

Increased police presence at Wa-Hi today

\$500 reward offered for bomb threat tip leading to arrest

A second bomb threat in a week was discovered on the campus of Walla Walla High School yesterday afternoon. School officials immediately activated the school's Emergency Response Plan to handle the situation.

School operated on schedule today, but there will be heightened police presence on campus throughout the day.

The Walla Walla County Sheriff's Department is continuing to investigate this and the previous incident. A search of the campus, both in-buildings and the grounds took place yesterday evening and the campus was deemed safe for re-entry. Following last night's volleyball game and athletic contests the campus was locked down and secured.

Law enforcement conducted another search this morning prior to students' arrival. This morning all locker lobbies remained locked with only the Commons open for student access until 8:45 a.m.

"School safety is our top priority and we take all threats seriously," Principal **Brian Pendleton** said. "This behavior is a Class "B" felony and we will pursue the person or persons responsible for these actions until we discover the culprits. This crime carries heavy fines and possible jail time."

Pendleton stressed to parents and students that the school needs their help in solving this crime.

"Please keep an open ear for any information. If you hear anything regarding this incident, please report it to the Principal's office, 527-3020, Walla Walla County Sheriff's Department, 527-3268 or the Safe School Hotline # 1-800-418-6423 Ext. 359 immediately," Pendleton said.

Check the Walla Walla Public Schools website at www.wwps.org or local radio and TV stations for further updates.

Safe School Hotline

1-800-418-6423 Ext. 359

October 4 • School Board Meeting Recap

Staff discuss building options

Conceptual designs for Wa-Hi, Edison, Paine and Support Services near

After giving staff members on design teams representing Wa-Hi, Edison, Paine Alternative Programs and Support Services homework assignments the last month or so, it's now time for *Architects West* to complete its own task in the form of preliminary conceptual design drawings for the four facilities targeted for modernization or replacement.

In a report to school board members last night, Business Manager **Aron Rausch** said the firm should have "first draft" conceptual drawings when they return in mid-October.

Superintendent **Rich Carter** stressed nothing is locked in with these first drawings. It's a beginning point, he said.

Rausch also said he hopes to have a recommendation for a construction manager for school board members to consider October 18.

Fall 2005

Patron Survey

We need your feedback!
Now online - www.wwps.org

*Staff members are encouraged to take
a moment to complete this survey!*

In other School Board meeting business...

Board members:

- approved minutes of the regular board meeting September 20, 2005, Personnel and Out-of-State travel reports, Update on Policy 3200, Mission Statement, and Policy 5010.

Personnel Report

• New Hires

(Certificated) - NONE TO REPORT

(Classified) - NONE TO REPORT

• Resignations/Retirements

(Classified) - **Viviana Burgueno**, Central Office Bilingual Receptionist, Personnel Department, 7 years

Dorothy O'Brien, Occupational Therapy Assistant, Special Programs, 3 years

Herb Schafer, Bus Driver, Transportation, 10 years (effective December 31, 2005)

• Out of State Travel

Gerald Taylor to Regional JROTC Training/Meeting in Reno, NV (Funding: U.S. Government)

Gayle See to PE Assessment Conference in Myrtle Beach, SC (Funding: No cost to the district)

Quote of the Week

"One can never consent to creep when one feels an impulse to soar."

Helen Keller

Pioneer students shine at Stars Camp

Pioneer sixth grade students **Emylee Gobel** and **Beth Meyer** told board members last night they know their teachers and classmates after attending this fall's Stars Camp. The students said the leadership camp for all sixth grade students -- held this year at Camp Kiwanis instead of Camp Wooten due to this summer's fire -- was a great way to bond and make friends.

Math teacher **Brian Eggart** said the camp setting is also a great place to have in-depth discussions on bullying, trust and leadership. He said staff members learn how kids feel from this experience.

Principal **Dana Jones** said the school plans to permanently move the event to Camp Kiwanis in the future. She said the location is closer for families to participate and to handle any potential medical emergencies.

Pioneer adds emergency response class to curriculum

This year Pioneer Middle School students have a new exploratory option at the school as the school is now offering an emergency response class.

The move follows last year's successful afterschool program where 18 students participated in the program designed for disaster preparedness. **Adam Withycombe** is the

teacher and says the class promotes teamwork.

"Many of the things we do you simply can't do by yourself," Withycombe said. "You have to rely on our classmates for help.

Americorps volunteer **Diane Dyer** is the county program manager and supports the activities.

Boggs reports Symposium Reunion a success

District receives positive feedback following community report

Assistant Superintendent **Linda Boggs** reported to school board members last night the district's Symposium Reunion at Whitman College was well received and a success.

Last week's progress report to community leaders offered an opportunity for participants to review the district's recently adopted Strategic Plan. During the event, Boggs highlighted accomplishments from the plan. Participants also received an overview of the district's facilities improvement efforts — including a report from John Evans of Architects West.

More than 100 people attended the "Symposium Reunion" to stay connected to their Walla Walla Public Schools. The group was then surveyed at the end of the session. Survey results are posted on the district web site. A similar survey is now available for the public on the district's web site: www.wwps.org.

Wa-Hi PTSA hosts Drug Task Force Team Forum

Parents invited to learn more about area substance abuse issues

The Walla Walla High School Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) is sponsoring a substance abuse awareness meeting with the area's **Drug Task Force Team**, Monday, October 10 from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Walla Walla High School library.

This free event is open to the public and PTSA membership is not required to attend.

Drug Task Force Team Forum

- Monday, October 10
 - 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.
 - Wa-Hi Library (800 Abbott Road)
 - FREE
 - Open to Public
- (PTSA membership NOT required to attend)*

Contact Wa-Hi PTSA President **Cindy Meyer** for more information: (509) 529-0952 or e-mail at: cindymeyer@charter.net

e-NEWS

www.wwps.org

Sign up today!

The **10/10 Staff Newsletter** is published three times per month by the Walla Walla Public Schools Communications Department.

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

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

'Keeping Our Team Informed'