



Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Carrie Lujan

SCHOOL: Walla Walla High School

Position: Counselor

YEARS IN DISTRICT: 2 years

Q. What do you do as a high school counselor?

A. There are three aspects to being a school counselor. The first is academics. We help students with their grades and classroom support. The second aspect is college and career readiness and the third area is personal and social counseling.

Q. Who are the students you work with?

A. I work with students grades 9-12 and I support the AVID program. Each counselor has a section of the alphabet. I have about 400 students, alpha-range A to Ce.

Q. How does it make you feel when students receive their college acceptance letters?

A. It is very exciting to see the acceptance letters. I feel their joy because for many students it was their dream to go to these schools. A lot of the AVID students come from families who did not have parents attend college. When we receive their acceptance letters, it makes me feel like I am helping change their life direction.

Q. How do you help students develop a four-year high school plan?

A. We spend a lot of time with each grade level to develop a high school plan. When we register students for classes each spring we ask them which careers they are considering so we can match them with the appropriate classes to support this career pathway. We work with GEAR UP to present options to the students with a focus on college and career readiness. During their freshman year, we help students transition into the school and focus on being successful in high school.

For the sophomore and junior years, we start asking them what they want to do after high school and if they have considered career options. The senior year is when we focus on getting college applications submitted and develop their fifth year plan.

Over 

**MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM
CARRIE LUJAN:**

I feel so thankful I get to work with AVID students. I see them more often and go on field trips which helps create closer and positive relationships.



COMMENTS FROM CARRIE:

School counselors also work with students on bullying issues, struggles with friends and home issues which could be impacting their academic achievement.

I grew up in Salinas, California and attended college at University of California-Davis. I participated in gymnastics my entire life and competed in college on a scholarship.



I am married and my husband is an engineer at Key Technology. We like to be outdoors. We hike, mountain bike and snowboard.