

Dave Meyer remembered across the district

Grief counselors on campus to provide support

After learning of longtime Walla Walla High School Social Studies teacher **David Meyer's** passing Tuesday morning, staff members across the district have been reflecting on his positive impact and influence.

"This is just the way Dave would have wanted it," Prospect Point Learning Specialist **Laura Reiter** said. "He would want us to put kids first and have a great school year."

Despite fighting a long and hard battle with cancer, Meyer always seemed to have a smile for everyone.

"Even when he was in school, he made time for everyone -- no matter what you looked like or who you hung out with," Payroll Specialist and fellow Wa-Hi Class of 1981 graduate **Tami Tucker** said.

Accounts Payable Technician **DeeDee Delaney** -- who also attended school with Meyer -- recalls how he had a way of getting people to work together and feel special.

"He was a natural leader," Delaney said. "People just wanted to be around him."

Meyer taught Social Studies and English at Walla Walla High School for 13 years. He also coached football, basketball and participated in numerous school activities and clubs.

Grief counselors will be on campus to meet with staff and students throughout the week. Counselors also met with high school football players to talk about the grieving process.

Funeral arrangements are still pending.



Dave Meyer

*We'll never forget
your smile!*

August 22 • School Board Meeting Recap

Board approves 2005-2006 budget *District remains fiscally sound*

With a rise in state mandated raises and increased health care costs -- combined with rising fuel costs, utilities equipment, supplies and materials -- the district for the third consecutive year was forced to dip into cash reserves to balance the \$49.2 million general fund budget.

Despite the rising costs, the district maintains a \$1.7 million cash reserve -- well within the school board's 3 to 5 percent reserve mandate.

"I want to commend our staff for all their work to help balance this budget in these trying fiscal times," Business Manager **Aron Rausch** said. "We are an extremely efficient school district and are able to provide countless services to students many districts would not even attempt."

Last school year Rausch formed a broad-based Budget Committee to review the budget and make suggestions for spending plans. Rausch said some of the suggestions were used in the preparation of the 2005-2006 budget.

"We will continue to rely on our committee to help with our budget," Rausch said. "School districts across the state are feeling the squeeze of increased mandates with less dollars to support them. We are proud to have a budget that covers the operating costs for our 6,000 students and the highly qualified professional staff we have in Walla Walla."

Copies of the 2005-2006 budget are available in the Business Office.

In other School Board meeting business...

Board members:

- approved minutes of the July 19, 2005 regular board meeting and work session and August 10, 2005, special board meeting; Personnel Report; 2005-2006 Student Handbooks; Out-of-State tuition; Resolution #2-2005 Transfer of Funds; Resolution #3-2005, Budget Extension; 2005-2006 Title V Grant Application; Classified Administrators & Off-Schedule Staff Contracts; Administrative Match Interlocal Agreements; Lunch Vending Agreement -- Assumption/WWPS; and payment of August bills and payroll.
- received a report on state funding shortfalls for Special Education. More information to come.

Our Core Values
are more than mere words;
they're our business!

Quality | Integrity | Accountability | Respect | Courtesy

Personnel Report

EMPLOYMENT

Certificated

Larry Brown, Mathematics Teacher, Walla Walla High School
Marilyn Brown, Special Ed. Teacher, Berney Elementary and Garrison
Karyl Dennis, Reading Teacher, Blue Ridge Elementary
Jennie Dyerly, Fourth Grade Teacher, Blue Ridge Elementary
Lora Gillette, Head Start/ECEAP Teacher, Blue Ridge Elementary
Kyle Hurst, Science Teacher, Walla Walla High School
Jeffrey King, Biology Teacher, Walla Walla High School
Megan Poulson, Physical Education Specialist, Sharpstein Elementary
Scott Reardon, Business Education Teacher, Walla Walla High School
Matthew Smith, Social Studies Teacher, Walla Walla High School

Classified

Jane Aguiar, Special Education Para-Educator, Blue Ridge Elementary
Sara Avina, Bilingual Special Education Head Start/ECEAP, Para-Educator, Blue Ridge Elementary
Maria Burgueno, Bilingual Special Programs Para-Educator, Berney Elementary
Araceli Colin, Bilingual Para-Educator, Green Park Elementary
Pam Elia, Food Service Assistant, Blue Ridge Elementary
Alexandra Faizulaeva, Bilingual Para-Educator, Green Park Elementary
Judith Meier, Food Service Assistant, Walla Walla High School
Miguel Martinez, Bilingual Para-Educator, Blue Ridge Elementary
Lisa Pontarolo, Food Service Assistant, Berney Elementary
Darren Rhodes, Custodian, Walla Walla High School
Karen Shafer, Food Service Assistant, Walla Walla High School
Jenny Wood, Food Service Assistant, Blue Ridge Elementary School

RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS

Certificated

Karen Alaniz, Special Education Teacher, Special Programs, 15 years
• Was on a leave of absence for the 2004-2005 school year

Classified

Stephen Butler, Para-Educator, Prospect Point Elementary, 2 years
Marina Cortez, Head Start/ECEAP Parent Involvement Coordinator, Blue Ridge Elementary, 6 years
Mari Jo Emerson, Special Education Para-Educator, Walla Walla High School, 1 year
Yara Martinez, Bilingual Para-Educator, Green Park Elementary School, 2 years
Jeannie McCloy, Food Service Assistant, Sharpstein Elementary, 9 years
Joanne Norris, Para-Educator, Pioneer Middle School, 6 months

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Certificated

Pamela McBride, Biology Teacher, Walla Walla High School, 22 years
• Leave of absence for the 2005-2006 school year

Quote of the Week

“Dave was a ‘Kid Magnet’ who really connected with students. Our district is grieving his passing, but will remember his strength and dedication to education as we welcome students back for a new year.”

Superintendent Rich Carter
On the passing of Dave Meyer

Principals making activities available for families in need during weekly Elementary Early Release

A schedule change for all elementary schools was adopted by the school board last spring to begin with the 2005-2006 school year.

Every Wednesday beginning August 31 (no early release on first day of school), elementary children will be dismissed one hour early to provide time for teacher collaboration, training and long-range program planning.

School buses will run the same routes on Wednesday — only one hour earlier. Elementary principals will work with teachers and parents to provide supervision alternatives for those families unable to arrange for after-school care on early release Wednesdays. For more information, please contact your attendance area school.

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To submit materials for this publication, contact Communications Director Mark Higgins:

- Telephone: 526-6716
- E-mail: mhiggins@wwps.org

'Keeping Our Team Informed'