

Walla Walla Public Schools

10-10 Staff News



School Board Meeting Recap | November 18, 2014

21st Century Grant brings STEM programs to at-risk youth



Brent Cummings

21st Century Community Learning Centers Director Brent Cummings and site coordinators Ruben Hernandez (Blue Ridge), William Hammond (Garrison), Martin Fortney (Pioneer), Andrew Sayers (Wa-Hi), and Jeremy Gradwohl (Lincoln) provided a progress report to the school board last night.

This program supports the creation of community learning centers that provide academic enrichment opportunities during non-school hours for children, particularly students who attend high-poverty and

low-performing schools. Students are often involved in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math activities. Students are making music, working with computers, racing BMX bikes and more.

Other highlights this year include a visit from TV celebrity Dr. Neil DeGrasse Tyson to share his Cosmos science presentation. Also, 75 students came together to celebrate Lights On After School 2014 with a simultaneous weather balloon launch. Cummings was also named a national program ambassador.



Lincoln High School students in the 21st Century after school program formed a choir this fall.

They performed a song last night for school board members.

Board Meeting Highlights

■ APPROVED . . .

Minutes from the Nov. 14, 2014 board meeting, personnel report, out-of-state travel, extra-curricular contracts, and Nov. 18 accounts payable.

■ New Board meeting format . . .

School board members launched their new meeting format last night aimed at providing more opportunities for in-depth discussions. During the second school board meeting of the month, directors will adjourn the meeting following the business portion of the agenda. They will relocate from their school board podium and reconvene at the public tables to discuss a variety of issues.

Last night the school board discussed beginning a new Adopt-a-School program to get them in buildings more often. This program is part of a new outreach plan school board members have developed. The Adopt-a-School program will allow directors to develop deeper and closer relationships. They may attend activities and receive briefings on their adopted schools.

■ 2015 Board officers elected . . .

Last night School Board members elected Director Sam Wells to serve as president. Cindy Meyer will continue as vice president.

Excellence in Every Classroom

PERSONNEL REPORT

EMPLOYMENT ...

Classified:

MARY AGUILAR

Para-Educator (Temp) - Lincoln High School

NICHOLE ALVARADO

Para-Educator (temp) - Green Park Elementary

JENNIFER BUSCH

Health Clinician - Edison Elementary

JUDY PINNEY

Para-Educator (temp) - Prospect Point Elementary

RETIREMENTS/RESIGNATIONS ...

Classified:

SUSAN BAUER | 23 YEARS | TEACHER

Language Arts/Reading - Garrison Middle School

OUT OF STATE TRAVEL ...

MIRA GOBEL to AVID National Conference in Orlando, FL
(Funding: AVID/OSPI)

DONNA MCCAW to attend Crystal Training: Excel 1 & 2 in
San Diego, CA (Funding: Staff Achievement Grant)

Quote of the Week

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

Sydney J. Harris

Wa-Hi Drama

Much Ado About Nothing

Directed by Brian Senter & Kristin Glaeser

- November 20, 21, 22 @ 7 p.m.
- 22 – 2 p.m.
- Adults - \$12 Students (18 and under) - \$6 General Seating Only
- Tickets online at <https://intouch.wwps.org> and call 526-8613.

Widely considered Shakespeare's finest comedy, this version is set in World War I America. As the title of this play suggests, there's a lot of fuss over nothing! Claudio and Hero fall in love and plan to get married, but the villainous Don John slanders Hero with false evidence.

The wedding is ruined and Hero faints. Her family soon suspect slander and decide to pretend that Hero died from shock. Don John's evil plan is soon revealed and Claudio mourns Hero's death. Eventually, Hero is revealed to be alive and the marriage goes ahead as planned. In the play's closing moments, it is reported that Don John has been captured for his crime.

Don't miss the fabulous work of Wa-Hi's own students performing this hilarious piece in an intimate "in the round" space. Original music composition for this play will be performed live by Kristin Vining for each performance. Get your tickets early! Seating is limited.

Winter Weather Procedures

Winter weather school closure and delay procedures
At Walla Walla Public Schools, we make every effort to post up-to-the-minute school closure information due to inclement weather or any circumstance that would delay or cancel the normal school schedule. Decisions to delay or close school usually are made by 5:30 a.m. or earlier. This triggers the district's comprehensive school closure/delay announcement plan. The district makes every effort to begin announcements by 6 a.m.

Announcements include:

- Regional media release
- Telephone automated message
- Web posting
- Staff e-mail
- E-news message (sign up on the district web site: www.wwps.org)
- Twitter message
- Facebook page message
- Orange signs posted in front of schools

Thanksgiving Holiday Schedule

- Early dismissal (All Schools) Wednesday, Nov. 26
- No School Thursday, Nov. 27 and Friday, Nov. 28