

Citizens for Schools chairs honored

Superintendent **Rich Carter** presents *Citizens for Schools* Chairs **Bob Hill** and **Cindy Meyer** with *Certificates of Appreciation* for their help providing information to the community regarding the February 3 Maintenance and Operations levy.

Meyer and Hill coordinated telephone calling trees, fundraising, direct mail information efforts, yard signs, a public rally and much more. This is Meyer's second term as *Citizens for Schools* chair. Hill has children at Sharpstein.

The district's four year M&O Levy officially passed at 67.41 percent. The district received 5210 yes votes.

Classified School Employees Week • March 8-12

Superintendent **Rich Carter** joined school board members last night in saluting the district's support staff for "Classified School Employee Week."

Carter said classified school employees are involved in nearly every aspect of education, including maintaining school buildings and

grounds, providing secretarial and clerical assistance, food service, transportation, custodial services, and many other specialized services.

Carter thanked classified employees for a job well done and presented PSE President **Tom Vicari** with posters of appreciation for all schools and departments.

School Board Meeting Recap • March 2**Reault ready to recommend permanently adding swim teams to Wa-Hi Athletics**

Deputy Superintendent **Judy Reault** reported to board members last night she will recommend at the March 16 board meeting to permanently add Wa-Hi girls and boys swim teams to the Wa-Hi Athletics Program.

If board members approve the request, the Wa-Hi Athletic Department budget for the girls and boys swim program would be \$37,500 per year. This includes an annual budget of \$2,700 for equipment and allows for an assistant coach for both boys and girls teams. The proposal calls for continued use of the Whitman College pool for competitions.

Reault praised the success of the district's two-year swim team pilot program. She reported 16 girls participated this year on a team which finished second in the Big 9 Conference. Twenty-four boys turned out for swimming this winter and the team finished third in the conference. Eight swimmers, boys and girls, qualified for state this year.

Reault walked board members through a summary of the district's pilot program. She said a committee of parents and administrators was formed in the Spring of 2001 for the purpose of developing swim teams at Wa-Hi. The group designed a pilot program which relied solely on fundraising efforts. The committee met all requirements of the proposal and the pilot program was launched in 2002 and continued through this year.

"This has been a true example of collaboration," Reault said. "This team effort has resulted in excellent communication and outstanding support for an important project."

Board members are expected to take action on this proposal March 16.

Board approves snow make-up day

School board members last night approved Friday, May 7 as the snow make-up day for the January 7 districtwide closure. Walla Walla Public Schools kept staff and students home January 7 due to a severe winter storm. The district also delayed school two-hours January 5, 6 and 15.

In other School Board meeting business...

March 2 • Board Meeting

Board members:

- approved February 17, 2004 board meeting minutes; and Personnel and Out-of-State travel reports; middle school enrollment caps: grades 6 -215; and grades 7 & 8 - 225.

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

Quality

Integrity

Accountability

Respect

Courtesy

Personnel Report

• New Hires

(Certificated) - NONE TO REPORT

(Classified) - NONE TO REPORT

• Resignations/Retirements

(Certificated) - **Trudy Schrader**, Band Teacher, Garrison, 30 years

Brian Gabbard, Teacher, Paine Alternative High School, 10 years

Milton Ross, Language Pathologist, Prospect Point, 16 years

Sonja Henderson, Third Grade, Green Park, 9 years

- (on a leave of absence for the 03-04 school year.)

Renee Ness, Third Grade, Green Park, 14 years

- (on a leave of absence for the 03-04 school year.)

(Classified) - NONE TO REPORT

• Leave of Absence

(Certificated) - NONE TO REPORT

(Classified) - NONE TO REPORT

• Out-of-State Travel

Amy Hisaw to AAPHERD Conference in New Orleans, LA (funding - PEP Grant)

Betty Schubert to ASCO Conference in New Orleans, LA (funding - Special Programs)

Peggy Tierney to West Coast Neuropsychology Conference in San Diego, CA (funding - Special Programs)

Quote of the Week

"Very few burdens are heavy if everyone lifts."

Sy Wise

Animation Club helps Sharpstein students learn essentials

Sharpstein parents **Jeff** and **Kerri Tucker** have found a way to keep their son Peter from constantly asking them to buy video games when they go shopping.

They taught him how to create his own. Thanks to a new *Animation Club* created by the Tuckers, fellow Sharpstein students now have the opportunity to learn themselves.

Jeff Tucker is a computer expert and his wife is a teacher. In a report to school board members last night, they explained how they have combined their skills to teach students in grades 2-5 basic computer animation. This year 22 students have met twice a week to

participate in this high tech club activity.

The animation projects are designed to help students learn essential academic skills. Twenty-eight students are set to begin after spring break and there is even a waiting list to get a seat.

"We wanted to create a club that would capture the attention of the students," Jeff Tucker said to board members.

Tucker then showed a DVD with a collection of student animation projects. The Tuckers also thanked Principal **Laure Quaresma** and Library Media Specialist **Linda Seibold** for their support and help with this club.

Graduates of Distinction nominations

Do you know someone who...

- is a high school graduate from Walla Walla Public Schools
- graduated at least 10 years ago.
- is an exemplary citizen and has distinguished accomplishments in his/her community, profession, or career (*need not be a current Walla Walla resident*).
- should be forever remembered for service to humanity, exceptional career achievements, or accomplishments in many areas.

NOMINATE THEM FOR THIS AWARD!

Complete an application form (*available at Walla Walla Public Schools Curriculum Department*), and send it to GRADUATES OF DISTINCTION, 364 South Park Street - Walla Walla, WA 99362. ALL NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 15.

*For more information,
contact Kay Schisler at 526-6735*

Art Regier Volunteer of Year forms now accepted

• Forms for the annual Art Regier *Volunteer of the Year* program have been distributed. Please submit completed forms to the Communications Department by **March 19**. We only have a few nominations at this time. *2002-2003 recipients:*

• Carol Matson

Wa-Hi Drama Program Costumer

• Dan Reid

Co-Chair, Community Facilities Committee

• Albert and Laura Schueller

Edison Elementary PTSA leaders

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'Keeping Our Team Informed'