

Walla Walla Public Schools

10-10 Staff News



School Board Meeting Recap | December 16, 2014

Top Principal *Gardea earns regional distinguished honors*

Prospect Point Elementary Principal Chris Gardea was recently selected Distinguished Elementary Principal for the Lake Wallula Region for 2014. Assistant Superintendent Laure Quaresma presented his award last night.

Gardea is now eligible for the National Distinguished Principal award to be decided next Fall. Gardea has been Principal at Prospect Point since 2008.

Nominators said Chris Gardea has demonstrated integrity, leadership and a commitment to children. His nominators



Chris Gardea

went on to say he has experience with coordinating school-wide efforts and promoting instructional change through the implementation of the Common Core Standards with elementary math curriculum. Gardea is technology savvy and is an expert with Google for Education computer applications.

“Mr. Gardea is visionary, goal-oriented and focused on closing the achievement gap” said Quaresma. “Chris has outstanding communication skills and is adaptable and innovative in his thinking.”



Berney Elementary Music Teacher Elizabeth Jagelski leads the school's choral group in Holiday songs. School board members thanked the students and enjoyed the performance.

Board Meeting Highlights

■ APPROVED . . .

Minutes from the Nov. 18, 2014 board meeting, personnel report, out-of-state travel, extra-curricular & co-curricular contracts, Dec. 2 accounts payable and November payroll, Dec. 16 accounts payable, October financial report, November financial report and establishment of a SEA-TECH ASB.

■ New Concussion Policy . . .

School board members received for first reading: Board Policy 3422 Student Sports-Concussions and Head Injuries.

■ GESA Credit Union . . .

Executive Director of Business Services Ted Cohan reported to school board members the district is meeting with GESA Credit Union to discuss the possibility of opening a satellite branch at Walla Walla High School. GESA would also offer financial literacy classes, student work opportunities and banking support as part of the agreement. No decisions were made.

■ Board work session . . .

School board members discussed setting new measurable goals for the district targeted to academic achievement. District principals were in attendance to discuss how they use data to drive decisions. No new goals were approved Tuesday.

Excellence in Every Classroom

PERSONNEL REPORT

EMPLOYMENT ...

Classified:

JAMESON CLARK
Para-Educator (Temp) - Blue Ridge/Sharpstein

ROY LIGHTLE
Bus Driver - Transportation

DAVID PARKER
Bus Driver - Transportation

MADISON SNIDER
Para-Educator (temp) - Blue Ridge Preschool

Coaching:

MIKE PATTERSON
Head Boys' Golf Coach - Wa-Hi

RETIREMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

Certificated:

ROBERT MAIB | 33 YEARS | TEACHER
Industrial Arts - Wa-Hi (*effective 6/12/15)

RETIREMENTS/RESIGNATIONS ...

Classified:

TRULA MCFARLEY | 13 YEARS | PARA-EDUCATOR
Green Park Elementary

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Certificated:

ROBERT MAIB | 33 YEARS | TEACHER
* For remainder of the school year

Classified:

GUADALUPE FRAIRE | 22 YEARS | PARA-EDUCATOR
* Blue Ridge (Nov. 2014 to Feb. 2015 - exact date TBD)

OUT OF STATE TRAVEL

BRENT CUMMINGS to Beyond School Hours XVIII
Conference in Orlando, FL (Funding: Title II)

Quote of the Week

"The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet."

Aristotle

Ballet Folklorico

Successful fundraiser supports dance program



Shakespeare Walla Walla Executive Director Ron Williams presents a check for \$2200 to Board President Sam Wells and Ballet Folklorico coach Norma Arceo. The funds were raised through successful shows at the GESA Power House Theatre this fall in support of Hispanic Heritage Month. The funds will help purchase dresses and other equipment for the program.

Walla Walla Charter School

Pioneer Middle School teacher Dan Calzaretta reported to the school board last night his plan to start a Charter School in Walla Walla. He will spend next year planning for Willow Public Charter School for middle school students in grades 6-8.

Calzaretta has received a Fellowship Grant to provide funding for planning in anticipation of a September 2016 opening date. Calzaretta said he plans to target students who are not successful in the traditional school setting by offering smaller school class sizes and project based learning opportunities.

In November 2012, Washington voters approved Initiative 1240 which allows up to 40 public charter schools to be opened over a five-year period. Willow would be the first public charter school in Walla Walla.

Winter Break Holiday Schedule

- No School Dec. 22 to Jan. 2
- Classes resume Jan. 5