

September 5 • School Board Meeting Recap

“Let’s Talk Schools — We’re Listening”

“Let’s Talk Schools — We’re Listening,” the district’s information gathering campaign, begins this fall to involve the community in a facilities needs study in light of last May’s failed bond issue.

Communications Director **Mark Higgins** reported the district would be participating in numerous activities to allow community members to be heard.

“This is an opportunity for community members, staff, parents and students to be heard and be involved in the district’s facilities planning efforts,” Higgins said. “These are Walla Walla’s schools and we need broad involvement to determine what is best for the district and community.”

Look for more information on the “Let’s Talk Schools — We’re Listening” campaign in the Walla Walla Union Bulletin and in district publications.

“Please take time to get involved and help shape the future of our schools,” Superintendent **Rich Carter** said. “Stay tuned for more information.”

Preliminary enrollment counts positive

With the first official enrollment count of 2006-2007 due Friday, Deputy Superintendent **Dr. Bill Jordan** is cautiously optimistic. Preliminary “head count” tallies are 80 students ahead of last year at this time, according to Jordan’s report.

He went on to state the preliminary FTE or Full-Time Equivalent count of 5835.2 puts the district roughly 170 FTEs over the district’s adopted budget.

Jordan said he will closely monitor enrollment counts this fall, but said the early counts are positive.

HOW CAN I BE HEARD?

FILL OUT ONE OF OUR SURVEYS

- Complete the survey online at: www.wwps.org

COME TO A LISTENING POST

- Talk to a school board member one-on-one

School Board Listening Post Dates:

- Tuesday, September 19
District Office: 6 to 7:30 p.m.

- Tuesday, October 3
District Office: 6 to 7:30 p.m.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS AT SCHOOLS

- September 18 -29 / 7:30 to 8:00 a.m. (Dates: TBD)

ATTEND A FOCUS GROUP

Contact Communications Director Mark Higgins and schedule a school district team to come out and listen to your group’s thoughts, ideas and concerns.

VOLUNTEER FOR A SYMPOSIUM

- October 12: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- October 13: 9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Walla Walla Regional Airport

To volunteer to be a participant, please RSVP by September 29, to Mark Higgins at: (509) 526-6716

In other School Board meeting business...

Board members:

- approved minutes of the board meetings of August 22, 2006 (Executive Session, Work Session, and Regular Meeting), Personnel and Out of State Travel Report, Title V-Part A Innovative Programs grant application.

Personnel Report

• New Hires

(Certificated) **Larry Brown**, Math Teacher, Wa-Hi
Kirstin Gehrett, 7th Grade Science Teacher, Pioneer

(Classified) **Carlos Caicedo**, Software Support Specialist, Technology
Liz Campeau, Personnel Secretary, Personnel
Jason Postlewait, Para-Educator, Wa-Hi

• Resignations/Retirements

(Certificated) **Robin Lundwall**, Psychologist, Special Programs, 23 years
Jan Thacker, French Teacher, Walla Walla High School, 23.5 years

(Classified) **Elizabeth Brochu**, Library Technician, Blue Ridge, 1 day
Chuck Hawman, Bus Driver, Transportation Department, 3 months
Israel Martinez, Assistant Secretary, Pioneer Middle School, 1 week
Rose Perry, Para-Educator, Green Park Elementary, 15.5 years

• Leave of Absence

(Classified) **Kristin Gehrett**, Para-Educator, Garrison Middle School
- For the 2006-2007 school year to teach science at Pioneer Middle School

• Out of State Travel

Elizabeth Clearman to Nat. Association for Gifted Children in Charlotte, NC (Funding - I-728 & Prof. Growth)
Mike Martin and **Arch McHie** to National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN (Funding - Vocational Travel)
Grace Ogoshi to Observe Japanese Education in Japan (Funding - Fulbright Grant)

Quote of the Week

"Confidence is preparation. Everything else is beyond your control."

Richard Kline

Fun at the Fair

Another year at the Walla Walla Fair and Frontier Days is in the books as Communications Director **Mark Higgins** and Technology Director **Janis Barton** provided a report to school board members last night recapping the activities. Higgins and Barton thanked **Jim Ebding** for coordinating fair activities and all the staff for volunteering their time setting up displays and monitoring the Education Building and Technology exhibit.

Higgins said the fair is a great way to showcase district pride and raise awareness about the importance of public education.



Blue Ridge 5th grade teacher Amy Hanson and her students take a break for a photo opportunity during Education Day at the fair. Students tour the fair grounds, see animals, exhibits and have a great time.

Fall sports schedules available



Wa-Hi pocket sports schedules are now available at district schools and various business locations.

This convenient schedule features Wa-Hi fall sports contests. An online schedule is also available on the district's and Wa-Hi's websites.

Blue Devil football returns to KTEL 1490 AM

Don't miss a down of Wa-Hi Blue Devil football this season by tuning to KTEL 1490 AM.

