

10-10 Staff News

School Board Meeting Recap »

October 1, 2019

Strategic Plan Elementary and Middle School Progress Monitoring Update



Chris Gardea
Asst Superintendent

Last night Assistant Superintendent Chris Gardea facilitated a presentation on Elementary and Middle School Performance Indicators from the 2018-2019 school year data. The district is monitoring attendance, Smarter Balanced Assessment achievement and Behavior. The district witnessed improvement, met or exceeded the goal in all categories, but attendance. Although most

schools did not attain the lofty attendance goals, WWPS K-8 outperforms the state at nearly every grade level.

Elementary and Middle School Principals

[See more back page](#)

2019 Dashboard Snapshot

	Regular Attendance	SBA ELA	SBA Math	SBA ELA SPED	SBA Math SPED
District	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green

Key	
Grey	Insufficient data due to population size
Yellow	Decrease in performance
Light Green	Improvement over prior year but not enough to meet goal
Dark Green	Meet or exceeded goal

Behavior	Referrals	ISS	OSS
District	Green	Green	Green
Berney	Green	Green	Yellow
Blue Ridge	Green	Green	Green
Edison	Green	Green	Green
Green Park	Green	Green	Green
Prospect Point	Green	Green	Green
Sharpstein	Green	Green	Yellow
Garrison	Yellow	Green	Green
Pioneer	Green	Green	Green

Principals reported behavior issues are related to skill deficits and they believe students can be taught to improve in their actions.

**Regular Attendance Rates
2018 Compared to 2019 Preliminary Results**



WWPS is outperforming the state in attendance at most all grade levels.

Board Meeting Highlights

APPROVED »

Minutes from the Sept. 16 and 17 Special Meetings, Sept. 17, 2019 regular business meeting, personnel report, extracurricular athletic contracts, non-athletic extra & co-curricular contracts, Oct. 1 accounts payable and Sept. payroll, negotiated MACC (Maximum Allowable Construction Cost) for science building and excused absence for Director Mrs. Trick.

ELEMENTARY/EARLY LEARNING »

School board members continued deliberation of their comprehensive study focusing on potential elementary reconfiguration and the possibility of repurposing an elementary school into a community-wide early learning center hub. The school board expects to make a final decision at the Oct. 15 school board meeting. The board remains settled on a preliminary determination to move forward with plans to repurpose Blue Ridge Elementary as the new Early Learning Center. This change would take place at the start of the 2020-2021 school year.

The school board discussed the need to fully support Blue Ridge students and staff during the transition. School board members and Superintendent Smith are planning to develop guiding principles to frame the transition process to clearly communicate the commitment the district will make to ensure a positive transition. They also discussed possibly delaying the comprehensive districtwide boundary change study to next year to allow more time and support for the elementary consolidation and early learning center development. No action was taken.

EMPLOYMENT . . .

Certificated:

KRYSTAL CERON-TAPIA | SPECIAL ED, SHARPSTEIN

Classified:

WILL GARCIA | PARA-EDUCATOR, BERNEY

Quote of the Week

“Don’t limit yourself. Many people limit themselves to what they think they can do. You can go as far as your mind lets you. What you believe, you can achieve.”

Mary Kay Ash

Levy = Learning

Board discusses Feb. 11 Election

Maintaining Quality Education Programs

Walla Walla Public Schools will seek renewal of its Replacement Education Levy in February. Last night the school board reviewed the current education levy approved by voters in 2016. They also discussed the upcoming four-year Replacement Education Levy proposal which will go before voters Feb. 11, 2020.

Levies are different than bonds. Levies pay for educational programs and opportunities for students the state does not fund. The Replacement Education Levy funds over 100 staff not paid for by the state’s basic education funding model. Levies support school programs like music, art, honors courses, athletics, and a variety of experiences that Walla Walla parents and stakeholders have approved at the ballot for half a century.

Bonds are used for the construction of new schools, major building remodels or major facility upgrades. Walla Walla Public Schools voters approved a replacement bond in November 2018 to address such facility improvements. Look for more information on the Replacement Education Levy election in the coming months.

Key Levy Dates

- Election date: February 11, 2020 (Ballots mailed: Wednesday, January 22, 2020)
- 50% + 1 vote required for approval

Voter Registration Information

- Voter registration forms at all schools and at 310 Poplar St. | (509) 524-2530
- email: elections@co.walla-walla.wa.us (POC Dave Valiant)

New Era Begins!



Wednesday the district held a groundbreaking ceremony at Walla Walla High School to officially mark the beginning of construction on the new Science Building. This amazing 18,000 sq. ft. facility features eight fully-functional laboratory classrooms. The science building project will be completed to start the 2020-2021 school year. Construction on other phases of the Wa-Hi project will begin in 2020.



Visit the bond webpage (wwpsbond.org) to see the amazing virtual tour of the new science building.

Strategic Plan

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were in attendance to discuss the results of their individual schools.

“It’s an opportunity for principals to share what is working and what areas continue to need more focus,” said Gardea. “Our continued work around collaborative teams and the clarity around Promise Standards in ELA and Math will help move students from the various performance levels.”

The district has identified 2021-2022 to meet specific target goals. The attendance goal addresses chronic absenteeism. The district pledges to reach 90 percent regular attendance. Academic achievement targets are focused on 2.5% annual index improvement in ELA and Math. Behavior monitoring is continuous per the Strategic Plan.