

# 10-10 Staff News

School Board Meeting Recap »

July 16, 2019

## Strategic Plan Math and Reading Focus *District seeing academic gains*



**Chris Gardea**  
Ass't Superintendent

Students at grade levels across the district are making significant gains in math and reading proficiency according to an end-of-year I-Ready data review last night from Assistant Superintendent Chris Gardea and Executive Director of Teaching and Learning Christy Krutulis.

They reported approximately 3000 students in grades 1-8 completed three I-Ready diagnostic assessments during the school year. Data revealed scores jumped from the fall assessment to the spring assessment across the district. Middle School gains in both reading and math received praise from school board members.

I-Ready integrates powerful assessments and rich insights with effective and engaging

instruction in reading and mathematics to address students' individual needs.

The introduction of I-Ready in the district is linked to the district's Strategic Plan which calls for improved math and reading academic performance. The district is outpacing national scores in math and reading I-Ready scores at several grade levels prompting optimism as the district awaits the release of Smarter Balanced test scores this fall.

Several factors are linked to the improved results, including new curriculum aligned to essential standards, teacher collaboration and professional development. Board members also thanked teachers for their hard work and dedication.

## Bond Update

### *Summer projects tally \$6M investment*

#### INFRASTRUCTURE & SAFETY - SUMMER 2019

- Berney Roof/HVAC
- Green Park Roof
- Safety & Security
  - Secured Vestibules
  - Camera/Surveillance Upgrades
  - Fencing/Signage Improvements
  - Access Control
- Garrison Backup Power/  
Fencing
- Prospect Point Roof Repairs  
& Kitchen Cooler Upgrades



*More than \$6M in school bond improvement projects are being completed at schools across the district this summer. Local contractors are doing most of the work. Roofs, HVAC, cameras, access controls and fencing top the list.*

## Board Meeting Highlights

### ■ APPROVED »

Minutes from the June 18, 2019 regular business meeting, personnel report, extracurricular athletic contracts, non-athletic, enrichment and extra & co-curricular contracts, July 2 accounts payable and June payroll, July 16 accounts payable, June financial report, 2019-2020 out-of-state tuition, 2019-2020 dairy bid renewal, 2019-2020 meal price increase, ratification of possible tentative agreement and excused absence for Director Dr. Hampson.

### ■ EARLY LEARNING STUDY »

Last night, school board members heard from community Early Learning experts as part of the school board's Elementary Consolidation Review and Early Learning Expansion study. Matt Bona, Samantha Bowen, Christy Lieuallen and Meagan Anderson-Pira reported there is a need for an Early Learning Center in Walla Walla with a variety of services for young families. Next month the school board will discuss which current elementary school would make the best location for an Early Learning Center based on their six month study and analysis. Visit the district website for additional information on the study.

### ■ FUND BALANCE »

Director of Fiscal Services Nancy Taylor reported the district is on target to meet the school board's 8% requirement for fund balance. She anticipates a \$9.2M reserve to start the 2019-2020 General Fund budget cycle.

**EMPLOYMENT . . .**

**Certificated:**

TANYA ESQUIVEL | 5TH GR TEACHER, BLUE RIDGE  
SHANNON HOHOSH | SP ED, BLUE RIDGE PRESCHOOL  
NANCY ROSE (TEMP) | MATH, PIONEER MS  
SHARI WIDMER | COUNSELOR, WA-HI

**Classified:**

DANIEL BEATON | PARA-ED, SHARPSTEIN  
ALONDRA DIAZ | PARA-ED, BLUE RIDGE  
RIGOBERTO FERNANDEZ | PARA-ED, GARRISON MS  
TERESA GINGRAS | PARA-ED (TEMP), GARRISON MS  
ERIN GRIFFIN | ASL INTERPRETER, SPECIAL EDUCATION  
PETER HIXSON | PARA-ED, WA-HI  
ANGELA HUDIBURG | PARA-ED, SHARPSTEIN  
ILDA LOMELI | PARA-ED, SHARPSTEIN  
CHERI RUZICKA | PARA-ED, BLUE RIDGE  
KAREN RUZICKA | PARA-ED, BERNEY

**RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT . . .**

**Certificated:**

SUSAN YENNEY | BLUE RIDGE PRESCHOOL, 3 YRS

**Classified:**

SAMUEL MARQUEZ | FACILITIES & OP, 1 YR  
JENYFER REESE | HEAD START/ECEAP, 1 YR  
MARIA REMINGTON | SHARPSTEIN, 9.5 YRS

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE . . .**

**Certificated:**

CECILIA SOLIS | EDISON, 1 YR  
- FOR THE 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR

**Quote of the Week**

“We must believe in the power of education. We must respect just laws. We must love ourselves, our old and or young, our women as well as our men.”

Arthur Ashe

# Solar Energy Grant

*Pacific Power grant to bring solar power system to new Wa-Hi Science Building*



Walla Walla High School’s new Science Building will generate its own clean, renewable power thanks to a \$100,000 funding award from Pacific Power’s Blue Sky program. The grant will support the installation of solar panels at the facility slated to break ground this fall thanks to last November’s voter-approved replacement bond measure.

“By generating our own electricity, we’ll save on energy costs allowing us to dedicate more of the school district’s budget to our core vision of Developing Washington’s Most Sought-After Graduates,” said Superintendent Dr. Wade Smith. “This solar project is not only a win for the environment, but will also provide an interactive learning tool for our environmental science classes and students interested in renewable energy careers.”

# Healthy Living

**FRESH FRUITS AND VEGGIES GRANT**

Green Park, Sharpstein, Edison and Blue Ridge Elementary Schools received funding for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) for the 2019-2020 school year. This program is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and administered by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). Funds are allocated to eligible elementary schools based on their free and reduced-price meal percentage. Funding allows schools to offer a wide variety of fresh fruits and vegetables to students throughout the school year.

“The FFVP program has been successful in introducing elementary school children to a variety of produce that they otherwise might not have the opportunity to sample,” said Walla Walla Public Schools Director of Nutrition Services Pamela Milleson. “Goals of the program are to include new and different varieties, increase overall acceptance and consumption of fresh, unprocessed produce among children, and provide nutritional facts and information.”