

## Bill Jordan to retire at end of school year

Walla Walla Public Schools Deputy Superintendent **Dr. Bill Jordan** announced he is retiring at the end of the school year. Jordan was hired June 12, 2004 to direct the district's Personnel Department. His last day will be June 30, 2010.

Jordan's career spans 40 years, including time as a teacher, principal and superintendent. He says Walla Walla has been a great fit.



"Walla Walla Public Schools is an excellent district, in a wonderful community, with outstanding employees," Jordan said. "I have always been proud to have begun my career Walla Walla and am honored to be able to conclude my educational career by serving the district."

### Jordan's previous career experience includes:

- Administrator, Washington State University
- Deputy Superintendent for the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Superintendent of Kelso School District
- Associate Superintendent of Richland School District
- Principal and Assistant Principal for Walla Walla Public Schools
- Classroom teacher for Walla Walla Public Schools.

Jordan completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Idaho and his graduate and doctoral programs at Washington State University. Jordan serves on the Walla Walla Community College Foundation Board of Governors, the Community Center for Youth board, Commitment to Community board, and the Fort Walla Walla Museum Board of Directors. Jordan also serves on the WSU College of Education Dean's Advisory and ACT Washington Council

In retirement, he plans to spend more time with his family and continue his passion of working on and showing classic muscle cars.

## Boggs to stay in current job

Although Assistant Superintendent **Dr. Linda Boggs** says one day she may pursue a superintendency, now is not the right time to apply for the soon to be open Walla Walla head position.

"Because of my skills, passion and desire to spend my time doing what I love most, I have chosen to not seek the superintendency at this time although I'm not ruling out the possibility for the future."

Boggs' directs the district's Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Department. She says the district is moving in the right direction, but there is more to do. Boggs has held her current position since July 2005.

## Superintendent search firm hired

School board members Tuesday night hired Northwest Leadership Associates to lead a comprehensive search for a new superintendent.

**Dr. John Fotheringham** will serve as the lead consultant. Fotheringham is the former Executive Director of the Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA) and a former superintendent of the South Central (now Tukwila) School District.

Northwest Leadership Associates will now develop a work plan and timeline. Extensive community and staff involvement will be part of the hiring process.

## In other School Board meeting business...

### Board members:

- approved minutes of the October 6, 2009 school board meeting, Personnel Report, October bills and payroll, and Minimum Basic Education Requirement Compliance

# Personnel Report

## New Hires

(Certificated)

**Zheng Wu**, Para-Educator (temporary), Garrison/Pioneer

## RETIREMENT

(Administrative)

**Dr. Richard Carter**, Superintendent, 10 years

- Dr. Carter will retire in June 2010

**Dr. Bill Jordan**, Deputy Superintendent, 6 years

- Dr. Jordan will retire in June 2010

## TRANSFERS

**Joyce Larson** has transferred to Edison as cook. She was previously a food service assistant at Blue Ridge Elementary.

**Chris Young** will transfer from his custodial position at Pioneer & Lincoln (split position) to Trades Assistant beginning in November. This is to fill the position vacated by Art Davila who is retiring.

## Quote of the Week

"The whole purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows."

**Sydney J. Harris**

## District considers using state grant for Walla Walla High School heating and air conditioning (HVAC) and lighting upgrade project

Last night district Chief Financial Officer **Pat Johnston** reported to school board members on a possible project to install a modern heating, ventilation and air conditioning system at Walla Walla High School's main academic building.

A \$500,000 state grant would pay for nearly half of this project. Johnston said improved energy efficiencies could pay for the remaining costs over time.

Wa-Hi was constructed in 1963. Existing, dated and inefficient heating and ventilation systems are still being used in this facility. The facility was never outfitted with air conditioning.

Superintendent **Rich Carter** reported concerns he has heard from some business leaders and members of the district's Community Facilities Task Force. He said concerns centered around how this project could impede future plans to improve facilities at Walla Walla High School through a bond measure. School board members have asked Principal **Darcy Weisner** to survey Wa-Hi staff on this project and get additional input. The deadline to apply for the state grant is December 4.

## Project Rationale Highlights

- Air quality and lighting linked to improved student achievement
- Current lack of adequate heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) diminishes learning environment
- Current poor lighting negatively impacts learning environment
- Improved efficiencies could pay for project over time
- State grant funding pays for nearly half of the project
- District has adequate debt capacity for this project

## Proposed Project Funding

Grant: Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction	\$500,000
Grant: Pacific Power	\$65,000
Walla Walla Public Schools	\$750,000

**Total Project Cost: \$1,315,000**

## Election date - November 3

Ballots for the November 3 general election have been mailed to registered voters. Contact the Walla Walla County Auditor's Office for additional information. Please remember to vote.

## Big Blue Weekend

Walla Walla High School ASB Advisor Jillian DeBritz reported to school board members on the upcoming Big Blue Weekend event in Antelope, OR.

DeBritz said 300 students are expected to attend. The event focuses on building relationships, improving the school climate, opening lines of communication and allowing students to have fun. The cost is \$60 per student. The event is Nov. 20-22.

## Pioneer "PALS" help 6th graders

Pioneer Middle School students involved in the Peer and Leadership Support (PALS) said the program is making their school more welcoming for everyone.

Students in 7th and 8th grades are assigned to 6th grade students to help them transition to the school. "PALS" helped orient the students to the school, write interactive journals to their 6th grade buddies and regularly take time to talk to them.