roscoe Collegiate. Elementary and middle school principals joined the group as visits were made to Brownwood Middle School, Scobee Middle School in San Antonio, and three elementaries in San Antonio.

The group is specifically interested in exploring the implementation of K-8th

STEM/CTE that will serve as a feeder program for our 9-12th college and career-readiness pathways.

Buffalo Gap principal Cristi Doty explains, "Implementing a K-5 STEM program will be a game changer for our district academically. Few elementary students have the opportunity that we are recommending, and by building the foundation with our youngest students, we are positioning ourselves to have a STEM/CTE program that is second to none."

Trey Guffey, JNCISD board member, added, "My goal is for our academic standards and methods to go from very good to exceptional and for those aspects to become the new goal for other schools. New opportunities for our students will arrive through equipping and facilitating our teachers."

Administration and the board of trustees have scheduled a workshop on April 5th to further review the initiative and develop a plan to move forward. If you're interested in the outcomes of that workshop, you're welcome and encouraged to attend our next board meeting on April 19th.

Buske Seeks Second State Title

Harrison Renner, Drew Harrell, and Dylan Harrell



Josh Buske
UIL State Champ

Winning a state title takes hard work, and senior Josh Buske's commitment to this led him to a state title in Social Studies last year. This year, his efforts have already put him on a path back to the state UIL meet. He has placed first in both of the UIL practice meets he has competed in this spring at Bangs and Wylie.

This year, Buske is preparing to defend his state title in Social Studies. He is practicing and studying more than ever and is ready to defend his state title beginning at the district meet to be held here at Jim Ned in April.

Being a part of the Social Studies team takes a good deal of work. Students are required to read a different full-length non-fiction book each year designated by UIL. They also must study and memorize precise dates and events in history. Buske contends that defending a state title takes even more work because a target is on your back.

"I've had to read the assigned book twice as much, I've made over 1000 flashcards," Buske said. "I'll get on certain websites. I'll read other encyclopedia books."

Not only is Buske preparing himself for the coming year, he is also very adamant about making sure his teammates are fully prepared for each and every meet.

"Buske goes on the internet in his free time and researches things for us, he finds good tests for us to take, and finds good study material," teammate Chandler Smith

said. "He drills us with questions we might see on the tests."

To do this much work for something, one must love what they are doing and be sincerely interested in it. From a young age, his grandparents instilled in him a desire to learn about history and politics.

"My interest in Social Studies I'd have to say came from my upbringing. I was raised by my grandparents. I was always interested with their lives, it sounded so much simpler for them," Buske said. "People in my generation don't care about anything. When it comes our time to lead, nobody's going to do it. So, I might as well step up."

His interest in politics is what drives his commitment to Social Studies. His love of the topic causes him to fully devote his time and effort to the team. Buske is the captain of the team and makes sure the rest of the team is always ready to go.

"I'm responsible for getting all the materials ready, we have bi-weekly meetings, I make them lesson plans, I make flashcards for them, and I make sure they pay attention to and learn the material."

Mrs. Whitton is the coach of the Social Studies team. She is around the team more than anyone else and keeps a close eye on everyone.

"There would not be a Social Studies team without Josh Buske. He has excelled at a level that has created a drive within his teammates to want to wear that same gold medal around their neck," said Mrs. Whitton. "He's going to be hugely missed."

Because this is Buske's last year to compete, it is more intense than ever for him.

"There's a lot more pressure at every meet: invitational meets, district, and the regional meet," Buske said. "I have a title to defend and I would really like to repeat that."

Shaping Students' Future

Colton Harris, Connor Akins, and Morgan Johns

Over the years technology teacher, Mindy Shaw has established one of the most advanced computer labs in the state of Texas. The computer lab recently added a cutting-edge piece of technology, a 3-D printer.

The printer was received in February and was purchased with funds received from a Federal grant, known as the Perkins Grant. Principal David Hogan supported the purchase of the printer to further Jim Ned technology programs.

"The high school is expanding our career and technology education courses," Hogan said. "3-D printing is going to be a part of that."

