

2013 Graduates of Distinction



Last night the district honored the 2013 Graduates of Distinction recipients. (L to R): **Daniel Reid** - Class of 1974; **Carol Minnick Santa** - Class of 1962; **Craig Nelson** - Class of 1981.

Reid is the General Manager for Opp and Seibold Construction, Inc. and is a tireless community servant and leader, according to his nominators.

Minnick Santa created a professional development program designed to help all students read, write and learn more effectively. This program, called Project CRISS, is now a thriving international business. She also co-founded the Montana Academy, a fully accredited high school for troubled teens.

Nelson, engineer and co-president of Nelson Irrigation, is credited with 21 U.S. patents and has designed products that are used world-wide.

Committee recommends new Lincoln High School facility

After four months of study, the Lincoln High School Community Facility Study Committee is recommending the district build a new school at its current 4th Street location, according to a report from co-chairs **Max Carrera** and **Lori Finn**.

The committee stated in its recommendation a new building would be less expensive, offer more flexibility and have the least impact on students during construction. The current school was built in 1927 for elementary students. Committee members said the current location best suits the school with its proximity to social services, and Valley Transit bus lines. Many students also live within walking distance of the campus.

These recommendations fall in line with MGT of America's report following an independent study of the facility in 2004. The committee also recommends the district establish an Alternative Education Advisory Committee, "institutionalize" the school's culture and create a public awareness campaign of the school's recent successes.

The school board is expected to consider the recommendations for approval during the June 18 school board meeting.

Committee Members: Max Carrera, Co-Chair, Lori Finn, Co-Chair, Katherine Boehm, Eric Gordon, Mark Higgins, Holly Howard, Pat Johnston, Lawson Knight, Ruth Ladderud, Julia Leavitt, Tim Meliah, Mick Miller, Steve Moss, Cindy Widmer, Charlotte Bouta, Steve Burdick, Dick Cook, Alex Demambro, Dan Hess, Dan Johnson, Dean Lodmell, Jim Sporleder, and Mari Tupper.

In other School Board meeting business...

Board members:

- approved minutes from the May 21, 2013 regular board meeting, minutes from the May 24, 2013 special board meeting, personnel report, out-of-state travel, June 4 accounts payable and May payroll, April Financial report, request to issue administrative contracts, and extracurricular contracts.
- approved Homelink annual report. Principal **Connie Taylor Randall** thanked her staff for a great year.

Personnel Report

Employment

(Administrative) **Kristen Graber**, Assistant Principal, Garrison Middle School (Certificated)

Holly Anderson, Speech Language Pathologist, Special Programs

Stefanie Crumpacker-Flerchinger, Music, Blue Ridge and Homelink

Spencer Iacolucci, Counselor, Walla Walla High School

Lisa Merrill, Special Education Preschool, Blue Ridge Elementary

(Coaching) **Keven Peck**, Head Girls' Soccer Coach, Walla Walla High School

Resignation/Retirement

(Certificated) **Gayle Kinman**, Art, Garrison Middle School, (24 years)

(Classified) **Janette Polley**, Health Clinician, Edison Elementary, (4 years)

Out-of-State Travel

Mark Mebes to attend American Legion National Championship Rifle Match in Colorado Springs, CO (Funding: American Legion Vocational)

Steve Olsen to attend Information Technology Training in San Jose, CA (Funding: Technology)

Carl Robanske for ACE Presentation and Physical Education Observations in Montego Bay, Jamaica (Funding: Staff Achievement, personal)

Ron Higgins, Maria Garcia, Kim Locken and **Heidy Wiese** to attend STAR Assessment Training in Irving, TX (Funding: Assessment Professional Growth)

Maria Garcia to present at Dual Language Conference in San Diego, CA (Funding: Title III LEP)

Quote of the Week

"He, who opens a school door, closes a prison."

Victor Hugo

Wa-Hi Choir Treat

Thanks to Wa-Hi Choral Director **Norb Rossi** and members of the choir for performing "My Old Kentucky Home" at last night's school board meeting. Board members and Superintendent **Mick Miller** praised the group and the district's arts programs.

Daughters of American Revolution essay winners

Walla Walla High School junior **Lilly Marie McKeirnan**, **Sarita McCaw** and Homelink 6th grade student **Mary Clare McKeirnan** celebrate at last night's school board meeting. Lilly and Mary, as well as Pioneer/Homelink 7th grader Lauren Bergman won local, state, Northwest District awards for their outstanding essays in the Daughters of American Revolution contest.



Graber named Garrison Assistant Principal

Walla Walla Public Schools Board of Directors unanimously approved the hiring of Kristen Graber as assistant principal of Garrison Middle School. Graber replaces current Garrison Middle School assistant principal Brett Cox who earlier this spring was named superintendent of the Prescott School District.

Kristen Graber

Graber is currently the school counselor at Garrison Middle School in Walla Walla. She has held this position for two years. Graber also has administrative experience. She served as principal (grades 6-12) at the North Powder School District from 2009 to 2011 and principal (K-8) at the Elgin School district from 2006 to 2009. She also taught classes and worked in other leadership capacities at these districts.



Graber was vice principal, school counselor, teacher, and junior class advisor at Pilot Rock Jr./Sr. High School from 2000 to 2006. Graber earned her Bachelor of Science degree in psychology from Eastern Oregon University and her Master's of Arts degree in counseling psychology from Walla Walla College. She received her administrative license from Lewis and Clark College in Forest Grove, OR and she is a graduate of Pendleton High School.

Safe Schools update

District reviews emergency plans in wake of Sandy Hook
District Safe Schools Committee Chair **Mark Higgins** reported to school board members the district has met state emergency procedures standards for six consecutive years. State requirements include completing drills, reviewing emergency plans and updating Rapid Responder for use during crisis situations. Higgins said all district schools reviewed emergency plans following the Sandy Hook Elementary tragedy, which included school visits from law enforcement.

Specials thanks to:

- **Mark Thompson** - Bullying Prevention Specialist
- **Deputy Scott Brashear** - Emergency Management Specialist
- **Angie Gardea** - GriefBusters Specialist
- **Katie Christianson & Kathryn Southwick Hess** - School Zone Safety Specialists