

# 10-10 Staff News

School Board Meeting Recap »

June 7, 2022

## Strategic Plan

### Phase I - Introduction

As the district wraps up a successful 2017-22 Strategic Plan, the Board of Directors is seeking broad stakeholder input as they prepare for the future. Last night Superintendent Dr. Wade Smith discussed the steps the district would take as part of a comprehensive Strategic Planning Process to develop the district's next Strategic Plan.

The process started this spring and will continue throughout next school year. He reported the district will engage parents, staff, students and community extensively to seek input.

Last month the district kicked off their efforts by launching an introductory ThoughtExchange survey for all stakeholders. The survey asked the community to weigh in on what they feel were the most important skills and attributes Walla Walla Public Schools' graduates must gain during their public school years in preparation for success after high school.

This new ThoughtExchange interactive tool allows respondents to share their thoughts, as well as review and prioritize ideas shared by others. The survey was confidential and offered in multiple languages. A total of 436 participants joined the exchange, shared 253 thoughts and provided nearly 9000 ratings. Of the participants, nearly 25% were parents, 24% were employees, 39% were students, and 12% were community members. Nearly 10% consisted of Spanish speaking households.

Thoughts shared were vast, but several themes appeared according to Superintendent Smith.

"Accountability, respect, problem-solving and other 'soft skills' like responsibility and work ethic rose to the top across all survey respondents," said Dr. Smith. "Making sure our graduates were prepared for life beyond high school, addressing life-long assets such as financial management, understanding taxes and perseverance, were



**Dr. Wade Smith**  
Superintendent

"Our school board is deeply interested in community input to help define what skills and experiences are critical for our future graduates."

**Dr. Wade Smith, Superintendent**

rated the highest from participants."

The district's Strategic Planning process will ramp up this fall with more ThoughtExchange surveys, community engagement activities, focus group discussions and staff and student input sessions. The school board plans to have a draft Strategic Plan ready for public viewing in December with the plan finalized in March. The final plan will help the school board set funding priorities and will go into effect at the start of the 2023-2024 school year.



### Spring 2022 Exchange Summary

As we work towards achieving our vision of Developing Washington's Most Sought-After Graduates, what are the most important skills and attributes our graduates must gain in school in order to prepare them for success after graduation?

## Board Meeting Highlights

### APPROVED »

Minutes from the May 17, 2022 regular business meeting, personnel report, extracurricular athletic contracts, June 7 accounts payable and May payroll, resolution #05-2022 cancellation of outstanding warrants, 2022-2023 student insurance and Head Start grant renewal.

### STAFF END-OF-YEAR MEETING »

Celebrate the end of the 2021-2022 during the all staff meeting.

- Wednesday, June 15
- 3 p.m.
- Walla Walla High School Commons
- Say goodbye to retirees
- Staff Achievement Grant Recognition
- Treats and fun!

### HS GRADUATION CEREMONIES »

Opportunity Program and Walla Walla Online

- Wednesday, June 8 / 6:30-7:30 p.m.
- Walla Walla Fairgrounds
- LIVE Stream: <https://bdnw.live/opportunity>

Lincoln High School

- Thursday, June 9
- 6-8 p.m.
- Walla Walla Fairgrounds
- LIVE Stream: <https://bdnw.live/lincoln>

Walla Walla High School

- Friday, June 10 (rain or shine)
- 7-9 p.m. (fireworks show to follow)
- Walla Walla Fairgrounds
- LIVE Stream: <https://bdnw.live/wahi>

**EMPLOYMENT ...**

**Administrative:**

LISA FRANKLIN, ASST PRINCIPAL (22-23), PIONEER

**Certificated:**

JAMI PARSONS, TEMP 5TH GRADE (2022-23), PROSPECT POINT

**RESIGNATION/RETIREMENTS**

**Administration:**

AMY RUFF, DIR OF HEALTH SERVICES, 5 YEARS

**Certificated:**

DAVID CRESS SOLIS, KINDER BERNEY, 1 YEAR

EMILY STEIN, PHYSICAL THERAPIST, SP ED, 1 YEAR

**Classified:**

MERVAT ALZIADIN, WWCCF, 1 YEAR

THOMAS BEEBE, WA-HI, 6 YEARS

KARLI CORTEZ, PROSPECT POINT, 4 YEARS

- KARLI WAS ON A LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR 2021-22

KAREN ROMO, WWCCF, 3 YEARS

ROB SNOW, EDISON, 5 MONTHS

JACQUELINE RAMIREZ, WA-HI & PROSPECT PT, 7 MONTHS

TATIYANNA WELLS, PROSPECT POINT, 1 YEAR

**Quote of the Week**

"The goal of education is the advancement of knowledge and the dissemination of truth."

John F. Kennedy

**Graduates of Distinction**

Monday night Walla Walla Public Schools named Russ Colombo, Class of 1974; Deborah Underwood, Class of 1979; Jack Fredrickson; Class of 1952 and Mark Thompson, Class of 1970 this year's Graduates of Distinction during a public reception at the Walla Walla High School Commons. Superintendent Dr. Wade Smith led the ceremony.

These outstanding graduates were selected for their contributions to their careers, community involvement and service to humanity. Now in its 24th year, the Graduates of Distinction Program recognizes and honors the outstanding achievements of WWPS high school graduates. In addition, this award pays tribute to school staff who provided positive school experiences, and were inspirational in the lives of these graduates.

This award is the highest honor the district bestows on its graduates as they serve as positive role models for current and future students.



**Board discusses student voice**

Last night school board members Kathy Mulkerin and Derek Sarley led a discussion with fellow board members on bringing more student voices to their ears. All board members said they are interested in getting students more involved.

One idea is adding a WWPS board student representative as a non-voting member. Several school districts across the state have taken this action to bolster student voice on their local school boards. They also discussed forming student committees to research topics and share input. Board members also are considering bringing students to school board meetings more frequently to present on school projects and activities. No decisions were made and they agreed to keep studying these ideas.

