

June 7 • School Board Meeting Recap

## 'Classrooms of the Future' on display

### *Classroom needs at core of 25-Year Facilities plan*

Representatives from Saxton Bradley -- a specialty distributor of quality educational furnishings and equipment -- explained to school board members last night how new classroom furniture, technology, and audio equipment help enhance learning.

The Saxton Bradley display of a "Classroom of the Future" featured space saving and ergonomically supportive furniture, state-of-the art audio enhancement systems, dynamic smart boards for electronic presentations and more.

The smart boards are designed to be user friendly and allow for easy data manipulation. Graphics, text and online resources are easily accessed through the software for use in presentations and lessons.

Facilities and technology improvements are high priorities in the district's recently approved Strategic Plan. Business Manager **Aron Rausch** is currently heading efforts to develop a 25-Year Facilities Improvement plan.

The district has tentatively set Winter/Spring 2006 as a date to bring a bond issue before the voters of Walla Walla. An independent facilities review last year recorded more than \$80 million in needs across the district.

"We have a plan for modernizing our district facilities over time, Superintendent **Rich Carter** said. "Our long-range facilities plan will address the urgency of our needs, while respecting our stakeholders through a reasonable, fixed cost funding structure that is easy to forecast. Quality schools are a great investment for our community."

Visit the Saxton Bradley website to learn more at: <http://www.saxtonbradley.com/home.html>.

Contact Rausch for more information on the district's facilities improvement planning process.

## **District records 'clean' audit**

The district upheld its long-standing history of operational compliance after receiving what Business Manager **Aron Rausch** called a 'clean audit' during his report to school board members last night.

Rausch said the district met all state and federal compliance requirements during the recent audit. He said strict internal controls in place in the Business Office help ensure the district meets legal requirements.

Most district's are audited every other year, but Walla Walla Public Schools requests to be audited annually to better ensure compliance.

Rausch thanked staff members for adhering to the established guidelines and policies.

"It takes a team effort to get results like these," Rausch said.

## *Dive into Summer!*

## All Staff Breakfast

Friday, June 10

Wa-Hi Commons

Breakfast begins at 7:15 a.m.

Program begins at 8:00 a.m.

*Salute our retirees and find out who are this year's Staff Achievement Grant recipients!*

## In other School Board meeting business...

### **Board members:**

- approved minutes of regular board meeting May 17, 2005, Personnel and Out of State Travel Reports, and board meeting schedule, July to December: 7/19; 8/23; 9/6 & 9/20; 10/4 & 10/18; 11/1 & 11/15; 12/13.
- approved Curriculum Adoptions:
  - Agribusiness; Social Studies 6-12; Culinary Arts/Food Production and Service
- approved Instructional Materials Adoptions:
  - Social Studies; Culinary Arts

## Personnel Report

### • New Hires

*Administrative:* **Donna Painter**, Director of Head Start/ECEAP - Blue Ridge

*Certificated:* **Anne Bickelhaupt**, Social Studies - Wa-Hi

**Kristina Duncan**, English, Wa-Hi

**Crystal Holmes**, Physical Education - Garrison

**Julian Huber**, Social Studies - Wa-Hi

**Jeramie Maupin**, Math - Wa-Hi

**Patrick McFetridge**, Physical Education - Prospect Point

**Marit Nierman**, Literacy Specialist - Garrison

**Marie Spalding**, Language Arts/Math teacher - Garrison

**Carina Stillman**, English, Wa-Hi

### • Resignations/Retirements

*Certificated:* **Barbara Knowlton**, Business Education, Wa-Hi - 26 years

**Dusti Rogers**, Business Education, 2 years

**Jim Thacker**, Social Studies - Wa-Hi - 30 years

**Allison Peck**, Special Education/English, Opportunity Program, 15 years

(• Allison is resigning .3 FTE and will continue to teach .7 FTE)

### • Leave of Absence

*Certificated:* **Brian Senter**, Drama/English, Wa-Hi - 6 years

(• .4 FTE medical leave of absence for 2005-2006 - Brian will continue to teach .6 FTE)

### Quote of the Week

"Chance favors the prepared mind."

**Louis Pasteur**

## Blue Ridge Hot Eagles Program helps students soar

Blue Ridge Learning Specialist -- and recently named Principal -- **Connie Taylor-Randall** reported to school board members last night on an exciting program supporting the school's highly capable and gifted students.

The Blue Ridge 'Hot Eagles' program is an Expeditionary Learning model which focuses on teaching and learning through authentic projects.

This year students in the program studied roller coasters. The project called on the students to build their own roller coaster and travel to Silverwood -- thanks to grant dollars -- to see and ride one. The students also created PowerPoint presentations to showcase their work.



*Blue Ridge students in the 'Hot Eagles Program' show off the roller coaster they built this year to enhance their science skills.*

## FFA teams advance to nationals

Wa-Hi FFA teams continue to earn respect across the state as several teams dominated Washington competitors this spring en route to Nationals next fall in Louisville, Kentucky.

During last night's presentation advisors **Mike Martin** and **Arch McHie** thanked the school board for its support of the program over the years.

They also presented Technology Director **Janis Barton** with an appreciation plaque for her department's technical support at this year's state event.

## Hispanic students honor McClelland

Wa-Hi Seniors **Dorely Rodriguez**, **Maria Morales**, **Maria Hernandez**, **Mayra Reyes**, **Ana Fierros**, **Janet Quezada**, and **Roger Esparza** -- representing Hispanic students at Wa-Hi -- presented CTE teacher **Dave McClelland** with a *Certificate of Appreciation* for providing encouragement and positive messages to succeed.

"He was always telling us to keep going," Hernandez said as tears ran down her face. "We're really going to miss him."

## Garrison students explore their futures

Garrison teacher **Marcia Lewis** and Gear Up Coordinator **Jerri Doyle** reported to school board members how they are teaming to help students explore career options and prepare for post-secondary education.

Garrison students reviewed the career options they studied and explained what strategies they would need to pursue for these lines of work.