

April's Gold Medal School of the Month

Granite Elementary

Principal: Denise Orme
School Coordinator: Jen Barton
Mentor: Kristine Jeppesen



Granite Elementary is striving for Gold and a healthier community this year. In doing so they have already included the community in two events and have one more event planned. After school programs are also available to the community. At Granite Elementary they realize the importance of influencing healthy lifestyles for students requires a healthy environment at school and community involvement.

Families were invited to participate in the school jog-a-thon. Everyone: teachers, parents, students, and siblings were encouraged around the track by D.J. Wes and upbeat music. Each grade came out and did a ten-minute warm-up before the 20-minute jog-a-thon followed by a 15-minute cool down. Water and apple slices were waiting for them as they finished.



Besides being healthy this event was also a school fundraiser. This year Granite is adopting a policy requiring all organizations to raise funds without selling food items. Each student pledged that they would jog, walk, or skip around the track and set a goal for themselves. Students then got sponsors who pledged money to donate to the school.

Local businesses donated so many items that almost every student who participated received a prize. A grand total of \$17,000 was raised which more than doubled what they had netted in each of the past three years.

“It was more successful in a lot of ways. First parents, teachers and students were all challenged to physical activity. We didn’t pay for anything we didn’t need. Mrs. Orme, our principal ran around with almost every grade,” said Heather Hansen, PTA president.

“It feels so good to have a fundraiser that brings the whole school together in an event that everyone feels good about,” said Denise Orme, Principal. “We had one hundred percent positive feedback.”

The success of the event could be attributed to their efforts of going above and beyond to inform the community. The community was well informed by use of the school marquee, flyers sent home, posters hung, and announcements in the PTA newsletter and during school.