

June 5 • School Board Meeting Recap

New procedures keep Nutrition and Fitness healthy

With strong volunteer support, committed leadership and staff, students and parents who believe health is a key component of learning, it's easy to see why the district's new Nutrition and Fitness program has all the ingredients for success.

Last night volunteer **Jim Russo**, who chairs the district's Nutrition and Physical Education Advisory Committee and Health Services Director **Jennifer Douglas** briefed the school board on efforts made this year toward meeting the requirements of the Nutrition and Physical Fitness Policy 6700 which was adopted in 2005. Procedures to implement the policy were approved in January 2006.

Health Fairs at Sharpstein, Garrison and Pioneer this year were a result of this coordinated effort to curb childhood obesity and instill a love for fitness and proper nutrition. School gardens at Sharpstein and Garrison have also been put in place this school year. Some schools have even changed their lunch schedule to allow for recess before lunch to help students work up an appetite and eat all their food.

The new procedures set nutrition standards for foods and drinks available at the district, directs healthy vending options in middle and high schools, guides health and fitness education to meet state curriculum requirements, and encourages alternatives to food for fundraising and rewarding students.

Graduates of Distinction public reception today

This year's honorees for the Graduates of Distinction program are being honored today. Honorees are: Barbara D. Johnson - Class of 1967, and Neil V. Follett - Class of 1944.

RECEPTION DETAILS

Date: Wednesday, June 6

Time: 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Place: District Board Room

Wa-Hi Commencement Friday

Walla Walla High School Commencement ceremony is Friday, June 8 at 7:30 p.m. on campus near the Commons Building. This year 400 plus graduates are expected to walk with their class.

- Commencement seating area opens at 5:30 p.m.
- Tickets required for main seating area
- Students are allotted six tickets for the main seating area
- Tickets for the main seating area will be distributed to seniors following the Commencement AM practice (Friday, June 8 – morning)
- No tickets are required for the commons and the bleachers located on the north-side of the creek
- Wheelchair access and seating area is located directly in front of the commons and handicapped parking is located near the tennis courts (east of the main gym)
- No personal or folding chairs are allowed within the main seating area

For increased security and safety:

- All bags will be checked at the gates
- No coolers or large totes are allowed on the grounds
- No alcoholic beverages or tobacco products are allowed on the Walla Walla High School campus

In other School Board meeting business...

Board members:

- approved minutes of the board meeting of May 15, 2007, Personnel Report, Out of State travel, board meeting schedule -- July to December 2007 (7/24, 8/21, 9/4, 9/18, 10/2, 10/16, 11/6, 11/20, 12/18), and an Interlocal Agreement for Medicaid Administrative Match.

Personnel Report

• New Hires

(*Certificated*) **Carrie Gonzales**, Kindergarten, Berney Elementary
Kimberly Gradwohl, Math, Pioneer Middle School
David Guss, ESL, Garrison Middle School
Corey Hobbs, Fifth-Grade, Blue Ridge Elementary
Sarah Maheras, Fifth-Grade, Edison Elementary
Kristin Mitchell, Third-Grade, Blue Ridge Elementary
Cynthia Palmer, Homelink Writing, Berney Elementary
Christopher Plucker, Humanities, Pioneer Middle School
Sean Reid, Fifth-Grade, Sharpstein
Refugio Reyes, Spanish, Walla Walla High School
Kerri Tucker, French, Walla Walla High School
JoAnne Savage, Title 1 Reading Specialist, Blue Ridge
Laura Watson, ESL, Wa-Hi
Amanda Workman, Library Media-Specialist, Blue Ridge

• Resignations/Retirements

(*Administrative*) **Thomas Head**, Transportation Director, 22 years
(*Certificated*) **Andrea Valencia-Garcia**, Bilingual Kindergarten, Green Park, 7 years
(*Classified*) **Arturo Tello**, Para-Educator, Blue Ridge Elementary, 11.5 years
• Arturo was on a leave of absence for the 2006-07 school year
Julie Belisle, Para-Educator, Pioneer, 5.5 years
Kimberly Hause, Para-Educator, Green Park, 1 year
Gaby Horn, Para-Educator, Green Park, 4 years
Bobbie Yaw, Head Custodian, Walla Walla High School, 28 years

• Out of State Travel

Dana Jones, to attend National GEAR-Up Conference in San Francisco, CA (Funding: GEAR-Up)

FFA Marketing team number one in state

Last night Wa-Hi Future Farmers of America Advisor **Mike Martin** introduced members of the State Champion Marketing team to school board members.

Martin said team members **Grant Robison**, **Corben Ketelsen** and **Dane Swenson** were one of the hardest working teams he had ever coached. This year's marketing plan involves local farmers venturing into Agri-Tourism by offering guided hunts on Walla Walla farm land. The plan also captures the area's popular wine industry. The students completed a market analysis study, business proposition, action plan, budget, website and marketing brochures.

The team will advance to nationals this fall. Martin thanked the school board for supporting the program over the years and said he will always consider Walla Walla home.

Martin is taking a similar position in Idaho next year to be closer to his children and grandchildren.

Transportation keeps students safe and on time

Last night Transportation Director **Tom Head** briefed school board members on Transportation operations. The district's 35 bus fleet transports 3000 students daily and logs more than 300,000 miles annually.

Head said the department also educates students on school bus safety with a remote controlled bus named "Barney." Transportation staff **Mike Stroe** and **Diane Trout** often volunteer to operate and assist in the program.

Quote of the Week

"I have great faith in fools; self-confidence my friends call it."

Edgar Allan Poe (1809-1849)

End-of-Year celebrations

Wa-Hi Academic Recognition

Wednesday, June 6 - Wa-Hi Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Graduates of Distinction Reception

Wednesday, June 6 - Board Room, 3:30 to 5 p.m.

Opportunity Senior Celebration Luncheon

Wednesday, June 6 - 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (919 S. 2nd)

Paine High School Commencement

Thursday, June 7 - Paine Gym, 6:00 p.m.

Wa-Hi Commencement

Friday, June 8 - Wa-Hi campus, 7:30 p.m.

Pioneer 8th Grade Recognition

Tuesday, June 12 - Wa-Hi Main Gym, 7:30 p.m.

Garrison 8th Grade Recognition

Wednesday, June 13 - Cordiner Hall, 7:00 p.m.

Call the district's Communications Department for more information -- 526-6716.