

## Stories this week include:

### District Stories

- Special Board Meeting - Oct. 25
- Reser Road paving delayed
- District nets 7000 pounds for local food drive
- Personnel Report (from the October 18, 2011 school board meeting)
- Community members visit Lincoln and Walla Walla High Schools
- School Board Meetings (January – August 2012)
- Citizens for Schools Meeting - Thursday, Oct. 27
- Special education program offers vast services
- Calendar Committee reviewing options
- Retired Educators Association announces scholarship opportunity
- District partners with The Moms' Network for free Parent Workshop Series

### School Stories

- Pioneer Middle School event helps break down social barriers
- Debate team plans car wash Sunday afternoon
- Selah educators visit Walla Walla to study Response to Intervention
- Senior photos for yearbook due today
- Choral Department presents "Music of the Civil War Era"
- Walla Walla High School students participate in annual Home Stay program
- Garrison Middle School students attend leadership camp
- Trunk-or-Treat offers safe and fun Halloween experience

### Community Stories

- Community Council Full Circle Celebration
- Friends of the Library present the "Books and Baubles" sale
- Walla Walla Police Department plans Prescription Pill Take Back event

## District Stories

### Special Board Meeting - Oct. 25

- Tuesday, Oct. 25
- 6:30 p.m.
- District Office Board Room
- Agenda: Replacement Levy rate, date and duration
- Open to the public

### Reser Road paving delayed

Contractors will delay paving Reser Road from Fern Avenue to the Yellowhawk bridge until Tuesday, Oct. 25, according to a report Tuesday night from Walla Walla County Project Coordinator Aaron Grimm.

Paving was originally scheduled for Thursday and today. Grimm also said the road will be closed for traffic Tuesday, Oct. 25 so there will be no access to the south parking lot at Walla Walla High School. Upon completion of this phase of paving, contractors will focus efforts west of the Yellowhawk Bridge to Howard Street. Grimm said the intersection at Howard and Reser Road near Prospect Point will be closed for up to two weeks during this phase of the project.

Grimm said he will work with the school district to inform parents and the community once a date is set to close this intersection. Alternate detour routes have been established and maps will be available. A completion date remains projected for early December 2011, according to Grimm.

### District nets 7000 pounds for local food drive

The district's partnership with the Realtors Association Care and Share Food Drive was very successful as the district helped bring in more than 7000 pounds of food. Food Drive Coordinator Peter Swant said he was very impressed with the district's effort and looks forward to continuing the partnership for years to come. Food barrel collections at each school will remain active until the end of the month.

Special thanks to Lincoln High School teacher Lori Finn for coordinating the "Fill the Bus" event and Walla Walla High School teacher Shelley Mann for organizing the food collections during Wa-Hi football games. These dedicated staff helped make this year's food drive a tremendous success.

### Food Drive by the numbers:

- Fill the Bus activity: 4636 lbs (up 500 lbs from last year)
- Borleske Stadium Truck at football games (2557 lbs)
- Total Food Drive thus far: 32,057 lbs (preliminary grand total - final totals coming soon)

### Personnel Report (from the October 18, 2011 school board meeting)

#### Employment

(Certificated) NONE TO REPORT

(Classified) NONE TO REPORT

#### Resignation/Retirement

(Classified)

Susan Morasch, High School Bookkeeper, 25.5 years

- Effective January 31, 2012

#### Leave of Absence

(Classified)

Rebecca Wilson, Para-Educator, Head Start/ECEAP Program (16.5 years)

- January through March 2012 to complete her student teaching

**Community members visit Lincoln and Walla Walla High Schools**

Superintendent Mick Miller continued his Superintendent's Patron Tour program Thursday. Guests visited Walla Walla and Lincoln High Schools as part of the program.

Miller's goal with the program is to build relationships, learn about each other and listen. Patron Tour guests met with Superintendent Miller, toured schools and concluded with lunch and a debriefing. If you are interested in participating in an upcoming Patron Tour, contact Communications Director Mark Higgins: 509.526.6716 or by email: [mhiggins@wwps.org](mailto:mhiggins@wwps.org)

October 20 Patron Tour Guests:

Yesenia Guevara  
Alan Feistner  
Glenn Matlock  
Tracy Thompson  
Anita Suarez  
Michelle Vine  
Mary Lou Jenkins  
Nate Liening  
Dixie Liening  
Veronica Sandau  
Julia Leavitt  
Brad Taylor  
Coralee Mackey  
Kristin Kuzmin

Upcoming Superintendent's Patron Tours

- Thursday, January 19  
- Thursday, March 22  
- Time: 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon  
- Location: District Office (364 S. Park St.)  
- Tour Sharpstein Elementary, Walla Walla High School and Lincoln High School  
- Lunch with Superintendent Miller

**School Board Meetings (*January – August 2012*)**

Tuesday, January 17 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 7 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 21 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 6 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 20 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 17 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 1 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 15 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 5 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 19 - 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 17 - 4 p.m.

Tuesday, August 21 - 4 p.m.

