

## High School test scores top state

District Assessment Coordinator **Maria Garcia** briefed the school board on the Spring 2013 state assessment results. District high school Reading, Writing, Algebra and Biology scores were above state averages. Walla Walla graduation rates, both on-time and extended, continue to be above the state average as well.

“While MSP score averages for the district are not where we want them to be, by the time they get through high school they have developed the skills they need to be career and college ready,” Garcia said.

### District High School Test Scores

Reading	84%	(83.5% state)
Writing:	88.4%	(84.9% state)
Algebra	82.8%	(80.7% state)
Biology	85.9%	(81.7% state)

Lincoln High School	2013	2012
Reading	80.9%	64.7%
Writing	89.4%	65.4%
Algebra (*EOC1)	51.7%	24.7%
Geometry (*EOC2)	72.3%	54.8%
Biology (*EOC)	57%	21.2%

Wa-Hi	2013	2012
Reading	88.7%	85.7%
Writing	93%	90.4%
Algebra (*EOC1)	88.5%	77%
Geometry (*EOC2)	91.4%	74.8%
Biology (*EOC)	88.4%	73.3%

\* EOC: End of Course Exam

### Measurements of Student Progress

#### MSP Writing:

District writing scores at the elementary and middle school levels are slightly lower than last year’s scores. When compared to the state, 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade writing scores are below state average.

#### MSP Reading:

District reading scores are up or held steady in all but 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades, which were down somewhat from the prior year. Reading in grades 3-8 across the district was lower than the state average.

#### MSP Math:

Math scores in grades 4 and 7 increased over 2012, with 7<sup>th</sup> grade jumping almost 10 percentage points. However, results in all grade levels remain below state averages.

#### MSP Science:

Science is tested in 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Results for 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade represented slight drops for the district over the prior year and are below state averages.

For a complete listing of district and state MSP scores, visit: [reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us](http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us)

## In other School Board meeting business...

### **Board members:**

- approved minutes from the Sept. 17, 2013 regular board meeting, personnel report, out-of-state travel, extra-curricular contracts, Oct. 1 accounts payable and Sept. payroll, 2013-14 district insurance renewal, and minimum Basic Education Requirement Compliance.
- approved January to June 2014 School Board meeting schedule. (School board to hold some meetings at district schools)

# Personnel Report

## Employment

(Classified)

**Maria Alonso**, Para-Educator (temp.), Opportunity Program  
**Martin Fortney**, 21st Century Grant Program Site Director, Pioneer MS  
**Jeremiah Gradwohl**, 21st Century Grant Program Site Director, Lincoln HS  
**William Hammond**, 21st Century Grant Program Site Director, Garrison MS  
**Ruben Hernandez**, 21st Century Grant Program Site Director, Blue Ridge  
**Andrew Sayers**, 21st Century Grant Program Site Director, Wa-Hi  
**Sherry Orchard**, Assistant Secretary, Wa-Hi  
**Erin Roach**, CTE Secretary, Wa-Hi  
**Shelly Welter**, Assistant Secretary, Facilities and Operations

## Quote of the Week

"The more I want to get something done, the less I call it work."

Aristotle

## Resignation/Retirement

(Classified)

**Dustin Baker**, Custodian, Lincoln High School/ Pioneer Middle School, 12 years

## Leave of Absence

(Classified)

**Juan Escalante**, Para-Educator, Opportunity, 3 years

- Juan will serve as Intervention Specialist at Green Park for the 2013-2014 school year

## Out-of-State Travel

- **Matt Bona** to attend NCTM 2013 Regional Conference in Las Vegas, NV (Funding: C.I.A.)
- **Jason Parsons** to attend National Baseball Coaches Convention in Dallas, TX (Funding: Coaches Professional Growth)
- **Michelle Higgins** to present at National Council for Social Studies Conference in St. Louis, MO (Funding: Title II & personal)

## School Board schedules meetings at school locations

Last night school board members approved the meeting schedule for January through June. The schedule includes board meetings at school locations. This change was made to enhance awareness and improve communications.

January 14, 6:30 p.m. @ District Board Room

January TBD, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. @ Location TBD – Work Session/Retreat

February 4, 6:30 p.m. @ Edison Elementary, 1315 E. Alder

February 18, 6:30 p.m. @ District Administration Board Room

March 4, 6:30 p.m. @ Prospect Point Elementary, 55 Reser Road

March 18, 6:30 p.m. @ District Administration Board Room

April 15, 6:30 p.m. @ District Administration Board Room

May 6, 6:30 p.m. @ Pioneer Middle School, 450 Bridge St.

May 20, 6:30 p.m. @ District Administration Board Room

June 3, 6:30 p.m. @ District Administration Board Room

June 17, 4:00 p.m. @ District Administration Board Room

## Skills Center Solar Panel project

**Fred Liebrand** from WW-FREE briefed the school board on a community solar program which provides renewable energy systems on government properties.

WW-FREE is a Washington state non-profit organization which administrates the projects. The Southeast Washington Area Technical Skills Center will participate in this program and have solar panels in place when the facility opens in September. Currently, WW-FREE has solar panels installed at the WW Regional Airport and City of Walla Walla Waste Water Treatment plant.

Liebrand said many individuals are investing in these systems to receive greater tax advantages from their donations. As a result of the tax break, many are donating part or all of their investment money to provide scholarships to area students to attend college. The government entities benefit through energy cost savings and the authorization to retain the equipment at the end of the project.