

# Walla Walla Public Schools 10-10 Staff News



School Board Meeting Recap | February 27, 2018

## Budget Planning

*McCleary decision prompts district to set aside funds to compensate for loss of local levy revenue*

Legislation approved last summer to address fully funding public education per the McCleary decision is impacting local budget development, according to Superintendent Wade Smith during last night's General Fund Budget planning update.

Walla Walla Public Schools set aside \$1 million from its 2017-2018 General Fund budget to address an anticipated budget shortfall in 2018-2019 when local levy rates are mandated to drop from \$3.50 per \$1,000 assessed valuation to \$1.50/\$1,000 per the new legislation.

Another legislative change impacting state revenue to local districts is the elimination of staff mix ratio formulas. Districts like Walla Walla, with a higher percentage of veteran teachers on staff, are feeling the pinch since



Wade Smith

*"McCleary has been a win for local taxpayers by significantly lowering property tax rates in 2019, but districts with high levy rates and experienced teachers like Walla Walla are trying to figure out how to cover current and future costs."*

### Wade Smith, Superintendent

the state no longer accounts for districts with a larger population of experienced teachers. Smith reported the opening of Willow Public Charter School this fall will also equate to less revenue the district will have to operate during the 2018-2019 school year and beyond. Superintendent Smith said the district will need to dip into its reserves next year, but revenue forecasts are expected to level out in the coming years.

## Energy audit anticipates efficiency improvements with bond

Facilities projects for the anticipated November 2018 bond proposal will help improve energy efficiency, reduce maintenance costs and improve classroom comfort, according to an Energy Audit completed by the Wenaha Group. Last night results of the audit were reported to school board members. Renovations of Walla Walla High School, Pioneer Middle School and Lincoln High School are the major projects being proposed for improvement. Each of these schools will have new energy efficient heating and cooling systems, modern LED lighting systems, improved windows, more insulation and other features to enhance energy efficiency. The November 2018 bond proposal packages also include critical energy efficiency projects at other district schools.

## Board Meeting Highlights

### APPROVED . . .

Minutes from the Feb. 6, 2018 regular business meeting and Feb. 6, 2018 executive session, personnel report, extracurricular athletic contracts, Feb. 20 accounts payable and January financial report.

### Education Support Professionals Week March 12-16, 2018 . . .

Education support professionals were recognized during last night's school board meeting. March 12-16 is Education Support Professionals Week and Superintendent Wade Smith read a proclamation from Governor Jay Inslee. The proclamation honors education support professionals as instrumental in fulfilling the state's responsibility to educate all students.

### Enrollment Report . . .

February enrollment count is 5700 FTE and is on target with 2017-18 budget projections.

### Ending Fund Balance Report . . .

The district is on target to end the 2017-2018 budget year within the board approved minimum fund balance parameters of 6 to 8 percent. The district fund balance for this year reflects a \$1 million set aside for next year's budget as the district takes a proactive approach to addressing the McCleary decision rollout.

Developing Washington's Most Sought-After Graduates

PERSONNEL  
REPORT

**EMPLOYMENT . . .**

**Certificated:**

TYLER COMSTOCK | SPEECH LANG PATH | SPECIAL ED  
CHAD PATTERSON | SPECIAL ED | GARRISON MS

**RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT . . .**

**Certificated:**

JERRY QUARESMA | OPPORTUNITY | WA-HI, 20 YRS

**Classified:**

SYLVIA ESPARZA | ASST. SEC. | PIONEER MS, 6 MONTHS  
KERRI FINKBINER | HEALTH CLIN | SHARPSTEIN, 13 YRS  
ANALIZETH PESQUEIRA | INTERV. SP. | BERNEY, 4 YRS

**Quote of the Week**

“Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can become great.”

Mark Twain

**National Board**

*Local teachers earn national certification*

Last night, School Board members recognized 10 outstanding educators for earning their National Board Certification. The certification process assesses subject knowledge, communication skills, management of student learning and professional learning community involvement.

Congratulations to this year’s recipients: Kelsee Anderson, Kimberly Butenhoff, Kristen Garcia, Stephanie Gomsrud, Ashley Goss, Jamie Kemano, Julie Laufenburg, Caroline Lujan, Sara Pinkerton and Refugio Reyes. Barb Casey and Michelle Carpenter serve as program advisors.



**High School activities update**

Walla Walla High School student Maddie Kralman reported on the successful Winter Wish program and Conspiracy of Hope. Prom is this weekend, Every 15 Minutes is in March and Mr. Wa-Hi is in April.

**School Board Approves Policies**

- 2021 - Library Information & Technology Programs
- 2104 - Federal and/or State Funded Special Instructional Programs
- 2106 - Program Compliance
- 2125 - Sexual Health Education
- 2126 - HIV-AIDS Prevention Education
- 2150 - Co-Curricular Program
- 2151 - Interscholastic Activities
- 2409 - Credit for Competency/Proficiency
- 3115 - Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights & Services
- 3144 - Release of Info Concerning Student Sexual & Kidnapping Offenders (NEW)
- 3530 - Fundraising Involving Students
- 5000 - Recruitment & Selection of Staff
- 5050 - Contracts
- 5222 - Job-Sharing Staff Members
- 5270 - Resolution of Staff Complaints
- 5400 - Personnel Leaves
- 5406 - Leave Sharing (NEW)
- 6102 - District Fundraising Activities
- 6112 - Rental or Lease of District Property
- 6114 - Gifts or Donations
- 6215 - Voucher Certification & Approval
- 6881 - Disposal of Surplus Equip and/or Materials
- 6910 - Construction Financing
- 6920 - Construction Design
- 6921 - Educational Specifications (REMOVE)
- 6950 - Contractor Assurances, Surety Bonds, Insurance & Change Orders
- 6957 - Change Orders (REMOVE)
- 6959 - Acceptance of Completed Project

**Public invited to November 2018 bond planning informational meeting**

- Thursday, March 1
  - Wa-Hi Commons (800 Abbott Road)
  - Food/Social: 5:30-6 p.m. / Program: 6 to 7 p.m.
- Learn more about the projects proposed for improvement and share your input.