

Snow day make-up date May 11



School board members voted to have May 11 serve as the snow make-up date as a result of the crippling ice storms which forced the district to cancel school January 19. All schools will be in session for a full day Friday, May 11.

Energy Management Program saves Savings support district's bottom line

The trend of cutting energy usage and saving on utility costs continues in year 12 of the district's Energy Management Program, according to a report to school board members last night from program manager **John Butenhoff**.

Despite witnessing more than 80 percent increases in electricity, gas and water fees this year, the district managed to save \$315,450 based on cost avoidance formulas due to conservative use of these resources. The district has trimmed usage 24 percent since the program was implemented in October of 1999.

Butenhoff said over the course of the program the district has saved \$3.3 million dollars. Many of these dollars have been reinvested in district equipment and operations to maximize future savings. Improved water meters, lighting, HVAC control units and irrigation systems are just a few examples of how the dollars generated from savings have been put to use.

Walla Walla High School continues to be the district's most inefficient school when it comes to utility usage. Butenhoff refers to the schools as "the beast" due to its consumption. He said Wa-Hi's HVAC systems, lighting and type of construction are outdated and not efficient. He thanked staff for their support of the program and attention to detail in energy conservation practices.

Levy ballots coming in to Walla Walla County Auditor

Superintendent **Mick Miller** reported more than 5500 ballots have been cast thus far according to records from the Walla Walla County Auditor. Ballots must be postmarked by Tuesday, Feb. 14. Miller encouraged voters to visit the district website for levy facts and to watch his video detailing the measure. Please remember to vote.

Remember to Vote!
Replacement Levy
Tuesday, February 14
Levy facts online: www.wwps.org



In other School Board meeting business...

Board members:

- approved minutes of: January 17, 2012 and January 24, 2012 board meetings, personnel report, February 7, 2012 accounts payable and January payroll, and Head Start/ECEAP Policy/Procedure.
- approved 2011-12 Calendar Revision: Snow Make Up day - May 11, 2012 (for weather related school cancellation on January 19, 2012.)

Our Core Values
are more than mere words;

they're our business!

Quality | Integrity | Accountability | Respect

Courtesy | Innovation | Diversity

Personnel Report

Employment

(Certificated) **NONE TO REPORT**

(Classified) **Jazmin Lopez**, Assistant Secretary, Walla Walla High School

Simmon Palomino, Para-Educator (Temp), Blue Ridge

Resignation/Retirement - NONE TO REPORT

Out-of-State Travel - NONE TO REPORT

Excellence in Every Classroom

Quote of the Week

**"It is today we must create
the world of the future."**

Eleanor Roosevelt

District schools receive state achievement awards

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education recently announced Garrison Middle School and Walla Walla High School received 2011 Washington Achievement Awards.

- Garrison Middle School - Special Recognition – Improvement
- Walla Walla High School - Special Recognition - Extended Graduation Rate

"It is gratifying to have schools and programs receive acknowledgment for their improvement," said Superintendent **Mick Miller**. "Our staff members deeply care for their kids and are working to help improve the achievement of each student. Congratulations to those recognized by OSPI!"

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education created the Washington Achievement Award to celebrate our top-performing schools and to recognize achievement in multiple categories. This highly selective award is based on each school's performance according to the Washington Achievement Index, a comprehensive measurement of how schools in Washington are performing over time.

Volunteers needed to serve on Senior Presentation panel

Volunteers are needed to serve on the Walla Walla High School Senior Presentation panel for the Class of 2012. Volunteers will listen to graduates as they share their personal stories, successes and struggles, academic accomplishments, community volunteer experiences, and future plans. Volunteers may sign up for multiple panel dates, but they will only need to attend the training session on the first day they have selected to participate. This is a graduation requirement for seniors. Community support is appreciated and needed.

Senior Presentation Panel Dates:

- Wednesday, February 15
- Thursday, February 16
- Wednesday, March 21
- Thursday, March 22

Time commitment:

- Approximately 3:30 to 7:30 p.m.

To sign up, contact Walla Walla High School Assistant Principal **Mark Pickel** at: 509.527.3020 ext. 8602 or by email at: mpickel@wwps.org.

Sweethearts for Kids Luncheon

Tickets now available

- Wednesday, Feb. 15
- 12 noon
- Marcus Whitman Hotel
- \$40
- Proceeds support Childrens Home Society of Washington programs and activities
- Tickets: Contact CHS 509.529.2130

Stu Cabe to discuss communicating with teens



Relationship expert **Stu Cabe** returns to Walla Walla to lead a discussion on effective communication strategies for successful parent and teenager relationships.

This free event targeted for parents with middle and high school students is Tuesday, Feb. 7 from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Walla Walla High School Auditorium. Cabe has been the keynote speaker the past two years at the Big Blue Weekend event. He visited Walla Walla in December to meet with middle and high school students to continue his work of promoting a positive school climate. Cabe uses humor and stories of real life experiences to relate with students.