

Walla Walla Public Schools

10-10 Staff News



School Board Meeting Recap | March 21, 2017

Sources of Strength

*Hope, Help and Strength messages
core of suicide prevention program*



Peggy Needham

W2 for Drug Free Youth Coordinator Peggy Needham reported to school board members her program secured a \$20,000 state grant to fund high school student and staff training, follow-on support and awareness campaigns through the internationally acclaimed Sources of Strength program.

Sources of Strength features 450 school teams in five countries, 26 American states, three Canadian provinces and 12 First Nation communities.

The mission of Sources of Strength is to provide the highest quality evidence-based prevention for suicide, violence, bullying and substance abuse by training, supporting, and empowering both peer leaders and caring adults to impact their world through the power of connection, hope, help and strength.

"We want this experience to be one of hope, help and strength," said Needham. "Our community has suffered many tragic losses in the past few years.

The Sources of Strength program provides a platform to bring our community together to focus on increasing communication and breaking the codes of silence. It promotes communication both peer to peer and adult to peer."

Free Sources of Strength Public Event

- Thursday, March 30
- 6:30 p.m. (doors open)
- 7 p.m. (program begins)
- Cordiner Hall (Whitman College)
- Lincoln and Walla Walla High School students will discuss the awareness campaigns they plan to implement, including:

- Sources of Strength Awareness
- I Am Stronger Campaign
- Trusted Adult Display
- What Helps Me Campaign
- Sources of Strength Week
- A Strength a Month
- Passive messaging: posters, videos, PSA's, social media
- Active messaging: one-to-one, presentation to class, staff, and community

"Sources of Strength is an ongoing peer driven, adult guided process to promote hope, help and strength on our campuses and communities through youth and adult connectedness," said Needham. "Come to Cordiner Hall on March 30th to learn more about this program and support our local youth as they introduce this program to our community."

Board Meeting Highlights

APPROVED . . .

Minutes from the March 7, 2017 special board meeting and regular board meeting, personnel report, out of state travel, March 21 Accounts Payable, February financial report, 2017-2018 dairy bid renewal, and extra-curricular athletic contracts. Resolution 05-2017 - Cancellation of Outstanding Warrants.

Budget and Enrollment update . . .

Executive Director of Business Services Ted Cohan reported FTE enrollment for March is 5755, down four from the February count. He reported the district continues budget planning for 2017-2018 despite unclear state revenue forecasts. Currently the district's reserve is slightly above 8%.

Asset Preservation Update . . .

Superintendent Wade Smith and Heath Gardner from the Wenaha Group provided a facilities conditions report to the school board per state requirements. Most district facilities have not seen significant improvements in 40 years and needs continue to mount. Superintendent Smith is helping lead the Community Facilities Task Force and has targeted November 2018 as a potential date for a school bond.

High School Update . . .

Walla Walla High School Junior Chloe Williams reported 879 students voted in recent school elections.

Developing Washington's Most Sought-After Graduates

PERSONNEL
REPORT

EMPLOYMENT . . .

Certificated:

AMANDA ARCHER | GARRISON MS (SPECIAL ED .5 FTE)

JAIMEE ROSSI | PIONEER MS (SPECIAL ED)

Classified:

JORGE ABUNDIS | GREEN PARK (CUSTODIAN)

RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT . . .

Certificated:

ALITA CHAMBERLAIN | EDISON, 1 YEAR

JERRY QUARESMA | OPPORTUNITY, 19 YEARS

- RESIGNING .4 FTE - WILL CONTINUE AS A .6 FTE

Classified:

KARLA GARZA | GARRISON MS, 7 MONTHS

JENNIFER ORDOS | GARRISON MS, 2 YEARS

KEVIN RAVER | FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS, 7 MONTHS

MICKEY WEBER | SHARPSTEIN, 9 YEARS

- MICKEY WILL COMPLETE THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR

Coaching:

DALLAS JONES | WA-HI (WRESTLING), 5 YEARS

LEAVE OF ABSENCE . . .

Certificated:

ROB AHRENS | WA-HI, 19 YEARS

- TO SERVE AS A .4 FTE TOSA SCIENCE COORDINATOR FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR, WILL CONTINUE AS .6 FTE SCIENCE TEACHER

MONICA NELSON | WA-HI, 13 YEARS

- TO SERVE AS A .4 FTE TOSA MATH COORDINATOR FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR, WILL CONTINUE AS .6 FTE MATH TEACHER

OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL . . .

- Anne Bickelhaupt to attend Training & Scoring for AP US History Exam in Tampa, FL (Funding: College Board)
- Mary Burt, Lindsey James, and Casey Monahan to attend Impact through Instructional Advocacy in Denver, CO (Funding: Teaching and Learning)
- Mark Mebes to attend CMP Western Regional Rifle Championship in Salt Lake City, UT (Funding: ASB Vocational)
- Jessica Johnson to attend CASE Ag Power & Technology Course in Jonesboro, AR (Funding: Vocational)

Wa-Hi FFA Shines

Students earn prestigious state FFA degrees

Walla Walla High School students Maddie Fenton and Tristan Case presented at last night's school board meeting to report five students have earned their state FFA degrees which will be awarded at the Washington FFA State Convention in May. Fenton and Case were joined by Emma Drivdahl, Jessie Eastman and Ally Newton in earning this prestigious mark. The degree program requires students to have earned their greenhand and chapter FFA degree, be enrolled in at least two years consecutively of agriculture education classes, be active FFA members and invest/earn at least \$1,000 from their Supervised Agriculture Experience Project (SAE). Maddie is also a finalist for the Washington FFA Star in Agribusiness award.



(Photo Left to Right) Jessie Eastman, Emma Drivdahl, Ally Newton, Tristan Case, Maddie Fenton

Quote of the Week

"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest."

Benjamin Franklin

Director of Bilingual Education and Latino Outreach

The district's Bilingual Education program is transitioning from a coordinator supported model to a cabinet level director to further enhance equity and access and academic success for Latino students. The newly posted Director of Bilingual Education and Latino Outreach position is an outcome of the recently completed Bilingual Education Recommendation Committee study and soon to be finalized strategic plan which both call for better aligned systems, effective instructional practices and additional layers of student engagement.

This 260-day contract position is a direct report to the superintendent. Applicants are required to have a valid state administrator certificate and a minimum of five years teaching experience with an emphasis on bilingual classroom instruction. Bilingual/biliterate in English and Spanish is strongly preferred. The position closes April 19 with the new director reporting July 1.