Despite the printer being a new piece of technology to the high school, several other schools in the area are known for already taking a step into the 3-D printing world.

"There are a few other schools in the area that have

them," Mrs. Shaw said. "These printers are becoming more and more affordable."

After the initial cost of the 3-D printer, printing is fairly inexpensive. The materials list is small, consisting of only one material, filament. Filament is a plastic-like fiber that is mutated into the form of the creator's desire.

"You could use one spool of filament in an entire school year if you printed regularly," Mrs. Shaw said. "The materials are very cheap. One spool costs about \$29.00."

The printer is being used in a multitude of classes. The students are using the printer to fulfill their creative and imaginative designs.

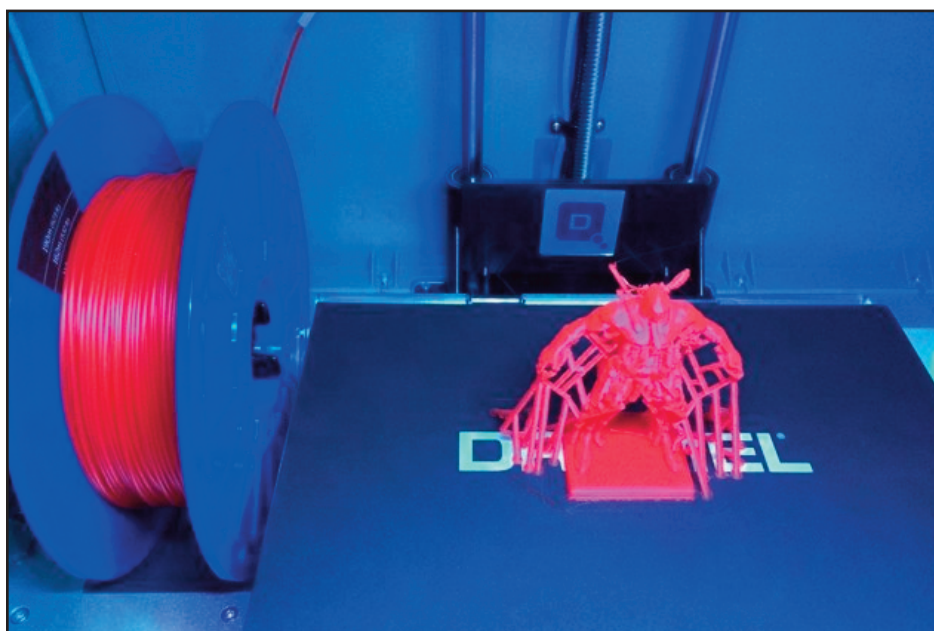
"We use the printer for things the students have designed themselves, and they can print it in 3-D," Mrs. Shaw said. "The students find a need and they make something to fill that need."

Senior Bailey Johns says that to operate the printer, numerous tries and previous knowledge of computer skills are necessary.

"A lot of programming is involved," Johns said. "Sometimes multiple attempts are needed to print a successful printout."

This printer benefits the students because it prepares them for careers associated with technology. Mrs. Shaw wants to know that when students leave her class they have been prepared for the ever-changing world of technology.

"Many students in my classes will venture into a field in technology after high school," Shaw said. "This printer helps broaden their knowledge."



David Hogan

Students in Mrs. Shaw's lab use industry-grade software to create projects on the new 3D printer.

FCCLA Advances To State

Amanda Garcia
JNHS FCCLA Student

The Jim Ned FCCLA has been very successful this year. FCCLA had many accomplishments and many events throughout the year. We have participated in Mission Thanksgiving, had a sock and underwear drive, along with a coat drive. We also visited Meek Children's Hospital where we took tie blankets we made and gave to the kids who would come to the hospital during the winter season. We went to the Day Nursery of Abilene to volunteer with the kids and help the employees by giving them a little break. We went to our region meeting, March 3-5. We had six teams compete in many competitive events. Lillie McDonald competed in Life Event Planning. Noah Thornton and Nicole Whitehurst competed in Focus on Children. Lacey Gosney and Katlynn Votaw competed in Chapter Service. Amanda Garcia and A.J. Goodwin competed in Chapter In Review. Emiley Childers and Darian Pate competed in Promote and Publicize FCCLA. Nancy Cox competed in Recycle and Redesign. Emily Alcorta will be closing her year as a Region 2 officer in April at the State meeting, and Chloe McDonald will begin her year



