



Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Chris Plucker

SCHOOL: Pioneer Middle School

Position: Leadership Teacher

YEARS IN DISTRICT: 6 years

Q. What is the 8th grade leadership class?

A. This class meets daily and was developed for students who have already exhibited leadership skills within the school. Students develop character skills by promoting confidence and truth in everything they do. Approximately 38 students have taken the class this school year.

Q. Why did you take the students to Olympia?

A. Our purpose was to witness our state government in action. We wanted to learn how our elected officials earned their seats and what makes a leader. The students met the Governor and Representatives Walsh and Nealey and Senator Hewitt. We met with Governor Inslee for about 20 minutes and presented him with a painting the students designed of the Spirit of Walla Walla hot air balloon flown by Jerry Cummins. They also presented Governor Inslee with a coin of Walla Walla.

Q. What did the students learn during this experience?

A. The kids realized this was a once in a lifetime experience. Surprisingly, the thing they enjoyed the most was just getting to be together as a class and the comradery with their peers. We were able to take the students to Pike Place Market, the original Starbucks and get a glimpse of life in the city. They enjoyed building relationships with each other.

Q. What do you expect from these students as they enter high school?

A. I hope they take some of the skills they have learned in this class and apply them to their other activities and courses at Wa-Hi or Lincoln. I would like to see them get involved in activities like Link Crew at Wa-Hi or other leadership opportunities at Lincoln.

Over



MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM
CHRIS' CLASS:



COMMENTS FROM CHRIS:

On our visit to Olympia, students represented Pioneer Middle School and our district with class. They wore ties and dresses during the Capitol building tour. Throughout the entire trip they were very respectful and mature.

Our tour guide called Principal Mira Gobel to report our students were the best group he had ever escorted through the Capitol building.



I attended Touchet High School and graduated from the University of Washington. I am married to Tami who is a preschool teacher at Blue Ridge and we have a 14-month-old daughter. I like to fly fish.