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CASEY CAMPBELL | Gazette-Times
Pedro Orozco takes his turn shaving the head of Lincoln School Principal Oscar Moreno-Gilson at an assembly on Tuesday.

Principal gets head shaved at Lincoln

By MARY ANN ALBRIGHT
Gazette-Times reporter

As a reward for all their hard work in last month's jog-a-thon, kids at Lincoln School received a special treat Tuesday.

Staff willingly subjected themselves to embarrassment, parading around school in pajamas and recreating the dance scene from the movie "Napoleon Dynamite," much to the students' glee.

"That dance was hilarious. They did a good job," said Naomi Hughes, 9, a fourth-grader in Tana DeRoss' class.

Teachers wore "Vote for Pedro" shirts and grooved to Jamiroquai's "Canned Heat," a visual that 9-year-old Brick Jennings called "crazy, creepy and scary."

Despite Brick's unfavorable review of instructional facilitator Aaron Hale's choreography, the assembly was a big hit overall.

"It was really funny," said Katie LaFevre, 9. Her favorite part was when custodian Greg Amerling let students wrap him up like a mummy using toilet paper.

This fall Lincoln went from a kindergarten through fifth-grade school to include grades six, seven and eight. Last year's jog-a-thon raised \$1,500 with 300 students. Now that enrollment has increased to about 400 kids, the school set a fund-raising goal of \$2,500.

The students raised more than \$3,000.

The money will support the Parent Teacher Organization and classroom activities, field trips and school supplies, said principal Oscar Moreno-Gilson.

The celebration was multifold. Jonathan Rosa, PTO president, teaches a film-making class for the middle-schoolers. They created a news report on the jog-a-thon, and screened the broadcast at the assembly.

Counselor Nancy Votrain dyed her hair purple.

Kirk Myrold, behavior specialist, let some of the kids who ran the most laps pummel him with water balloons.

"This is your opportunity to throw balloons really hard at him. Get back at him for suspending you and taking your recess away," Moreno-Gilson joked.

But the principal was soon vulnerable himself, for students got to shave Moreno-Gilson's head as their final reward.

"Make it look good now," he instructed the amateur barbers.

He might want to wear a hat for a while.

"That's why my wife didn't want me to do this," he said, examining the spotty results in the mirror.

But it was all for the kids, and they seemed to appreciate the gesture.

Five-year-old Logan Steves was diplomatic when asked how he liked his principal's new haircut.

"It's different," said Logan, a student in Maria Adams' kindergarten class.

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