*Meeting times noted above, unless changed by the Board. Additional meetings may be scheduled as necessary.*

### **Citizens for Schools Meeting - Thursday, Oct. 27**

Citizens for Schools chairs Peter Swant and Shauna Bogley are scheduling a Walla Walla Citizens for Schools meeting Thursday, Oct. 27 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Whitman College in Memorial Room 328. This meeting is open to the public.

The mission of this non-profit, community organization is to ensure Walla Walla Public Schools have the resources and support necessary to provide essential educational programs and activities to Walla Walla children. Bogley and Swant will focus their attention on the district's 2012 Replacement Levy. Their efforts will help educate the community on the levy — which funds nearly 20 percent of the district's general fund budget.

#### Citizens for Schools Meeting:

- Thursday, Oct. 27
- Whitman College Memorial Building - Room 328
- 6:30 to 8 p.m.
- Front door will be open
- Those wishing to volunteer are encouraged to attend

### **Special education program offers vast services**

*Nearly 800 students receive local Special Education services*

New Special Education Director Dr. Karen Lehman briefed school board members on the district's program during Tuesday night's school board meeting. Lehman has more than 30 years experience in all aspects of Special Education and reported she is pleased to see the quality program available for Walla Walla students.

Lehman provided a brief history on special education linking back to the implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) in 1975-76. She said this is a United States federal law that governs how states and public agencies provide early intervention and special education services. Walla Walla Public Schools is currently serving 785 students in the Special Education program. Students range in age from Birth to 21.

Most students, currently 701, are in the district's K-21 program. Thirty-six are enrolled in the Birth to Three program and 48 are in the Special Education Preschool program located at Blue Ridge Elementary. Funding and delivery of service for Special Education is based on 14 categories.

Lehman praised her staff for their professionalism and dedication for providing quality service to all students. She said funding limitations continue to be a challenge. She said her department staff are working on a five-year plan to help chart the future. She said she is thrilled to be in Walla Walla.

### **Calendar Committee reviewing options**

Superintendent Mick Miller sent members of the district's Calendar Committee options for the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 school years. These options were developed from priorities established during the October 12 meeting by committee members. Committee members will now share these options with their contacts to get feedback. Walla Walla Public Schools teachers will provide feedback to WWVEA president Margo Piver and the district's classified staff will brief PSE President Bill Heiser on their thoughts and ideas.

Miller has scheduled the next meeting for Wednesday, Nov. 2 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the district office. He hopes to take a recommendation to the school board prior to the winter break.

If you would like to share your ideas or priorities regarding the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 school year calendars, contact Superintendent Miller at 526-6714 or [mmiller@wwps.org](mailto:mmiller@wwps.org) or Communications Director Mark Higgins at 526-6716 or [mhiggins@wwps.org](mailto:mhiggins@wwps.org).

### **Retired Educators Association announces scholarship opportunity**

- (Two) \$1000 scholarship from the Walla Walla-Columbia County Retired School Employees Association
- Given to prospective teachers or candidates in other school related fields who will student teach or do an internship experience in an educational setting
- Applicants must be a high school graduate in Walla Walla or Columbia County
- Student teach/internship between September 2012 and June 2013
- Applications available November 1, 2011 and must be submitted by April 1, 2012
- Contact: Mardel Bierwagen at: 525-6117 or [gbierwagen6117@charter.net](mailto:gbierwagen6117@charter.net)

### **District partners with The Moms' Network for free Parent Workshop Series**

#### Your Child's Health

- Wednesday, November 9 @ 7 p.m.
- YMCA
- Dr. Trent Rogers, Pediatrician, Walla Walla Clinic
- Free child care and translation services available

Reserve your spot by contacting Beth Swanson at 509.301.7471 or [beth@themomsnetworkww.com](mailto:beth@themomsnetworkww.com)

## **School Stories**

### **Pioneer Middle School event helps break down social barriers**

Pioneer Middle School 6th grade in Kim Gradwohl's Advisory Class performed a "Flash Mob Dance" during lunch Tuesday afternoon as part of National Mix it Up at Lunch event. A national campaign launched by Teaching Tolerance a decade ago, Mix It Up at Lunch Day encourages students to identify, question and cross social boundaries.

Pioneer students grabbed chewing gum from a can as they entered the cafeteria and then sat with students who had the same color of gum. This is just one activity aligned with the school's Where Everyone Belongs or WEBs program. This peer mentoring program matches 8th grade students with sixth graders to provide additional support and enhance relationships. Assistant Principal Jack Mehn reported sixth grade attendance and achievement are up and discipline and behavior issues are down since implementing WEBs. He said the program is based on research and proven practices.

### **Debate team plans car wash Sunday afternoon**

It is late in the season and the street is all torn up, but despite the obstacles the Debate Club is excited to be holding its first Car Wash. It will be Sunday, October 23 from 1-4 p.m. at the Elk's parking lot on Rose Street. Funds will help pay for registration fees for debate tournaments.