Stephanie Oxford

Five Jim Ned FCCLA students advance to state competition in Dallas.

as a Region 2 Vice President of Finance in April at the State meeting. Amanda Garcia, A.J. Goodwin, Lacey Gosney, Katlynn Votaw and Nancy Cox will be attending the state meeting in April. We congratulate everyone that competed and all the hard work they put toward their events. We are already making plans for next year's ac-

tivities and projects.

This year, David Hogan, high school principal, and Stephanie Oxford, volunteer, received an Honorary Member award for both the Region and State FCCLA Associations. We truly appreciate their support, time and effort.

Counselor's Corner

Carla Cooley
JNHS Counselor

Attention Seniors:

Check Mrs. Cooley's scholarship page ASAP. Several scholarship deadlines are April 1st.

Attention Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors:

English I EOC testing is scheduled for Tuesday, March 29th. English II EOC testing is scheduled for Thursday, March 31st. Algebra I and US History EOC exams are May 2nd. Biology EOC and AP Physics I exams are May 3rd. AP English Lit/Comp and AP Physics II exams are May 4th. AP Calculus exam is May 5th. AP Biology exam is May 9th. AP English Lang/Comp is May 11th.

The next ACT test is April 9th. The late registration deadline (late registration fee required) is March 18th.

The next SAT test is May 7th and the registration deadline is April 8th.

Visit Mrs. Cooley's testing page for a direct link to online registration.

Spring FFA Results

Marshall Eaton
JNHS Ag Teacher

JNHS ag students and teachers would like to thank all of the donors who supported the Jim Ned Community Livestock Show and the silent auction at the show. In addition, we appreciate the Jim Ned Livestock Association for all of its support to the exhibitors and FFA.

A special appreciation goes to Matt Smith for working with the Radio Team, helping with the radio script and presentation at our district contest.

Here are a few of our spring results.

Ft Worth Livestock Show:
Landri Murphy 9th pig
Aspen Eaton 2nd, 3rd, 4th lambs
Talyn Eaton 5th, 7th lambs
Ashley Byrom 14th lamb

San Angelo Lamb Show:
Aspen Eaton Finewool Breed Champion
Aspen Eaton 2nd Finewool Cross
Talyn Eaton 5th Finewool lamb
Cydnee Hanslik 2nd meat goat

At the San Antonio Livestock Show, Micah Pyron was named Reserve Champion Chester gilt. Additionally, the Wool Team placed 6th. Team members include: Katie Willis 11th high individual, Aspen Eaton, Ben Lantrip, and Kasey Rives.

We'll keep you updated about the Houston and Austin Livestock shows in the April issue of The Jim Ned Standard.



San Angelo Sheep and Goat Show

Aspen Eaton named Finewool Breed Champion at San Angelo Lamb Show.

On The Way Home

Diane Walker
Lawn, Texas



Diane Walker
Volunteer

Education has begun at On The Way Home Ministries in Lawn. The first class at OtWH is closing this week (Food Safety and Nutrition) and new classes will begin this month. Faith and Finance is beginning in 2 to 3 weeks and also a Bible Study about the same time. If you are interested or know of someone who is interested in either or both classes, contact Lynda Sandlin (325-669-0232) or Diane Walker (325-201-

2108). Remember we cover all the Jim Ned Area.

Want to get involved? Each student needs an ally (mentor) to encourage them through the class. Mentors are not allowed to help financially, but they do attend the class with the student and build an encouraging relationship throughout the course.

Like to cook and serve? We plan to serve a light meal before the classes. If you have a friend, a Sunday school class, small group, etc. that would like to provide a meal, that would also be a service. We are amazed at the serving hearts of our area. What a blessing!

