

Family and Community Engagement (FACE) in Walla Walla Public Schools

Vision: Walla Walla Public Schools is committed to engaging and partnering with families and the community to build relationships that support and improve the learning, development, and health of our children at home, in school, and in the community.

Mission of FACE:

Walla Walla Public Schools ensures all students receive high quality instruction in an aligned and coherent system while addressing their social emotional needs in a safe and engaging environment. Through family and community engagement, the district works to build capacity and create tools to foster partnerships among families, schools, and communities that result in shared responsibilities for student, school, and community success in safe and engaging environments.

Beliefs:

- Parents/Guardians are their children's first teacher and should be respected as valuable and necessary assets to their children's education.
- Parents/Guardians, schools, and the community have a shared responsibility for the academic achievement from our children.
- Parents/Guardians, regardless of education level, socio-economic status, ethnicity or culture, must be empowered by schools to support their child's education.
- Parents/Guardians have the right to be involved and informed about school policies and their children's academic progress.
- Parents/Guardians have the right to hold schools accountable for a welcoming, safe and quality learning environment.
- Parents/Guardians have a right to be meaningfully engaged in the decision-making process of the school.
- Parents/Guardians, families and the community benefit when schools serve as a resource for the entire community and the community serves as a resource for schools.

Goals:

- 1) Welcoming Environment: Develop a warm and welcoming environment, fostering collaborative relationships with parents of all students, and members of the community in all buildings and in all situations.
- 2) Communication: Schools and parents will engage in regular, two-way communication about school programs, student progress, and student needs, in a language and format that provides equal access for all participants.
- 3) Supporting Student Success: In collaboration with district staff, provide learning opportunities that enable parents/community to navigate the educational system and to support their children's learning (PreK-12) and healthy development in and out of school.
- 4) Leadership & Advocacy: In collaboration with district staff, schools will support parents/community as advocates for their own children's education, the school's performance, and community issues that affect outcomes for all students.
- 5) Decision-Making: Schools will create and ensure an inclusive culture whereby the participation and input from all stakeholders, including parents and community, is valued and intentional.
- 6) Community Partners: Schools will engage and partner with community/business organizations to plan and implement services and strategies to improve student achievement.

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Developed using the "PTA National Standards for Family-School Partnerships Assessment Guide", 2008.