

## Pioneer Middle School Update

### Mission Focus:

*Closing the achievement gap and preparing students for college and career readiness*

Pioneer Middle School Principal **Mira Gobel** provided a report to school board members last night. Her update centered on the eight criteria the school has embraced as a leadership framework. Each criteria has measurable goals and activities aimed at supporting the framework focus area. She praised staff and students for embracing this concept which has led to high staff morale, more community involvement and student success.

### Pioneer's Framework for Success

- Creating a culture
- School Safety
- Planning with data
- Align curriculum
- Improving Instruction
- Managing resources
- Engaging communities
- Closing the Achievement Gap



“Closing the gap is the ‘why’. It is the reason we do all of the above.”

**Mira Gobel**

*Principal, Pioneer Middle School*



One initiative Pioneer Middle School staff and students have developed is sending origami cranes to communities recovering from tragedy.

The school recently sent cranes to the mudslide impacted town of Oso and they plan to send them to South Korea in honor of the ferry accident victims. Japanese legend states these cranes bring eternal good luck.

## In other School Board meeting business...

### **Board members:**

- approved minutes from the April 15, 2014 regular board meeting, minutes from April 22, 2014 board executive session, personnel report, out-of-state travel, extracurricular contracts, May 6 accounts payable and April payroll, March financial report, Resolution No. 03-2014 Cancellation of Outstanding Warrants, and Revision: Board Policy 6512/Infectious Disease Control.

# Personnel Report

## Employment

(Certificated)

**Makena Busch**, English/CTE Teacher, Walla Walla High School

**Amber Davin**, Physical Education Specialist, Garrison Middle School

**Madison Dissmore**, Bilingual Elementary, Blue Ridge Elementary

**Spencer Hessler**, Physical Education Specialist, Lincoln High School

**Kate Keyes**, Bilingual Elementary, Sharpstein Elementary

**Bernard Ma**, Business Education, Walla Walla High School

**Richard Moro**, English, Walla Walla High School

**Tracy Williams**, K-12 Content and Technology Systems Coordinator, District Office

(Athletics)

**Kelsey Brennan**, Athletic Trainer, Walla Walla High School

**Victoria Reardon**, Athletic Trainer, Walla Walla High School

## Retirement/Resignation

(Certificated)

**Kathy Bense**, Special Education Preschool Coordinator, Special Education, 30 years

**Jody Busby**, Special Education, Blue Ridge Community Preschool, 1 year

(Classified)

**Dina Anderson**, Assistant Secretary, Walla Walla High School, 13 years

**Linda Barker**, Head Secretary, Lincoln High School, 23.5 years

**Yesenia Trujillo**, Intervention Specialist, Sharpstein Elementary, 1 year

## Out of State Travel

**Gay Buissink** to attend Advisors Institute, Journalism Education Association in Las Vegas, NV (Funding: Carl Perkins)

**Danae Darby** and **Shari Gehrett** to attend Smart Workshop in Minneapolis, MN (Funding: Ad Match)

**Conor Fish** and **John Golden** to attend Nike Championship Basketball Clinic in Las Vegas, NV (Funding: Coaches Professional Growth)

## Quote of the Week

“To break through creativity, we must defer judgment. That is, learn to accept all ideas, without prejudice, and examine them each in turn.”

Scott Isaksen

## Board calls for reconvening of Facilities Task Force *Group to study Walla Walla High School options*

The next steps for a bond to improve Walla Walla High School or any other district facility will begin with the reconvening of the district's Community Facilities Task Force. School board members during last night's meeting at Pioneer Middle School asked Superintendent **Mick Miller** to begin this process of bringing the group back together.

Superintendent Miller said the first task will be to contact existing members to see if they are willing to continue serving on the Task Force. Miller said the district will also recruit new members to better represent the diverse community of Walla Walla. Executive Director of Business Services **Ted Cohan** will co-chair this group.

Board members also will begin reviewing the district's Strategic Plan as the plan is set to expire in 2015. School board President **Anne Golden** asked fellow board members to become familiar with the existing plan and begin thinking about what direction the district should take regarding future strategic planning.

## End-of-Year Celebrations

### Lincoln High School Graduation

- Thursday, June 5 @ 6 p.m.
- WW Fairgrounds

### Wa-Hi Commencement

- Friday, June 6 @ 7 p.m.
- Wa-Hi Commons area  
(gym if raining)

### Pioneer MS 8th Grade Recognition

- Tuesday, June 10 @ 7 p.m.
- Wa-Hi Gym

### Garrison MS 8th Grade Recognition

- Wednesday, June 11 @ 7 p.m.
- Garrison MS Field

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