Thank You!

Jim Ned
Organizations

JNHS Project Graduation

Thank you to all of the parents, community members, and businesses that helped to support our seniors during their Projection Graduation auction, bake sale, and baked potato supper. The seniors and their parents greatly appreciate everyone who took part in this night to make it a great fundraiser for the kids. Jim Ned is a great community to live in and it takes all of us working together to help our students succeed. You are much appreciated!

JNHS Girls Track

Thanks to the following corporate sponsors that donated to the girls' track program this year:

Abilene Bone & Joint

- Action Zone
- Devonian Dirtworks
- Clearman Video Productions
- Windmill Crossing Estates
- Anytime Fitness
- New Leaf Landscaping
- Circle C Hardwood Floors
- Wildfire Truck Sales
- MidAmerica Mortgage Inc.
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- Triple Branch Ranch Properties
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- Gee Plan Room, Inc.
- Abilene Aero, Inc.
- ARCADA
- Interstate All Battery Center
- Lance Johnson Custom Farming
- Double D Hauling Inc.
- Tutt and Dags

JNHS Industrial Technology Labs

Heather Hicks
Cisco College Liaison

Cisco College Industrial Technologies visited Jim Ned High School this past Wednesday to introduce the college's industrial technology dual credit programs and courses in industrial maintenance, HVAC (heating, ventilation & air conditioning), plumbing, electrical trades and welding that students may take for college credit while in high school, as early as their sophomore year. Many JNHS students already take academic dual credit courses including math, English, and history.

Cisco has also offered dual credit welding courses at the high school in recent years. Cisco College offers courses to high school dual credit students at half the price of regular college tuition.

The Industrial Technologies Mobile Lab was also on display at the High School. The trailer-mounted laboratory features industrial trades' technology and equipment students will use to complete the hands-on training required for the dual credit courses. Cisco College faculty will bring the trailer to Jim Ned High School two to three times each week during the semester as part of the industrial technologies courses. When not working in the mobile lab, stu-

dents will develop and practice the skill sets necessary for the courses by participating in instructor-led, virtual reality simulations through state-of-the-art software.

JNHS principal, David Hogan, said, "Our campus administration and district leadership are very eager to expose our students to Cisco College's new industrial technologies mobile lab. We're particularly excited about the chance that it will afford our students to take advantage of local internship and hiring opportunities. In addition to preparing Jim Ned students for viable, wage-earning careers, we're proud of the fact that the very same students will be contributing to regional and state economies in high-need occupational areas."

"We're particularly excited about the chance that it will afford our students to take advantage of local internship and hiring opportunities."

David Hogan, JNHS Principal

Cisco's Industrial Technologies Mobile Lab and program resources were developed as part of a High Demand Job Training Initiative partnership between the college, the Texas Workforce Commission, Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas, and the Development Corporation of Abilene.

Information about Cisco College's Industrial Technologies programs and courses can be found on the Career/Tech page of the Cisco College website and on Facebook: Cisco College Hvac/r Technologies.



hvac-tech.com/

Mobile lab features industrial trades' technology and equipment students will use to complete the hands-on training.

Lawn Elementary News

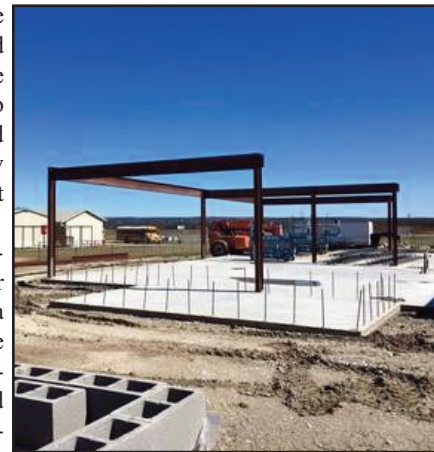
Chris Holson
Lawn Elementary Principal

Spring is in the air, which for Lawn Elementary means Valentines, Easter, spring pictures, book fair, spring break, and STAAR assessments approaching. It is a busy time of the year for students and teachers as students are consistently preparing to gain the knowledge and skills needed to be ready to move on to the next grade.