### **Selah educators visit Walla Walla to study Response to Intervention**

Selah Junior High's Student Service Team recently visited Garrison to investigate the school's Response to Intervention programs. The visit was designed to show the Selah educators what is happening in Walla Walla so they can implement similar practices in their school. They reviewed the programs, philosophy and rationales in place at Garrison before visiting classrooms. They indicated there is a strong chance they will send a team of teachers back to Garrison Middle School in the near future to learn more.

### **Senior photos for yearbook due today**

Senior photos are due for the Walla Walla High School Yearbook Friday, October 21. Print or digital photos are accepted.

#### Size requirements:

- 2" x 3" Portrait orientation
- Digital, 300 ppi resolution is required

Photos may be delivered to Wa-Hi's main office or sent electronically to [kdebroeck@wwps.org](mailto:kdebroeck@wwps.org).

### **Choral Department presents “Music of the Civil War Era”**

The Walla Walla High School Choral Department will present a Fall Concert on Thursday, October 27 at 7 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. The program will feature “Music of the Civil War Era.” Music will include African-American Spirituals, folk songs and songs of war and remembrance. Compositions include Stephen Foster’s “Nelly Bly,” “Battle Hymn of the Republic,” “Ride On, King Jesus,” Johnny Has Gone for a Soldier,” “Tenting on the Old Campground,” “Shenandoah,” “Ride the Chariot,” “Goober Peas,” and “The Drinking Gourd.” Violinist Emily Schueller will be featured on “The Ashokan Farewell.”

Choirs will include the Concert Choir, Chansons, Chamber Singers, Treble Ensemble, and Wa-Hi’s newest ensemble: Belles Voix (French for “Beautiful Voice”). This group is comprised of 16 junior and senior young women. This program will also feature some singers from the community. The choirs are under the direction of Norbert Rossi and accompanied by Melissa Cadieux.

### **Walla Walla High School students participate in annual Home Stay program**

Nine students from Walla Walla High School participated in the annual Home Stay program conducted by the Walla Walla-Sasayama Sister City Affiliation Committee. Participants were senior Devon Pellham, freshmen Colton Jordan, Jordana Storm, Mitchell Huffman, Tanya Esquivel, Aaron Enriquez, Colleen Gibbons, Reid Magnaghi, and Manuel Aguilar. Paige Palmer, a senior from Touchet High School made up the ten member delegation. Students were chaperoned by four adults, Kim Hays, Dustin Palmer, Reggie Gonzalez and Robert Keatts.

The Walla Walla-Sasayama Sister City Affiliation Committee conducts the two week home stay program each year to afford area students the opportunity to learn about the culture and customs of Japan and to build goodwill and friendship with our sister city Sasayama, Hyogo, Japan. Students home stay with a family, eat their food, and sleep in their house.

Parents of students interested in participating in the 2012 Home Stay program can contact Robert Keatts by telephone at 525-0049 or email [robert\\_wwscc@yahoo.com](mailto:robert_wwscc@yahoo.com). Recruitment for more information. Deadline for registration is Dec. 31, 2011.

### **Garrison Middle School students attend leadership camp**

Garrison Middle School Associated Student Body and National Junior Honor Society officers and their advisors Nichole Riggs and Jami Eggart recently attended a three day leadership event at Camp Cispus near Randle, WA. Students participated in seminars and activities to learn about leadership styles, communication and decision making techniques and sensitivity to others.

### **Trunk-or-Treat offers safe and fun Halloween experience**

- Trunk-or-Treat is sponsored by Key Club
- Trunk-or-Treat from cars that Wa-Hi clubs have decorated
- Monday, October 31 from 5 to 7 p.m.
- Wa-Hi Science Parking lot
- Haunted Barn sponsored by FFA
- Admission is two cans of food for donation to the Christian Aid Center Food Bank

## Community Stories

### Community Council Full Circle Celebration

- Tuesday, November 8
- Noon to 1:15 p.m.
- Marcus Whitman Hotel
- Cost: \$40 per person
- Program: Saluting Walla Walla Valley's 1st Cycle of Community Enhancements. Keynote speaker - Robert Zagelow
- Tickets and Information: 509.540.6720

### Friends of the Library present the "Books and Baubles" sale

- October 27-29 (Thursday - Saturday)
- 1 to 5 p.m.
- Walla Walla Public Library Board Room (228 E. Alder)
- More than 50 autographed books from a nationally known author available
- Premium candy, candles and special blend coffee
- Profits help support the Walla Walla Public Library

### Walla Walla Police Department plans Prescription Pill Take Back event

The City of Walla Walla Police Department is partnering with American West Bank for the Prescription Take Back Day / Shred Event Saturday, October 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Location: American West Parking lot at 3rd and Rose St (across from City Hall 15 N. 3rd)

- Drive up and Drop off service...
- Drugs accepted NO questions asked!
- No needles, sharps or syringes!
- No mercury thermometers!
- No oxygen containers!
- No pressured canisters!
- No chemotherapy/radioactive substances!

Vicki Ruley, Crime Prevention Coordinator/Crime Victim Advocate  
509-524-4409