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Monte R. Woolstenhulme, Ed. S

Superintendent

Building a Bond: Reflecting On Successes

Summer is officially here! Congrats to the 2017 Teton High School graduating class. The teachers and staff of TSD 401 are excited to see where this next chapter takes you and hear about all you will accomplish. As the 2016/17 school year comes to a close, we would like to take a pause from the bond discussion and reflect on the many successes of the past year, and what a year it has been!

From excellent test scoring to extracurricular successes, our students have gone above and beyond. Friends and family members, we hope you are as proud of your graduates as we are.

“The success we celebrate this year for the graduating seniors is evidence of their hard work and the efforts to teach and guide them during their many years of education in our school district,” said Superintendent Monte Woolstenhulme. “Each level of learning from elementary to middle to high school builds on the foundation and skills from the previous years, and every teacher, coach and staff member in our school district is part of that success.”

When the senior class walked the stage last week, you may have noticed quite a few students in cap and gown. Teton High School had a 96.7 percent graduation rate, the highest in the State of Idaho for any high school with a senior class of 100 or more students. Idaho’s average statewide graduation rate is 78.9 percent, ranking the Gem State as thirty-ninth nationally for overall graduation numbers. Teton High School is proud to help move Idaho toward the national average and graduate nearly all its students.

Thank you to the hard work of the seniors, the commitment of their teachers, and the support of their families.

Many seniors are continuing on this fall to pursue higher education. We are proud to say that this senior class was awarded scholarships totaling \$3.9 million given for academics, athletics, community service, and more.

College preparedness is a focal point of senior year. Preparing to launch each student who chooses this path into the right school with the right tools for success is paramount. Some students choose to get a jump-start on their collegiate studies by taking college courses during high school. These courses transfer to their universities as credits. During the 2016/2017 academic year, Teton High School seniors completed 894 college credits during their four years in high school. That is the equivalent of 7.5 bachelor’s degrees.

While we are incredibly proud of our students’ athletic pursuits outside of the classroom, we love seeing our athletes shine in their studies, as well. Teton High School senior girls that were members of the cross



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country, volleyball, basketball, and softball teams earned, along with their teammates, seven academic state championships during their four years at THS, meaning the highest team GPA of all teams at the 3A level in Idaho.

“To earn seven academic state championships along with their teammates at THS during their four years at Teton High school is an amazing accomplishment,” Woolstenhulme said. “This shows the dedication of these student athletes, high expectations of coaches and teachers and a tremendous amount of support from parents and families! Great job ladies!”

Over the summer, if you see one of the graduating seniors, take a moment to offer your congratulations on all their successes. We are very proud of you and wish you all the best!

From now until the new school year, the board will continue to work to craft the bond, a step we hope will further help all students and teachers succeed during their time at TSD 401. Our next bond discussion meeting will be held Monday, June 19, at 6 p.m. and will focus on grade configuration and the tax impact. We encourage all interested parties to come, listen, and ask questions.

More information can be found at www.tsd401bond.org.