

10-10 Staff News

School Board Meeting Recap »
September 6, 2022

First Day of School

Principals share highlights & plans for the year

Principals from school sites joined the school board study meeting to present on the first day of school and plans for the school year. Pioneer Middle School Principal Kris Duncan was thrilled to report for the first time in 40 years all staff were in the same building thanks to the bond renovation.

Michelle Carpenter, Berney Elementary Principal, was happy to see parents be able to walk their children to their classrooms following two years of COVID restrictions.

Lincoln High School Principal Marci Knauft reports the school will feature a middle school program this year with 15 students currently enrolled. At Edison Elementary, Principal Amy Kasenga reported 24, 5th graders volunteered to welcome and assist younger students on their first day of class.

Principals have two goals this school year:

1. Fostering a Professional Learning Community Culture to Improve Student Outcomes.
2. Improved Student Outcomes, Voice and Experience.



Dr. Wade Smith
Superintendent

"I had the opportunity to visit ten school sites on the first day of school. The "shine" is definitely back! It was so rewarding to see everyone so excited to be back and serving kids."

Dr. Wade Smith, Superintendent

Student achievement growth will be measured by iReady reading and math outcomes. Each school will have a high functioning and effective Guiding Coalition whose core mission is to assist and support the principal in embedding PLC culture, structures and practices throughout the school.

All principals reported more strategies will be in place to support positive student behavior, accountability and parent partnerships.

Board Meeting Highlights

APPROVED »

Minutes from August 16 regular business meeting, personnel report, extracurricular athletic contracts, non-athletic extracurricular & Co-Curricular contracts, September 6 accounts payable and August payroll and Washington State School Directors' Association Boards of Distinction Application.

TAILGATE PARTY FRIDAY »

All Walla Walla Public Schools staff and their families are invited to celebrate the start of the 2022-2023 school year during the Back to School Kickoff Tailgate Friday, Sept. 9 from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. at Martin Field (next to Borleske Stadium). Free hamburgers, hot dogs, salads and the fixins will be provided.

Please RSVP (for food count) by Thursday, Sept 8. After the tailgate, everyone is encouraged to attend the Wa-Hi football game vs. Kennewick at 7 pm at Borleske (FREE for everyone). See our students on the field, in the band, cheering on the team, presenting colors in JROTC, on the Dance Team and in the stands having fun.

We look forward to seeing everyone and celebrating the start of another great school year.

POLICY 6035

School board members had the first reading of Policy No. 6035 - Lease Capitalization Threshold.



PERSONNEL

EMPLOYMENT . . .

Certificated:

JUAN FABLA-LOPEZ, 3RD DG DUAL LANG, GREEN PARK
 MAKENZIE SHEETS, COUNSELOR, PIONEER MS

Classified:

TIM BENNETT, BUS DRIVER, TRANSPORTATION CO-OP
 CRYSTAL CONDRON, BUS DRIVER, TRANSPORTATION
 ROBERT GRIMM, BUS DRIVER, TRANSPORTATION CO-OP
 ANDERSON LYNCH, CAMPUS SUPPORT, WA-HI
 ISCHEL MEZA, BIL ASST SECRETARY, GREEN PARK
 BRIAN LOPEZ-SALAZAR, PARA-ED, GREEN PARK
 LUCILLE POIRIER, BUS DRIVER, TRANSPORTATION CO-OP

RESIGNATION/RETIREMENTS . . .

Classified:

ERIN GRIFFIN, SPECIAL EDUCATION, 3 YEARS
 CHRISTY KINNEY, LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL, 6 YEARS
 CARTER MARTIN, TRANSPORTATION CO-OP, 1 YEAR
 REBECCA O'CONNOR, GREEN PARK, 5 YEARS
 TESSA WESTON, GREEN PARK, 3 YEARS
 RUSSELL WHITE, GREEN PARK, 37 YEARS
 BREANNA WRIGHT, BUSINESS OFFICE, 2 YEARS

LEAVE OF ABSENCE . . .

Classified:

CAROLYN MCFETRIDGE, BUS DRIVER, SE WASHINGTON
 TRANSPORTATION CO-OP, 11 YEARS

Quote of the Week

"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember.
 Involve me and I learn."

Benjamin Franklin

New ThoughtExchange Survey

What are we doing well and what can we improve on

This month Walla Walla Public Schools is beginning Phase 2 of a six phase Strategic Planning process by gathering input from stakeholders in a variety of ways. Over the next several weeks, the district will engage parents, staff, students and community members through face-to-face meetings, focus groups and other engagements.

Phase 2 will also include a public ThoughtExchange engagement to survey stakeholders on what is going well and what can be improved. The ThoughtExchange survey opened today and will remain open through September 23 at 4 p.m. Students, parents, staff and community members are encouraged to participate and is made available in multiple language formats.

Phase 1 of the planning process kicked off with an introduction and preliminary ThoughtExchange in May. When asked what are the most important skills and attributes our graduates must gain in order to prepare them for success after graduation, consistent themes across stakeholder groups emerged. The twelve thoughts receiving the highest scores included many soft skills and traits such as respect, problem solving, perseverance, critical thinking skills and work ethic.

JOIN OUR THOUGHTEXCHANGE

Question: What do you value most about Walla Walla Public Schools and what can we do better to prepare our students for the challenges and opportunities of the future?

Visit the district website to share your input. www.wwps.org

Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies

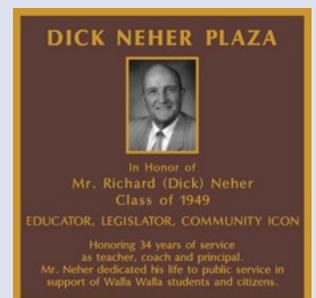
The district continues to deliver on its bond promise with the announcement of ribbon cutting ceremonies and campus tours of all three major renovation projects. All projects on are schedule and on budget. Please mark these dates on your calendar and celebrate with the school district on these historic accomplishments.

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 High School
 - Wednesday, Oct. 5
 - 4 to 6 p.m.



Delivering on our Promise