

10-10 Staff News

School Board Meeting Recap »

September 17, 2019

Equity & Access Equity, Inclusiveness & Reframing our Perspectives



Dr. Julie Perron
Equity & Dual Programs

Last night, Dr. Julie Perron, Director of Equity and Dual Programs, briefed school board members on the outreach program she has implemented this school year for staff. This fall, Perron is visiting each school and department to raise awareness on issues around equity.

“Our focus is removing obstacles so all students have access to a quality education,” said Perron. “It is important for our staff to seek to understand and discover what our students are experiencing.”

Perron, a dynamic and high energy speaker, uses a variety of easy to understand metaphors and stories from her vast experiences in education to address equity and inclusiveness issues.

Perron spent many years of her career in high poverty areas of Southern California. She also worked for Spokane Public Schools in mostly inner city settings. She said these experiences have taught her if

you want to bring families to the table, you have to become the table.

She recounted how she would regularly walk students home to learn more about their families and home life. She said it is critical to have high expectations for students everyday, every time.

Next for Perron and her team is to continue these conversations with staff and plan for another round of in-service sessions. She plans to incorporate an emphasis on inclusiveness with the Equity and Access Committee. Perron is exploring ways to further empower the Latino Club, and developing more partnerships with other inclusive groups in the community. She also has her eye on developing an equity policy that serves as an equity lens for the strategic plan. Perron said she is excited to be in her new role and is looking forward to meeting everyone.

Board Meeting Highlights

APPROVED »

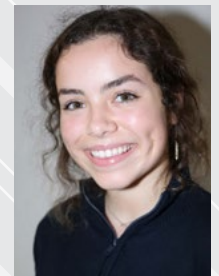
Minutes from the Sept. 3, 2019 regular study meeting, personnel report, extracurricular athletic contracts, non-athletic extra & co-curricular contracts, Sept. accounts payable, August financial report, Resolution 09-2019 - Lincoln High School Racial Balance review, Resolution 10-2019 - Pioneer Middle School OSPI Racial Balance review, Resolution 11-2019 - Walla Walla High School OSPI Racial Balance review, and Washington State School Directors' Association Boards of Distinction application.

ENROLLMENT UPDATE »

The district's enrollment count for September is above budget targets mostly due to higher than anticipated kindergarten enrollment. Superintendent Dr. Wade Smith said the district will closely monitor enrollment counts in October to see if this trend continues.

HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE »

Last night, Walla Walla High School student representative Jaden Bergevin reported the back-to-school Luau dance had 540 students in attendance marking the best turn out in years. Homecoming is the week of October 7, culminating with the dance on Saturday, October 12. A total of 19 clubs and groups participated in the Club Fair during Open House.



Elementary Consolidation Review and Early Learning Expansion

School board members continued deliberation of their comprehensive study focusing on potential elementary reconfiguration and the possibility of repurposing an elementary school into a community-wide early learning center hub. Though no final decision has been made, the board has settled on a preliminary determination to move forward with plans to repurpose Blue Ridge Elementary as the new Early Learning Center. This change would take place at the start of the 2020-2021 school year.

This week, the school board has further engaged the community and staff about the study process to seek any final factors which could sway their decision. Absent any surprise findings between now and October 15, the decision is expected to move forward. The Board's next step will be to begin a comprehensive process over the winter and spring months to review and modify school boundaries to reflect efficiency efforts, while maintaining current class sizes. No action was taken last night.

EMPLOYMENT ...

Classified:

SERGIO OROZCO | 21ST CENTURY, SHARPSTEIN
DULCE PEREZ | KITCHEN ASSISTANT, PROSPECT POINT

RESIGNATION ...

Classified:

SALVADOR HERNANDEZ | GARRISON MS, 25.5 YEARS

Quote of the Week

“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.”

Martin Luther King, Jr.



Jeannette C. Hayner Park ribbon cutting

- Come celebrate the opening of Jeannette C. Hayner Park featuring the world’s largest London plane tree.
- Wednesday, Sept. 25 at 10 a.m.
- Walla Walla High School (Park is located on the southwest corner of the campus on Reser Road).
- Jeannette Hayner (1919-2010) was a former influential school board member and Washington State Representative and Senator.



Wa-Hi Science Building groundbreaking

- Please join us as we break ground on our new Science Building. This amazing 18,000 sq. ft. facility features eight fully-functional laboratory classrooms
- Wednesday, October 2 at 10 a.m.
- 800 Abbott Road (Wa-Hi Campus)
- YourBondDollarsatWork / #deliveringonourpromise
- Bond Information: wwpsbond.org
- Follow Us on Twitter @bondwwps



FFA shines at Fair

Students showcase program to public

Last night, FFA students (L-R) Nathanael Bennett, Graycie Gonzales, Cristina McHie and Kinsey Nelson reported on their success at this year’s Walla Walla Fair and Frontier Days. Chapter Members had over 1500 entries in the fair - including posters, skill boards, fruits, vegetables, wool, flowers and animals. There were 63 members exhibiting animals - 58 that participated in the Junior Livestock Auction. Chapter members earned just over \$67,000 at the auction.

Many of the animals featured in the fair were born and raised on the Walla Walla High School farm. FFA Advisor Arch McHie said the school’s barn serves as the idea lab to support FFA activities and high levels of learning through hands-on experiences.

