

10-10 Staff News

School Board Meeting Recap »

August 16, 2022

Back to School Checklist

District creates easy to use online forms

This school year Walla Walla Public Schools created an online welcome Back to School Checklist for parents. Superintendent Dr. Wade Smith updated the school board during his Superintendent's Report about this easy to use site for families that allows them to complete all required forms and receive important school information and updates.

This year the district is not utilizing paper forms for back to school information. Parents are asked to complete the online checklist for each child by the first day of school.

The first day of school for 1st-12th grade students is Tuesday, September 6. Transitional Kindergarten/Kindergarten students start on September 9 to allow for individual teacher-parent meetings and assessments. Head Start and ECEAP preschool students start September 12.

An important part of the new online checklist packet allows parents to verify their student and family information is correct.

"It is critical that we have accurate contact information for parents so we can communicate important school announcements and reach them in case of an emergency," said Superintendent Smith. "We are asking parents to contact their child's school secretary if they need help completing the checklist."

Superintendent Smith sent a letter home to parents this week informing them about the checklist and other important district information.



Dr. Wade Smith
Superintendent

"We are looking forward to a great school year and I can't wait for our students, families and faculty to return to our campuses to continue our work of educating, inspiring and fostering the talents, dreams and aspirations of over 5,500 students."

Dr. Wade Smith, Superintendent

SEE SOMETHING HEAR SOMETHING SAY SOMETHING!
Anonymously report bullying, harassment, threats of violence, suicide, drugs, vandalism, weapons and other safety concerns.

5 EASY WAYS TO REPORT:

1. CALL 855.976.8772
2. TEXT 855.976.8772
3. EMAIL 1057@ALERT1.US
4. WEB 1057.ALERT1.US
5. QR CODE Scan the QR code with your smart phone.

OUR DISTRICT CODE IS: 1057

All fees on adult services and will be added upon. Please be responsible with your submission.

Annual Safety Summit

Superintendent Smith also briefed the school board on the district's Annual Safety Summit being held August 17 at the Wa-Hi Commons. District safety teams from all schools will review emergency procedures and discuss suicide prevention, mitigation and recovery strategies. Representatives from ESD 123 will also review Threat Assessment procedures and best practices. This year look for new See Something, Hear Something, Say Something materials in all schools.

Board Meeting Highlights

APPROVED »

Minutes from July 19 regular business meeting and August 3 special board meeting, personnel report, extracurricular athletic contracts, approval of teachers who hold a limited teaching certificate, August 2 & 16 accounts payable and July payroll, July Financial Report, Resolution 07-2022 School Insurance Association of Washington and 2022-2023 school board meeting schedule.

BUDGET APPROVED »

Last night the school board approved the 2022-23 school year budget. The General Fund budget is based on estimated enrollment of 5382 FTE with appropriations of \$94.2M. The district has trimmed staffing levels in this budget cycle through attrition to adjust to the district's recent lower enrollment trends. This practice will continue as part of the four-year budget plan to ensure a balanced budget.

The approved General Fund budget maintains a \$7.7M ending fund balance meeting the school board's mandate of a 6 to 8 percent reserve. School board members also approved the state required four-year plan and were briefed on the monthly financial dashboard.

POLICY APPROVAL »

School board members approved the following policies:

- 2140 - Comprehensive School Counseling Program
- 2161 - Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students
- 3142 - International Exchange Students
- 3241 - Student Discipline
- 6700 - Nutrition, Health and Physical Education

EMPLOYMENT . . .

Certificated:

NEIDA CAMPA, BIL SCHOOL COUNSELOR, GREEN PARK
TRESA REIBEL, CREDIT RETRIEVAL TEACHER, WA-HI
HANNAH SLOMINSKI, MS ALE TEACHER, LINCOLN HS

Classified:

MERCEDES BECERRA, PARA-ED, SHARPSTEIN
LAURA BRYANT, HEAD START ASST TEACHER, WWCCF
MACEY EWELL, BUS DRIVER, TRANSPORTATION CO-OP
CHRISTINA GUTIERREZ, HEAD ST ASST TEACHER, WWCCF
ASHLEY KIESECKER, PARA-ED, SHARPSTEIN
BRIAN LOPEZ-SALAZAR, PARA-ED, GREEN PARK
NATHANIEL PAINE, 21ST CENT SITE COORD, LINCOLN HS
SAMANTHA ROBINSON, PARA-ED, WA-HI

