



Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Lt. Col. Bill Bialozor SCHOOL: Walla Walla High School

Position: JROTC Instructor

YEARS IN DISTRICT: 6 years

Q. How many students are enrolled in the JROTC program?

A. We have 150 kids in the program this year. We have grown from 82 over the past six years. There are six pillars to this program – history, geography, leadership, fitness & health, first aid, and rifle marksmanship. The kids take three kinds of classes: ROTC; rifle marksmanship; and American military history. The students also participate in afterschool JROTC activities.

Q. How does the size of our JROTC program compare to other schools?

A. We are about 50 percent larger than most schools. We have picked up 10 percent each year and have exploded the past couple of years. We are hoping to reach 180 students next year and eventually grow to 200.

Q. Why is the program growing?

A. The kids are attracted to the kind of activities that we offer and a small number of students plan to join the military someday. I do a lot of team building activities. Students read about us in the newspaper and see us at parades and the fair. They want to be a part of a national championship program. A lot of these students are legacy students where their parents or other family members were in the program and were encouraged to participate. Success breeds success.

Q. What is the JROTC relationship with the Army?

A. I am a proud Walla Walla School District employee and I love being in this district. The Army cost shares to have retired Army instructors like myself and Mark Mebes work in local high schools to help young people become better citizens. Our salaries are cost shared with the Army and the overhead for school districts is primarily funded by the Army. This includes uniform maintenance, air rifles and computer technology.

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**MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM
BILL'S CLASS:**

We give back to our community. If our community needs our colors carried, we send cadets out to be part of the color guard. This might be the Veterans Day Parade or the Walla Walla Fair Parade.



COMMENTS FROM BILL:

Where did I grow up? Pick a continent. I lived in the Midwest then we moved to Australia. Eventually, we moved to Spokane during my high school years. I graduated from Ferris High school and attended Gonzaga U.

My wife and I have three children. Bicycling riding is my passion. This valley is a cyclist's paradise. I try to log 5000 miles annually on my bike right here in the Walla Walla valley.



I joined the regular Army and was stationed in Germany, Korea, several places in America, and the Far East. I also served a combat tour in Afghanistan. My final post was at a university to train officers to serve in the Army.