

Walla Walla Public Schools

# 10-10 Staff News



School Board Meeting Recap | November 17, 2015

## Replacement Levy

School board votes to put levy on ballot February 9, 2016



Ted Cohan

School Board members approved a resolution to place the district's four-year Educational and Operations replacement levy on the ballot Feb. 9, 2016. This proposed Educational Programs and Operations Replacement Levy would help maintain the current level of teaching and educational programs, said Executive Director of Business Services Ted Cohan.

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. This proposed Replacement Levy impacts nearly all aspects

of district programs and services by funding 20 percent of the district's General Fund. Federal dollars make up the remaining 10 percent of the district's budget. The voter-approved 2012 Educational Programs and Operations Replacement Levy expires in December 2016 and this Levy would replace it. Levy dollars impact nearly all aspects of district programs and services, including funding more than 30 teachers. Board members voted to increase the levy dollar amount by two percent each of the four-years to help offset rising operational costs. Proposed cost per \$1000 rates for taxpayers are similar to current rates.



### Golden honored for service

School board member Anne Golden participated in her final school board meeting last night after 28 years of service. Community members and staff thanked Golden during a public reception. School board members also unanimously approved a resolution to permanently name the boardroom the "Anne Golden Boardroom."

PHOTO L-R: Betsy Adkins, Susie Golden and Anne Golden.

## Board Meeting Highlights

### APPROVED . . .

Minutes from the Nov. 3, 2015 school board meeting, personnel report, out-of-state travel, extracurricular athletic contracts, November 17 accounts payable, and October Financial Report.

- Resolution 09-2015: Educational Programs and Operations Levy

- Resolution 10-2015: School Board resolution to name the district office boardroom the "Anne Golden Boardroom."

- received for first reading: Policy 5240 Evaluation of Staff.

### Bilingual Study update . . .

Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Laure Quaresma and Bilingual Coordinator Angie Pedroza updated the school board on the Bilingual Education study. The broad-based committee consists of approximately 25 members. A few of the members recently attended the La Cosecha National Dual Language Conference in New Mexico. The group is reviewing the Thomas and Collier Study, which includes data from eight million students. The goal of the study is to improve bilingual education programs across the district.

PERSONNEL  
REPORT

EMPLOYMENT ...

**Certificated**

ANGELA BONA | THIRD GRADE (TEMP)  
*Berney Elementary*

**Classified:**

SHARIS COLVIN | PARA-EDUCATOR (TEMP)  
*Walla Walla High School*

PATRICIA CRUZ | BUS ASSISTANT  
*SE Transportation Co-Op*

BRITTNEY CUTLIP | PARA-EDUCATOR (TEMP)  
*Prospect Point Elementary*

MIREYA PEREZ | BUS ASSISTANT  
*SE Transportation Co-Op*

JENNIFER WARNER | PARA-EDUCATOR (TEMP)  
*Green Park Elementary*

ANN WILSON | PARA-EDUCATOR (TEMP)  
*Berney Elementary*

RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT ...

**Classified**

JORDON POYNOR | PARA-EDUCATOR, PIONEER - 1 YEAR

**Coaching**

KATE KEYES | HEAD SOFTBALL, WA-HI - 2 YEARS

KIM MCDANIELS | HEAD VOLLEYBALL, WA-HI - 2 YEARS

**OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL**

NONE TO REPORT

**Quote of the Week**

“Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom.”

-George Washington Carver

**Thanksgiving Holiday Schedule**

Early dismissal: Wednesday, Nov. 25

No School: Thursday, Nov. 26 & Friday, Nov. 27

# Celebrate Learning!

## American Education Week

People around the nation are celebrating American Education Week – November 16-20. American Education is always celebrated the week prior to Thanksgiving and this year marks the 94th annual celebration.

“In Walla Walla, the district is focused on preparing all students for college and career readiness,” said School Board President Sam Wells to Sharpstein students Wednesday morning during a celebration which included the AMVETs. “We are committed to ensuring our highly qualified teachers are supported through professional development, current curriculum, today’s technology and interest-based bargaining practices.”

Wells also said the district values individualized instruction to meet the needs of all students, is proud of its vast advanced placement programs, world languages, comprehensive math and science offerings and SEA-TECH which features job-ready vocational programs.

“We also strive to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars by balancing our budget and having strong internal controls in place to ensure business operations meet all stringent state and federal requirements,” Wells said. “We have amazing educators in this district who put the needs of students first.”

**Sleep Study survey to launch Friday**

Walla Walla Public Schools is conducting a survey as part of a Sleep Study on the benefits and implications of changing Walla Walla High School’s starting time. The survey will go live Friday and remain open for two weeks.

Under the proposal being studied, first period would begin at 8:30 a.m. at Walla Walla High School. This would push the start of 7th period to 3 p.m. with school ending at 4 p.m. First period currently begins at 7:30 a.m. and 7th period is over at 3 p.m. The proposed change would take effect at the start of the 2016-2017 school year. Approximately 50 percent of Walla Walla High School students currently take a first period class beginning at 7:30 a.m. The other 50 percent of Wa-Hi students start school at 8:30 a.m. during second period. Approximately 25 percent of Wa-Hi students have a seven period schedule.

All results will be reviewed by the Sleep Study Committee chaired by Executive Director of Business Services Ted Cohan. For more information, contact Cohan at (509) 526-6717 or [tcohan@wwps.org](mailto:tcohan@wwps.org).