

Walla Walla Public Schools

# 10-10 Staff News



School Board Meeting Recap | November 3, 2015

## Replacement Levy

Levy provides local funding to maintain the district's quality education programs



Ted Cohan

Executive Director of Business Services Ted Cohan briefed the school board on dollar amount options for the district's four-year Educational and Operations replacement levy set for the ballot in 2016. Voters approved the 2012 levy with nearly a 65 percent yes vote.

Levy dollars, including state allocated levy equalization funding that is provided if the levy is approved, makes up nearly 20 percent of the district's General Fund budget. Levy dollars impact nearly all aspects of district programs and services, including funding 33 teachers. The proposed 2016 levy would help maintain the current level of teaching and educational programs. This is not a new

tax, but a continuation of local operating funds for the district. The state only funds approximately 70 percent of the district's General Fund budget for Walla Walla Public Schools.

Cohan presented options for increasing the levy dollar amount by 2 to 3 percent. He said the slight increase to the levy for each of the four years would help offset inflation. School board members also discussed keeping the levy flat as an attempt to build good will for future bond measures. The school board will resume the discussion during a public work session Thursday, Nov. 17 at 6 p.m. in the board room.

### Brian Kenneth Senter

*Feb. 3, 1965 to Oct. 24, 2015*

Contact District Music Coordinator Roger Garcia (rgarcia@wwps.org) for information on the newly established Brian K. Senter Fine Arts Scholarship. Funds from this scholarship will support students wishing to pursue higher education in the Fine Arts.



## Board Meeting Highlights

### APPROVED . . .

Minutes from the Oct. 20 & 28 school board meetings, personnel report, out-of-state travel, extracurricular athletic contracts, non-athletic extra & co-curricular contracts, November 3 accounts payable and October payroll.

- Resolution 07-2015: Capital Projects Budget extension
- Resolution 08-2015: Transfer of funds

### Enrollment update . . .

Executive Director of Business Services Ted Cohan reported good news to the school board regarding enrollment. The November count is up 42 students from October. The district is now approximately 200 students above beginning year budget targets.

### Budget Update . . .

ESD 123 is completing a final review of the district's 2014-2015 budget closure. This is a requirement to officially close the books on the fiscal year. Ted Cohan reported the district's fund balance is up approximately 2.5% above projections. The school board will meet Dec. 15 to discuss options for expending these additional funds for one-time uses. Superintendent Jordan also asked his Administrative Council to begin discussions with staff on how to best use these funds.

Excellence in Every Classroom

PERSONNEL REPORT

EMPLOYMENT ...

**Certificated**

NONE TO REPORT

**Classified:**

MONICA JIMENEZ | FAMILY ADVOCATE

*Blue Ridge Preschool*

SANDY LEOS | FAMILY ADVOCATE

*Blue Ridge Preschool*

JOHN PEMBERTON | CUSTODIAL SUPERVISOR

*Facilities and Operations*

LEAVE OF ABSENCE ...

**Certificated**

PAM CLAYTON | THIRD GRADE, BERNEY - 12 YEARS

*- For remainder of the 2015-2016 school year to serve as Family Involvement Coordinator for Walla Walla Public Schools*

CARRIE GIVENS | SPECIAL ED. BEHAVIOR RM - 6 YEARS

*- For remainder of the 2015-2016 school year (Prospect Point)*

**OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL**

Norrie Gregoire to attend 2nd Session - USSF "D" License Course in Boise, ID (Funding: Coaches Professional Development)

**Quote of the Week**

"Learning is not attained by chance. It must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence."

-Abigail Adams

Sleep Study  
Community meetings planned

Walla Walla Public Schools is conducting a sleep study to determine if Walla Walla High School should start later based on adolescent sleep pattern research. Business Services Executive Director Ted Cohan and Dr. Richard Simon are planning two community meetings to discuss the topic. The first meeting is Tuesday, Nov. 10 at 6:30 p.m. at the Garrison Middle School Library. The second meeting is Thursday, Nov. 19 at 5:30 p.m. at the Walla Walla High School Commons.

Dr. Simon will discuss the research linked to chronic sleep loss in teens and some of the potential benefits to starting school later at Walla Walla High School. Cohan will explain the committee's process and detail how a recommendation could potentially move forward.

The district will also launch a community-wide survey later this month to get additional input. For more information on the Sleep Study, contact Ted Cohan at (509) 526-6717 or tcohan@wwps.org.

**Facilities Committee making progress**

Community Facilities Task Force co-chair Paul Schneidmiller provided a progress to the school board last night. The committee is in the process of identifying priorities and the associated costs for improvements. Thus far, the committee has identified Walla Walla High School, Lincoln High School, the preschool at Blue Ridge Elementary and Pioneer Middle School as the highest priorities for facility improvements. The committee plans to meet the third Thursday of each month. Schneidmiller promised opportunities for staff and community members to weigh in on financing and design options before any recommendations are made to the school board or public.



**NO SCHOOL - November 11**  
*Veterans Day Holiday*