

10-10 Staff Newsletter

Partners in Learning

MGT of America submits final facilities report

After six months of meeting with staff, touring facilities, talking with community members and pouring seemingly endless amounts of data into their computers, last night representatives of *MGT of America* presented their final facilities report to board members.

Edison, Support Facilities, Wa-Hi and Paine Campus have all been cited as *Priority One* facilities in the report.

MGT of America recommends moving Edison to a new eastside location. The report also recommends relocating Paine Campus and Support Services to

new locations and modernizing Wa-Hi in three phases over a 25 year period. Estimated costs to modernize *Priority One* facilities in the first phase is just over \$26 million.

The final facilities report provides a detailed table representing a summary of recommendations for all district facilities.

The facilities report is based on a three phase model, projecting needs over the next 25 years. The master facilities plan offers recommendations for improvements, additions and new construction.

Complete Facilities Report Available Online
www.wwps.org/leadership/business_office.htm

New tool makes understanding assessment plan easier

ESEA/Certification Director **Len Taruscio** presented to school board members last night a tool he created to help make understanding the district's assessment plan easier.

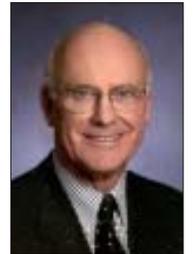
Taruscio developed a document which features a collection of test specifications and general information regarding district assessments conducted throughout the year.

"Rather than searching through technical journals or surfing various websites, teachers and administrators, especially those new to the district, will be able to learn which assessments are administered throughout the district," Taruscio said. "This resource tool also explains when assessments are conducted, what is assessed on each, what are the learning targets measured in each assessment."

Copies will be distributed to each building. Contact Taruscio at 526-6707 for more information.

School Board Meeting Recap • May 18**Bieloh says good-bye after 45 years**

Executive Director of Personnel **Bill Bieloh** submitted his letter of retirement to the school board last night after 45 years of consecutive service to Walla Walla Public Schools.



Bieloh

Bieloh thanked the school board for its support and said it was an honor to have the opportunity to prepare young people to be productive citizens.

"I have been called teacher, coach, athletic director and Executive Director of Personnel," Bieloh said in his retirement letter. "The title that meant the most to me was when I was called teacher and coach. To have the opportunity to prepare young people to be productive citizens was an awesome responsibility that was exciting and always rewarding."

Bieloh last spring was inducted into the *Washington Secondary Schools Athletic Administrators Association Hall of Fame*.

Bieloh's last day as Personnel Director will be June 31. He may provide additional training and support to the new Personnel director on an as needed basis.

KCTS PBS television to feature district

Walla Walla Public Schools will be featured Thursday evening during a one-hour KCTS PBS (Seattle) feature television program *THE LEARNING CURVE - Closing the Achievement Gap*.

The program will feature promising practices that work to close the achievement gap. The show will air from 7 to 8 p.m. on Charter Cable Channel 9.

Program features include: Blue Ridge Elementary, Sharpstein Dual Language Program, discussions with Wa-Hi students, an interview with a Garrison Night School parent, and Pioneer's science partnership program with Battelle in Cheryl Herr's class.

In other School Board meeting business...**Board members:**

- approved May 4, 2004 board meeting minutes; and Personnel (including extracurricular) and Out-of-State travel reports; CTE two-year plan; declaration of surplus materials; Resolution #4-2004, WIAA membership; Increase in school meal prices; Payment of May bills and payroll. Adoption of curriculum for a new Wa-Hi Leadership course was postponed.
- approved changing the **June 1** board meeting to 5:30 p.m. due to **Wa-Hi's Baccalaureate** (Cordiner Hall) at 7:30 p.m.

Our Core Values are more than mere words; they're our business!

