

Walla Walla Public Schools names Volunteers of the Year

Walla Walla Public Schools is proud to announce Jennifer Northam, Marla Carmody, Jeneen Webb, Abel Hernandez, Bill Erickson, Patrick Carman, Stephanie Kytola and Melissa Gardner as recipients of the 2010- 2011 Art Regier Volunteer of the Year Award. The Art Regier Outstanding Volunteer Award was instituted in 1991 as a memorial to “Grandpa Art” Regier. Regier, a retiree who devoted years of service to elementary schools in Walla Walla, epitomized the spirit of volunteerism in education.

Marla Carmody (*Nominators: Carolyn Smith, Teresa Adams, Nicole Redman*)

Volunteer Highlights: Sharpstein Elementary first grade support

Jeneen Webb (*Nominator: Kim Doepker*)

Volunteer Highlights: Blue Ridge Elementary School fundraising and classroom support

Abel Hernandez (*Nominator: Kim Doepker*)

Volunteer Highlights: Blue Ridge Elementary morning exercise and learning activities.

Bill Erickson (*Nominators: Walla Walla High School Latino Club, Armida Contreras, Refugio Reyes*)

Volunteer Highlights: Walla Walla High School Latino Club, Garrison Night School, Boy Scouts

Patrick Carman (*Nominators: Elizabeth George and Beth Swanson*)

Volunteer Highlights: Creator of Walla Walla Kids Read

Stephanie Kytola (*Nominators: Laura Grant, Lisa Davis, Annette Matlock and Stacy Morrison*)

Volunteer Highlights: Berney Elementary School “mile club” coordinator and classroom support

Melissa Gardner (*Nominators: Jackie Scholl, Grace Ogoshi and Chris Gardea*)

Volunteer Highlights: Prospect Point Elementary, Garrison Middle School and Walla Walla High School support

Jennifer Northam (*Nominators: Joshua Wolcott and Lucia Mumm*)

Volunteer Highlights: Edison Elementary PTA and Citizens for Schools Chair

In other School Board meeting business...

Board members:

- approved minutes of March 15, 2011 board meeting, personnel, out-of-state travel, March 29 and April accounts payable and Payroll, March financial statement, issuance of certificated contracts and notifications of reasonable assurance, co-curricular/extra-curricular contracts and the school board meeting schedule: August-December 2011.
- approved bid for the new Green Park telephone system and network upgrade
- received for first reading: New Policy 5004 - Anti-Nepotism
- approved a minor revision to Policy 2320 - Field Trips. (mandatory principal notification for all field trips)
- received a report on a third year math option for Walla Walla High School: Financial Management
- received a report on the Walla Walla High School Senior Presentations from Assistant Principal Mira Gobel

Personnel Report

Employment

(Certificated) **Nichole Riggs**, Music, Garrison Middle School
(Classified) **Becky Jo Curtis**, Intervention Specialist, Berney

Resignation/Retirement

(Certificated) **Jennifer Kontos**, Special Education, Sp. Ed Dept., 2 years
Diana St. Hilaire, Language Arts/Social Studies, Pioneer, 33 years

(Classified) **Jerald Munden**, Assistant Custodian, Pioneer, 19 years
Cathy Spanish, Para-Educator, Prospect Pt., 22 years
Cheryl Zuver, Kitchen Manager, Wa-Hi, 34 years

Leave of Absence

(Certificated) **Daisy Amrizadeh**, Kindergarten, Blue Ridge, 1 year
(*Daisy will be on leave for the 2011-12 school year*)
Kyle Hurst, Science, Pioneer, 6 years
(*Kyle will be on leave for the 2011-2012 school year*)

Out-of-State Travel

Laura Hersey to attend Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule Work Shop in Philadelphia, PA (Funding: Sp. Ed)
Bill Plucker and **Melito Ramirez** to attend US Marine Corps Educators Training in San Diego, CA (Funding: Marine Corps)
Brenda Prins to attend Washington DC Tour in Washington DC (Funding: Staff Achievement Grant/Personal)
Scott Tibbling to attend Perform Better Summit in Providence, RI (Funding: Athletics/Professional Growth)

Quote of the Week

"You learn something every day if you pay attention."

Ray LeBlond

Staff Transfer

Jill Meliah will transfer from Garrison Middle School to Walla Walla High School for the 2011-2012 school year. She will be an English teacher at Walla Walla High School.

Walla Walla Public Schools staff receive ESD 123 "Shoot for the Moon" awards for excellence

Superintendent **Mick Miller** recognized four staff members last night for receiving Educational Service District 123 "Shoot for the Moon" honorable mention awards for demonstrating innovation and excellence in leveraging WESPaC towards the achievement of school district goals.

These recipients are considered to be the "best" in developing creative approaches and demonstrating consistent high performance.

Learn more about the "Shoot for the Moon" award at: <http://www.waswug2011.org/pages/awards>

- **Kim Doepker**: *Principal, Blue Ridge Elementary*
Nominators: Meg Cochran, Tina Brennan, Janifer Sams, and Tina Holbrook
- **Heidy Wiese**: *WESPaC Coordinator*
Nominators: Linda Boggs, Judy O'Brien
- **Britt Adkins**: *Registrar, Pioneer Middle School*
Nominator: Yvon Barber
- **Nancy Taylor**: *Payroll Officer*
Nominator: Pat Johnston

Board Meetings: August - December 2011

- Tuesday, August 16	4:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, September 6	6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, September 20	6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, October 4	6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, October 18	6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 1	6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 15	6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, December 13	6:30 p.m.

I-728 Public Forum

Tuesday evening Walla Walla Public Schools conducted its annual I-728 Public Forum to seek public input in the development of an operational plan.

I-728 was approved by the Washington voters in November 2000 to provide school districts additional funding to lower class size and support learning efforts for all students. I-728 funding has been suspended and may continue to be suspended as a result of the 2011 Legislative session. If legislators had not suspended the funding and payment levels were distributed as intended by the voters in 2000, Walla Walla Public Schools would have received \$2.9 million for the 2011-12 school year.

"Public education has contributed greatly during this economic recession," Superintendent **Mick Miller** said. "Funding for I-732 for staff cost of living increases has also been suspended."

Staff Grants - Deadlines approaching!

• **Staff Achievement Grants** (five release days, \$1500!)

• **Gillespie Golden Onion** (New this year - \$500!)

http://www.wwps.org/atoz/gillespie_golden_onion_award.htm