

Walla Walla Public Schools

10-10 Staff News



School Board Meeting Recap | May 5, 2015

Partners of the Year

Groups support district mission

Walla Walla Public Schools is proud to announce GESA Power House Theatre (Ron Williams, Executive Director), Legacy of Walla Walla (Ross Russell / Victor Vasquez), Kiwanis Club (Mike Powers), Carnegie Picture Lab (Tracy Thompson) and Nelson Irrigation (Craig Nelson) as the 2014-2015 Partners of the Year.

Walla Walla School District established Partners in Learning Month in May 2010. This month the district sent more than 130 proclamations and letters of recognition to our Partners in Learning.

"We so appreciate the businesses, organiza-



Sam Wells

tions and agencies who partner with the district throughout the year to support our students," said Sam Wells, School board president.

GESA Power House Theatre

- Arts in education

Legacy of Walla Walla

- Holiday Toy/M meal Drive

Kiwanis of Walla Walla

- Key Club

Carnegie Picture Lab

- Elementary Art instruction

Nelson Irrigation

- AVID and Athletics



Congratulations to this year's Partner of the Year recipients. Photo L to R: Sam Wells, Mike Powers, Ron Williams, Ross Russell, Victor Vasquez, Tracy Thompson and Bill Jordan.

Not present: Craig Nelson.

Board Meeting Highlights

■ **APPROVED . . .**

Minutes from the April 21, 2015 board meeting, personnel report, out-of-state travel, extra-curricular contracts, co-curricular contracts, issuance of certificated contracts and notifications of reasonable assurance, May 5 accounts payable and April payroll, and Resolution #03-2015 Delegating Authority to WIAA 2015-2016.

School board members also approved setting up an interview later this month with Dr. Dennis Ray of Northwest Leadership Associates to discuss hiring his firm for the Superintendent Search process. Board members also received for first reading Policy 4040 - Public Access to Records.

■ **Elementary Reading Program . . .**

Last night, elementary principals met with the school board to provide an update on the elementary reading program. The district uses a Three Tier approach with a variety of interventions. The schools have been busy aligning curriculum to the new Common Core State Standards.

■ **School in session Friday . . .**

All schools will be session Friday, May 8 as a snow make-up day. Thanks for your attention to this calendar change.

Excellence in Every Classroom

PERSONNEL REPORT

RETIREMENTS/RESIGNATIONS ...

Certificated:

JEANETTE ALVAREZ | 2 YEARS | SHARPSTEIN

First Grade Dual Language

GEORGI DELGADILLO | 5 YEARS | HOMELINK

Homelink teacher (Georgi was on leave in 14-15)

BETHANY KELLEY | 2 YEARS | SPECIAL EDUCATION

Speech Language Pathology

GREG MAY | 1 YEAR | BLUE RIDGE

Third Grade Teacher

JENNIFER MORASCH | 1 YEAR | BLUE RIDGE

Bilingual Kindergarten

KATIE REDAR | 2 YEARS | GARRISON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Special Education

KAREN SCOTT | 26 YEARS | WA-HI

Special Education

MARY LYNN THOMPSON | 24 YEARS | SPECIAL ED

Speech Language Pathologist

Quote of the Week

"Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself."

John Dewey

RETIREMENTS/RESIGNATIONS ...

Classified:

JULIAN OCANAZ | 2 YEARS | BLUE RIDGE

Kitchen Assistant

PATRICIA RAMOS | 1 YEAR | GARRISON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Para-Educator

NICOLE REDMAN | 2 YEARS | HOMELINK

Assistant Secretary

AMANDA PEREZ | 10 YEARS | PROSPECT POINT

Intervention Specialist

CHRISTIAN ZINK | 4 YEARS | BLUE RIDGE

Custodian

Leave of Absence:

CHRIS NEESE-BLACKMAN | 11 YEARS | SPECIAL EDUCATION

For the 2015-2016 school year

ANNE SWANT | 23 YEARS | LEARNING SPECIALIST

Anne will continue as a science teacher at Wa-Hi for the 2015-2016 school year

Teacher Appreciation Week May 4-8, 2015

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of our students!

Washington Scholars

Five Wa-Hi students receive honors



L-R Congratulations to Walla Walla High School students Madyson Gabriel, Brelynn Hess, and Emily Leinweber for being named Washington Scholars for Legislative District 16 by the Washington Student Achievement Council.

Not present: Courtney Cox and Sabine Vernon.

ThoughtExchange engagement study

This month the district is beginning a Community Engagement process to help shape the direction and priorities of the district over the next three years. Staff input is important throughout this process. Monday staff members will receive an email invitation to "Join the Conversation" through ThoughtExchange.

These thoughts are completely confidential and will help the district learn what it is doing well, where it can improve and what might be missing. Later in the month, staff will receive another email inviting you to review the comments we received from the first phase. You will then be asked to "star" the comments you agree with. ThoughtExchange will send email invitations in English and Spanish to all staff, parents and those who have signed up for the weekly Enews publication. Others who would like to participate, including students, may go to the district website to self-register.