

Walla Walla Public Schools

10-10 Staff News



School Board Meeting Recap | June 7, 2016

Administration hires

District names new administrative leaders as school year wraps up



Wade Smith

The Board of Directors unanimously named Michelle Carpenter the new principal of Berney Elementary, Maria Garcia the principal of Sharpstein Elementary and Kerri Coffman Director of Assessment and Special Programs.

Carpenter, a longtime Green Park teacher, replaces Christy Krutulius who earlier this spring accepted the district's Executive Director of Teaching and Learning position. Garcia, the district's Assessment Coordinator and former school psychologist, takes over for Matt Bona. Coffman transfers from the

district's Director of Preschool programs to the central office to oversee many of Garcia's former assessments and to manage state and federal grant programs.

"The principal search was a competitive and thorough process that highlighted a talented pool of applicants," said new Superintendent Wade Smith, who officially begins his tenure July 1 and helped facilitate the hiring process. "These assignments align our strengths, talents, and needs to best serve our core mission of educating students."

Graduates of Distinction

Walla Walla Public Schools honored this year's Graduates of Distinction last night. They are: Jerry Zahl, Class of 1962; Gary Hanson, Class of 1976; and Mark Kajita, Class of 1987. Family members and friends packed the Anne Golden Boardroom.

These individuals have distinguished themselves in their communities, professions, and continue to bring honor to the district.



(L-R) Gary Hanson, Jerry Zahl and Mark Kajita. All three honorees praised the district for a great start in life.

Board Meeting Highlights

APPROVED . . .

Minutes from the May 17 and May 25, 2016 board meetings, personnel report, out-of-state travel, issuance of July 1 contracts, June 7 accounts payable and May payroll, 2016-2017 meal price increase, WWVEA 2016-2017 bargaining agreement, and Head Start Grant Supplemental Application.

Action Items approved . . .

1. Policy 2145 Suicide Prevention.
2. Revision to Policy 2161 Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students.
3. Revision to Pol. 3246 Restraint, Isolation, and Other Uses of Reasonable Force.

Budget/Enrollment update . . .

Executive Director of Business Services Ted Cohan reported the district remains on its spending targets and enrollment for the year finished more than 100 FTE over projections.

Bargaining Agreement . . .

School board members unanimously approved the ratification of the WWVEA bargaining agreement for next year. Assistant Superintendent Chris Gardea said it was a collaborative process based on trust, mutual understanding of the issues and a willingness to solve problems.

Meal Price increase . . .

Meal prices increase 5 cents next year.

Excellence in Every Classroom

PERSONNEL
REPORT

EMPLOYMENT ...

Administrative:

P. MICHELLE CARPENTER | PRINCIPAL
Berney Elementary
KERRI COFFMAN | DIR. ASSESSMENTS/PROGRAMS
Teaching and Learning Department
MARIA GARCIA | PRINCIPAL
Sharpstein Elementary

Certificated:

TINA BRENNAN | BLUE RIDGE
FAYDALE CURTICE | WA-HI
ERIN DORSO | TEACHING AND LEARNING
KRISTEN GLAESER | WA-HI
CAMERON GREMINGER | WA-HI
MISHA GUDERIAN | PIONEER MS/LINCOLN HS
KAREN HANSON | EDISON
AMY KASENGA | BLUE RIDGE
EMMA KUBROCK | SPECIAL EDUCATION
ELIZABETH MONAHAN | TEACHING AND LEARNING
SUSAN YENNEY | BLUE RIDGE PRESCHOOL

Classified:

DANICA BENTLEY | GREEN PARK
SHARIS COLVIN | WA-HI
MARIA CUELLAR | GARRISON MS
BRITTNEY CUTLIP | GREEN PARK
RICHARD JIMENEZ | WA-HI
KENT MAYBERRY | WA-HI
SHELLY NORSWORTHY | LINCOLN HS
FABIOLA SALGADO | EDISON

Coaching:

EMMA ESKIL | WA-HI (DANCE)

RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT ...

Certificated

OLGA GARCIA | EDISON - 8 YEARS
KINSEY NICKELL | PROSPECT POINT - 2 YEARS
MARGO PIVER | WA-HI - 21 YEARS
PAUL STARKEBAUM | SHARPSTEIN - 7 YEARS

Classified

MICHAEL ERICKSON | LINCOLN HS - 4 MONTHS
JESSIE HUNTINGTON | TRANSPORTATION - 6 YEARS
DENISE ONGERS | PRESCHOOL - 19 YEARS
SARAH VILLANUEVA | GREEN PARK - 1 YEAR

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Classified

ANA AGUILAR | PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS, 4 YRS
- August to December 2016
WILLIAM HEISER | FACILITIES & OPERATIONS, 26 YRS
- June to August 2016

OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

• Bill Bialozor and Mark Mebes to attend National Rifle Championships in Camp Perry, OH (Funding: ASB)

Quote of the Week

“You cannot build character and courage by taking away man’s initiative and independence.”

Abraham Lincoln

Explorer students ace national math competition

Last night, Elementary Explorer Gifted Learners program teacher Mary Cortinas introduced students who participated in the Continental Mathematics League (CML) competition. Third grade students Jack Babbitt, Jakob Sullivan and Grant Wood, fourth grader Kai Lincoln and fifth grade student Lily Franklin were honored for scoring perfect on all the competition tests. The third grade team was a National Winning team. There were 321 schools in the 3rd grade division. The Continental Mathematics League is a national competition. Cortinas presented them with certificates and special medals to honor their accomplishment.

Community Facilities Task Force update

Task Force Co-Chair Paul Schneidmiller briefed the school board on progress of the group. This spring task force members held listening sessions with Wa-Hi and Lincoln HS staff. Similar sessions are planned at Pioneer MS and Blue Ridge in the fall. The group has also received reports from Jon Gores of DA Davidson Financial and Architects West. Next year will include significant community involvement, according to Schneidmiller.

Curriculum Adoption update

Teaching and Learning staff are reviewing materials for potential adoptions next year. Middle school math, elementary reading, social studies, health and science kits are on the list of needs.