

Walla Walla Public Schools

10-10 Staff News



School Board Meeting Recap | February 16, 2016

Green Park bus loop

District studies adding bus loop as part of Isaacs Ave construction project



Ted Cohan

Executive Director of Business Services Ted Cohan reported the district is considering taking advantage of the Isaacs Ave. construction project to add a bus loop on the south-side of Green Park Elementary. This would separate parent drop-off and pick-up from school buses and improve safety.

A similar bus loop was installed at Prospect Point and is working well. Ideally the project

would be completed in the summer of 2017 and be in place to start the 2017-2018 school year. The cost for the bus loop is approximately \$230,000. Below is a sketch of the proposed bus loop from Anderson Perry.

District officials will need to make a decision by May to meet the permitting and bid requirements timeline.



Bilingual Education Program study seeks program alignment

Earlier this school year a committee was formed to study the district's Bilingual Education program. The first inquiry phase of the Bilingual Education Program study involved district bilingual teachers, principals, bilingual coordinators, district office administration and a school board representative reviewing current Walla Walla Public Schools bilingual programs to determine if they were in alignment and to assess if student needs were being met.

This internal process focused on reviewing research for English language acquisition and determining which model would be used

across the district in the Bilingual Education Program. This review included looking at assessment data, documenting enrollment figures, assessing staffing models and researching effective bilingual education practices and programs.

The second phase of the study now shifts to involving parents and the community in understanding the findings and recommendations of the committee. The district will conduct public meetings to review program models, demographic data and steps being taken to ensure alignment in district Bilingual Education programs.

Board Meeting Highlights

APPROVED . . .

Minutes from the Feb. 2, 2016 board meeting and Feb. 4, 2016 executive session and special board meeting, personnel report, out-of-state travel, extracurricular athletic contracts, Feb. 16 accounts payable and January financial report.

March board meeting change . . .

The March 1 regularly scheduled school board meeting has been moved to Thursday, March 3 at 6:30 p.m. at the district office. The March 1 meeting date and time conflicted with Superintendent finalist interviews.

Minimum Fund Balance . . .

School board members conducted a first reading on Policy 6022 which calls for the district to maintain a General Fund balance reserve of 6 to 8 percent. This is a new policy recommended by WSSDA to help ensure financial stability.

Calendar revised (snow day) . . .

Winter weather forced the district to cancel school Dec. 4. Board members voted to revise the 2015-16 school year calendar. June 8 will now be a full day of school and Thursday, June 9 will serve as the snow make up day. This will be a half day for all students and the last day of school for the year.

Excellence in Every Classroom

PERSONNEL
REPORT

EMPLOYMENT ...

Certificated:

KRISTIN GLAESER | DRAMA .8 FTE (TEMP)
Walla Walla High School

Classified:

RICK PUMMEL | ASST. DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY
Technology Department

RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT

Certificated

NATALIE ALLEN -TIBBLING | LINCOLN HS - 24 YEARS
TINA BRENNAN | BLUE RIDGE - 6 YEARS
MILISSA GIERMAN | BERNEY - 17 YEARS
LYNN JUNKE | PIONEER MS - 13 YEARS
KAREN LEIER | GREEN PARK - 22 YEARS

RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT

Certificated

TERRY MORGAN | SHARPSTEIN - 26 YEARS
GARY PEASLEY | WA-HI - 34 YEARS
JUDY PEASLEY | EDISON - 32 YEARS
CAROLYN PEMBERTON | WA-HI - 11 YEARS
SCOTT TIBBLING | WA-HI - 30 YEARS
JOSH WHEATLEY | OPPORTUNITY - 3 YEARS
Classified
EUNICE DEWITT | GREEN PARK - 22 YEARS

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Classified

JAZMIN ORNELAS | ASST. SECRETARY, EDISON, 2 YRS
- For the 2016-2017 school year

OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

- Forrest Baker to attend Technology Conference in Welches, OR (Funding: Technology)
- Kelsey Brennan to attend NW Athletic Trainers Association Annual Meeting in Boise, ID (Funding: 21st Century)
- Jeremy Gradwohl and Aron Wulf to attend BOOST Conference in Palm Springs, CA (Funding: 21st Century)
- Brent Cummings to attend BMX Summit in Las Vegas, NV (Funding: 21st Century)

Quote of the Week

“What sculpture is to a block of marble
education is to the human soul.”

Joseph Addison

Board Adopt-a-School
School assignments for 2016

Dr. David Hampson

- Garrison Middle School
- Green Park Elementary
- Opportunity

Ruth Ladderud

- Lincoln High School
- Preschool
- Sharpstein Elementary

Cindy Meyer

- Berney Elementary
- Blue Ridge Elementary

Derek Sarley

- Edison Elementary
- Pioneer Middle School

Sam Wells

- Prospect Point Elementary
- SEA-TECH
- Walla Walla High School

School board members will attend special events and report highlights during school board meetings on activities at these schools.

Semi-finalist candidates interviews

Walla Walla Public Schools Board of Directors will interview seven semi-finalist candidates to compete for the open superintendent position. The semi-finalist candidates will conduct interviews with the school board Wednesday, Feb. 17 and Thursday, Feb. 18 in the Anne Golden Boardroom. The school board will narrow the field of semi-finalist candidates to three finalist candidates Friday.

The Walla Walla School Board will then conduct finalist candidates interviews Feb. 29, March 1 and 2. Public meetings will be held Feb. 29, March 1 and 2 at 5 p.m. at the district office (364 S. Park St.) for community members to learn more about the candidates and share their feedback. Superintendent Dr. Bill Jordan is retiring June 30. The new superintendent will begin July 1.