Quality

Integrity

Accountability

Respect

Courtesy

Personnel Report

• New Hires

(Administrative) - **NONE TO REPORT**

(Certificated) - **Scott Ford**, PE Specialist, Berney

(Classified) - **NONE TO REPORT**

• Resignations/Retirements

(Administrative) - **Bill Bieloh**, Personnel Director, District Office, 45 years

Bev Thygeson, Director of Health Services, 21 years

(Certificated) - **Denise Ciarlo**, Speech Language Pathologist, Special Programs, 6 years

Vicky Seachris, Secondary Instructional Specialist, Pioneer, 15 years

Rhonda Olson, Business Education Teacher, Wa-Hi, 11 years

Sean Reid, 4th grade teacher, Berney, 3 years

(Classified) - **Cathy Cook**, Para-Educator, Prospect Point, 31 years

Roman Ferrer, Bilingual Para-Educator, Pioneer, 2 years

Sue Smith, Para-Educator, Berney, 6 years (*was on leave on absence for the 2003-2004 school year*)

Minerva Vasquez, Para-Educator, Blue Ridge, 6 years

• Leave of Absence

(Classified) - **Deanna Billingsley**, Para-Educator, Berney, 17 years

Jacqueline Broel, Para-Educator, Pioneer, 14 years

• Out-of-State Travel

Donna Hernandez, Angie Martinez, Terry Morgan, and Carolyn Rittenhouse to CABE Dual Language in San Diego, CA (*funding - Title III*)

Quote of the Week

"Obstacles cannot crush me. Every obstacle yields to stern resolve. He who is fixed to a star does not change his mind."

Leonardo da Vinci

Pioneer students team with Battelle scientists to enhance science skills

Pioneer 6th grade students in **Cheryl Herr's** class know the most desirable place to camp in our region thanks to a risk analysis project they completed in conjunction with Scientists from Battelle Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.

Herr explained to board members last night the pilot program designed by Battelle Meteorologist **Gregg Andrews** and Hydrogeologist **Signe Wurstner** to enhance science skills. Students documented historical flood data, calculated slope figures, studied stream flows, and charted topography during this Earth Science exercise. Students then used their research data to determine the best site to locate a camp.

Students also created logos, designed posters and formed their own consulting groups to communicate their findings. In addition to charting research data, students enhanced their technical writing skills through narratives of their research.

This project was made available through the district's Leadership Assistance for Science Education Reform (LASER) partnership with Battelle. The LASER program enhances the district's science offerings by providing additional funding sources, science materials, professional expertise and avenues for community involvement.

Blue Ridge extends learning opportunities to students

More than 75 percent of Blue Ridge students are getting more than their basic education, thanks to the school's comprehensive extended learning program.

In a report to school board members last night, Principal **Linda Boggs** discussed how reallocation of resources and time have made be-

fore, afterschool and summer school opportunities available to more students. Staff members **Leah Crudup, Connie Taylor-Randall, Gail Danielson** and **Erica Swingholm** also provided input during the presentation. All Blue Ridge students will also be invited to participate in summer school in June.

Retirement Celebrations (to date)

Berney Elementary

• **Rich Gwinn** - PE Teacher

Tuesday, June 1 - 3:15 to 5:00 p.m. - Library

District Office

• **Judy Reault** - Deputy Superintendent

Thursday, May 27 - 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. - B.R.

• **Bill Bieloh** - Personnel Director

Wednesday, June 2 - 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. - B.R.

• **Lenore Zaro** - Accounts Payable

Tuesday, May 25 - 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. - B.R.

Pioneer Middle School

• **Lyla Reibel** - Principal

Wednesday, May 26 - 3:30 p.m. - Library

Garrison Middle School

• **Trudy Schrader** - Instrumental Music Teacher

• **Linda Stevens** - Title One

Tuesday, June 1 - 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. - Library

Prospect Point Elementary School (staff only)

Milt Ross - Speech Specialist

Cathy Cook - Special Education Para-Pro

Tuesday, May 25 - 7:45 a.m. - Library

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'Keeping Our Team Informed'