Lawn Elementary participated in "Pennies for Patients", which is a fundraiser for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. We joined 29,000 schools nationwide in the fight against blood cancer. Our students and their families blew us away with their efforts and generosity. We set a campus goal to raise \$1500. The Lawn Elementary community raised \$3,262. We not only sent donations to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, but we were also able to send \$500 to a local Jim Ned alumni who is fight-

ing a battle with Leukemia. What an amazing community.

Construction pace has picked up on the campus as the slabs have been poured and the raising of the metal structure is underway. The Lawn staff visited the Buffalo Gap campus and were able to see what is on the horizon



Lawn Elementary

Structural metal is raised as construction marches forward at Lawn.

for our building project. We were all very impressed with the progress at the Buffalo Gap campus and are excited about our future construction.

The final Book Fair of the year was a great success and we are thankful for all who participated. The 2nd graders did their "famous person" project and performed their famous person reading in their costumes. As usual, they were amazing. Thank you to Ms. Weaver, Mrs.

Rives and all of the families who helped make it a success.

It's great to be a Jim Ned Indian!

Update From The Gap

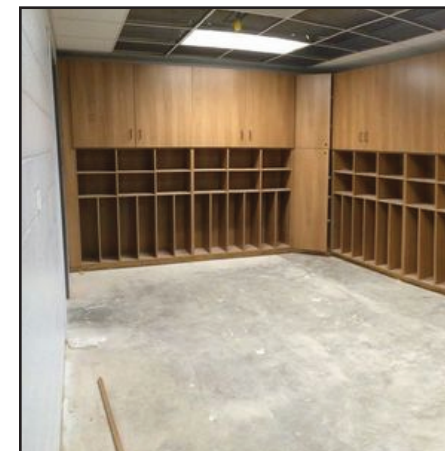
Cristi Doty
Buffalo Gap Elementary Principal

Construction and moving around to new rooms is in full swing at Buffalo Gap Elementary. We are on schedule to move into our new rooms at spring break. Be looking for information to come home by spring break as to how this will affect a few procedures, including drop-off and pick-up.

The Buffalo Gap Elementary Parent Teacher Network will sponsor an annual fundraiser at the Red Dirt Pavilion on April 9th. The main goal of the event is to raise enough funds to purchase a cover for the new playground. The PTN is also looking into helping provide the following items: an electronic sign for the front of the school, a sound sys-

tem for the gym, and robotics equipment for our growing club.

STAAR testing is quickly approaching. Our 4th-grade students will take the writing test on March 29. The 5th-grade students will take the math test on the same day and then take the reading test on March 30.



Buffalo Gap Elementary

Buffalo Gap safe room, complete with student cubbies and storage.

A Word From The Board

Matt Higgins
JNCISD Board Secretary

Isn't the Jim Ned Standard a great way to communicate what is happening in our district! Speaking of communication, your school board met for a workshop in December. This workshop focused on identifying the needs of our district. We went through several exercises to brainstorm and identify the needs. Well guess what? Communication was one of the top items. Communication is the key to succeeding in any endeavor. I Googled communication and found the following definitions:

1. the imparting or exchanging of information or news;
2. means of connection between people or places, in particular.

Sounds exactly like what we need! For our district to succeed there has to be good communication between the school board and

administrators; between administrators, teachers and support staff; and between our District and our parents and taxpayers. The communication channel is not a one way tunnel. It has to work from both directions to be effective.

I encourage our parents and taxpayers to attend regularly scheduled monthly board meetings to listen or speak to the board about a concern. The school board meeting minutes are posted on the school website. Please take time to look and see what is happening in our meetings and what decisions are being made. If you ever have a question or concern, please speak with a teacher, administrator or school board member. The only way our district can succeed is for everyone to communicate.

A big thank you to Mr. Hogan and the high school journalism class for developing the Jim Ned Standard. I think this a great tool to "communicate" with our families the great things happening in our District.

It is great to be a Jim Ned Indian!