• SAMANTHA WAS A TEMPORARY PARA-EDUCATOR FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

HEATHER STEARNS, HEAD ST ASST TEACHER, WWCCF
ALEJANDRO VARELA, CUSTODIAN, WA-HI

TRACY WALMSLEY, PARA-ED (TEMP), EDISON/GRN PARK

• TRACY WAS A TEMPORARY PARA-EDUCATOR FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

RESIGNATION/RETIREMENTS . . .

Administrative:

RON HIGGINS, WALLA WALLA HIGH SCHOOL, 37 YEARS

Certificated:

MELISSA OAKLAND, GREEN PARK, 3 YEARS
TERRY KLINEFELTER, LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL, 25 YEARS

Classified:

LANE AVERY-FAIRBANKS, PIONEER MS, 1 YEAR
YASAMIN AYATOLLAHZADEH, GREEN PARK, 5 MONTHS
GLADYS COLEY, GARRISON MIDDLE SCHOOL, 12 YEARS
ERIC ODEM, TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT, 1 YEAR
JEFF RATLIFF, EDISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 8 YEARS
JULISSA VIRREY SOTO, GREEN PARK, 1.5 YEARS

LEAVE OF ABSENCE . . .

Classified:

DANNA JONES, PARA-ED, EDISON, 11 YEARS

• 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

JAVIER HERNANDEZ, INTERV SPEC, PIONEER MS, 14 YRS

• AUGUST 22, 2022 – DECEMBER 9, 2022 – COMPLETE STUDENT TEACHING

Afterschool Program Performance Report

30/30 Reading for Success

Brent Cummings, former Director of Accelerated Learning and Support who was recently promoted to the Director of the Walla Walla Center for Children and Families, briefed the school board on an exciting program offered last spring to jump start elementary reading skills. The 27 day afterschool program targeted 115 students, primarily in grades 1-3, who were one to two grade levels behind in reading, based on i-Ready scores. The students worked with para-educators for 45 minutes after school in small group settings at all five district elementary schools. Cummings said the results were positive.

"The kids who came had more growth than the kids who didn't participate in the program," said Brent, referring to the 83 students who attended regularly. "Academically this was very beneficial over a short period of time."

The \$21,000 program was funded entirely from the two-year, \$1.0M ESSER III grant the district received last year. Cummings said this is a good value for the results witnessed. He recommends continuing the 30/30 Reading for Success in the fall after the i-Ready assessment is completed.

"Since the initial data from the spring demonstrated a faster pace of growth and more 'stretch growth' among Reading for Success students, implementing a fall program will provide an increased data set to see if results are mirrored," said Cummings.

He suggests engaging the same targeted students in consecutive or multiple Reading for Success offerings during the course of the year. He said staffing availability could be a challenge, but believes utilizing local tutors and even volunteers could be a solution. Cummings said the district could consider a similar model for math as well.

Bond Update

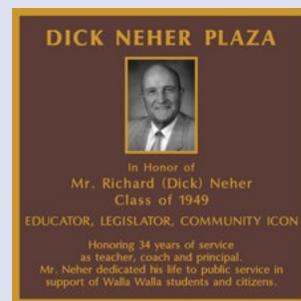
Construction rolls on at Walla Walla High School, Pioneer Middle School and Lincoln High School as part of the bond program. Superintendent Dr. Wade Smith recently released a new video taking viewers on a tour of all three campuses. All projects remain on schedule and on budget and will wrap up this fall. The district also invites the entire community to ribbon cutting celebrations and tours later this fall.

Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies & Public Tours

Walla Walla High School
- Wednesday, Sept. 21
- 4 to 6 p.m. (Dick Neher Plaza Commemoration will also take place)

Pioneer Middle School
- Wednesday, Sept. 28
- 4 to 6 p.m.

Lincoln HS
- Wednesday, Oct. 5
- 4 to 6 p.m.



Delivering on our Promise