

September 7 • School Board Meeting Recap

## Enrollment up to start school year

As the district prepares for today's first official enrollment count of the 2004-2005 school year, early year indications reveal the district is serving more students than last year at this time, according to a report to school board members last night by Executive Director of Personnel **Bill Jordan**.

Unofficial enrollment tallies from the first week of school rest at 5,814.35 Full-Time Equivalent students and a "head count" total of 6048 students. The following table is a "head count" comparison between 9/3/03 and 9/1/04.

### *Unofficial "Head Count" as of September 1, 2004*

<i>School</i>	<i>03/04</i>	<i>04/05</i>
Berney	435	447
Blue Ridge	284	301
Edison	278	262
Green Park	432	436
Prospect Point	521	541
Sharpstein	424	432
Garrison	600	648
Pioneer	651	638
Wa-Hi	1849	1968
Paine	93	110
Homelink	80	101
Opportunity	187	102
AEP	98	62
<b>Total</b>	<b>5932</b>	<b>6048</b>

*The district's official student count date for state enrollment reporting is September 8, 2004.*

## District showcases talents during local fair

Walla Walla students once again had a tremendous impact on this year's Walla Walla Fair and Frontier Days, according to a report to school board members by Communications Director **Mark Higgins**.

More than 1,000 student projects were on display this year with more than 100 students earning ribbons. Higgins thanked staff fair representatives from each building for decorating the facility and designing the displays. He also recognized staff members for volunteering to take time out of their busy holiday weekend to supervise the Education Building. The Education Building was open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. each day of the fair.

This year Technology was one of the centerpieces of the Education Building as multimedia, web-based, classwork collections, print, and teacher or class demonstrations projects were judged.

Special thanks to longtime Fair Coordinator **Jim Ebding** who for 26 years has provided leadership for this event

## Staff invited to Symposium 2004 overview

Staff are invited to attend a *Symposium 2004* overview Monday, September 13 from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Wa-Hi Auditorium.

**Dr. Jim Parsley** of LSW Visioning will discuss the process he will use as facilitator when nearly 100 community members, parents, staff and students meet September 28 and 29 for *Symposium 2004* at the Reid Center on the campus of Whitman College.

Parsley, a former national Superintendent of the Year who helped modernize all Vancouver Public Schools, will lead this community visioning event designed to help chart a path for the district's future.

## In other School Board meeting business...

### *Board members:*

- approved minutes of: Executive Session; Budget Work Session; and regular board meeting August 24, 2004, Personnel and Out-of-State travel reports; Title V Grant Application, Negotiated Agreements: WWVEA; Classified Administrators; Off-Schedule Secretaries.
- approved new Policy No. 3115 -Homeless Students: Enrollment rights and services.
- received a district Insurance overview from Business Manager Aron Rausch. Rausch said he was pleased rates for the district's school-wide cooperative insurance package with School Insurance Association of Washington (SIAW) went up just three percent this year. He said limits and deductibles are very acceptable.
- heard a report on the Parent-to-Parent Peer Mentor program. Forty-one students volunteered 1,500 hours helping special needs students participate in recreational activities and other positive learning experiences.

## Personnel Report

### • New Hires

(Certificated) - **April Brown**, First Grade Teacher, Berney

### • Resignations/Retirements

(Classified) - **Cheryl Bloom**, Para-Educator, Green Park, 11 years

**Carrie Dalton**, Para-Educator, Wa-Hi, 4.5 years (job abandonment)

**Virginia Gongora**, Para-Educator, Blue Ridge, 9 years (job abandonment)

**Ronald Sams**, Bus Driver, Transporation, 22 years

### • Out-of-State Travel

**Chris Eastep** to 2004 Convention & NATA Symposium in Baltimore, MD (*funding - Professional Growth*)

### Quote of the Week

"The best gift we receive from great mentors is not their knowledge or their approach to teaching but the sense of self they evoke within us."

**Anonymous**

### Summer school provides targeted assistance

District Elementary Summer School Principal **Laure Quaresma** and Blue Ridge Principal **Linda Boggs** briefed school board members on progress made during the latest round of summer school.

Quaresma, who coordinated summer school for Edison, Berney, Prospect Point, Sharpstein, and Green Park at the recently renovated Sharpstein Elementary School, explained to board members how each school used its own instructional model and staff to deliver the program designed to offer targeted reading instruction to students in need.

She said instruction was offered in two hour sessions during the five week summer school program. More than 200 students attended summer school this year from the five schools.

Boggs said the Blue Ridge Summer School model open to all students uses the theme "Core Plus More." She said technology in content areas was a primary focus this summer. Boggs showed creative PowerPoint presentations students designed this summer to demonstrate their skills. She said the students were responsible for doing research, typing the information and mastering the PowerPoint software functions.

### FFA students take titles at Walla Walla Fair

#### *Below is a summary of FFA accomplishments:*

FFA Champion Lamb **	Kayla Cochran
FFA Reserve Champion Lamb **	Sam Puller
Best Rate of Gain Market Lamb**	Ashley Mason
FFA Reserve Champion Hog**	Tanner Cole

\*\*All four animals were raised on the Wa-HI school farm. The top 6 FFA Market lambs were all raised on the school farm.

Grand Champion Lamb	Andrea Bughi
Champion Market Goat	Robert Gisi
Champion Goat Showman (Novice)	Amanda Farrens
Champion Sheep Showman (Freshman/Sophomore division)	Ashley Mason
Champion Sheep Showman (Freshman/Sophomore division)	Darling Walk
Champion Beef Showman (Novice division)	Kaitlin McClelland
Champion Beef Showman (Novice division)	Katie Bohnet
1 <sup>st</sup> place Horse Judging Team	Wa-Hi Girls
2 <sup>nd</sup> place Horse Judging Team	Wa-Hi Boys
Top Individual Horse Judge	Sara Todorovich
High Point FFA Horse Person	Sara Todorovich
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place High Point FFA Horse Person	Amanda Smith
1 <sup>st</sup> place Tractor Driving Team	Wa-Hi
2 <sup>nd</sup> place Tractor Driving Team	Wa-Hi
Top Tractor Driver Individual	Sam Puller

Herdsmanship Award (Maintaining a clean barn area & presenting positive image)

1<sup>st</sup> place Sheep, Beef, Horse, Goat

### District represented at National Migrant Conference

**Melito Ramirez** reported to school board members on the district's involvement at the National Migrant Program Conference in San Antonio. Wa-Hi students participated in both the state and national conferences.

Ramirez said the conferences were designed to help migrant students gain leadership skills and set goals. Ramirez said the district's 145 migrant students are benefiting from conferences like these. He said parent involvement increases as more students develop action plans for their high school experience and beyond. He said education opens doors to opportunity and leadership skills are a key component of this learning process.

### KTEL 1490 AM now broadcasts Blue Devil Football

Catch all the exciting Wa-Hi Blue Devil varsity football games on KTEL 1490 AM. Radio coverage continues Friday, September 10 at 7:30 p.m. as the Blue Devil football takes on the Pirates of Davis High School.

Wa-Hi fall sports schedules are available at numerous Walla Walla business locations and online at [www.wwps.org](http://www.wwps.org)!