



David Parodi

# Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: David Parodi

SCHOOL: Prospect Point Elementary

GRADE: 5th

Q. What final preparations did you do to help students get ready for WASL testing?

A. Fifth graders are tested in science, math and reading. By fifth grade most of the students have taken it a couple of times. They know it's a big test and we've talked about it all year. We do a lot of review so they are fully prepared.

Q. Describe a recent project that links the subject matter to your students' interests?

A. We are in the middle of a colonies unit preparing for the Revolutionary War. I have a vision that they always connect the subject matter to their lives. For example if they have an interest in clothing then they'll look at clothing from the colonial era.

Q. How did you use local businesses to help students improve their writing skills?

A. I had the students write to their parents and a business of their choice to find out how the skills they used in their businesses linked to the skills of a 5th grader. The students gave them a data chart to fill out. I used this information to demonstrate to the students how the skills they were learning right now were life skills they would be using the rest of their lives.

Q. How do you help students transition to middle school?

A. We talk a lot about middle school during the year. They meet the middle school counselors several times in the spring and we conclude that with a visit. We provide a biography about every student to the middle schools so they have all the students' test score data, report cards and other information so they are successful.

## COMMENTS FROM PROSPECT POINT PRINCIPAL RICK NEBEKER:

"David Parodi is a teacher who makes kids think and use data to make informed decisions. He does a great job of providing time for them to think."

Over →



## MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM DAVID PARODI'S CLASS:



### COMMENTS: FROM DAVID...

"In history I do a genealogy unit to link the student's family to what we are studying. They do research to find out when their families first came to this country and from where they came. So when we talk about how a lot of people came to America from Europe they can see many of their families also came from there."

"Most of the students are nervous in a healthy way about taking the WASL. They know it's a big test but they are excited about showing what they know."



"I like to provide 5th graders with extra privileges because as the oldest students in the school I feel they have earned them. The students do great with this extra responsibility."