

10-10 Staff News

School Board Meeting Recap »

March 15, 2022

Social Emotional Learning *Supporting the needs of all students*

Last night Executive Director of Teaching and Learning Christy Krutulis, Mental Health Specialist Kristen Duede, Lead Behavior Specialist Jennifer Matson and Prospect Point Elementary Counselor Hannah Webber provided school board members an annual update on Goal 3 of the Strategic Plan.

They also reported how the district is targeting a significant portion of the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds to help students recover from the pandemic.

Krutulis says the focus of Social Emotional Learning (SEL) is establishing a process through which students learn skills to develop self-awareness, emotional regulation, responsible decision making and relationships.

Goal 3 of the district's Strategic Plan addresses meeting the social and emotional needs of students by implementing high quality behavior models and interventions to support these needs. This need was clearly articulated by staff during the outreach phase of developing the strategic plan. School board members approved investing additional resources to bolster Social Emotional Learning Teams by expanding behavior and mental health support at the district and school levels. A key component of the district's pandemic recovery plan was adding certified counselors at all elementary schools. Counselors visit



Christy Krutulis
Teaching & Learning

"We have intentionally focused on social emotional learning through district and building SEL teams, school counselors and Sources of Strength. Our success in providing this focus is reflected in this year's survey data and a strong increase in our students' sense of belonging."

Christy Krutulis

Executive Dir Teaching & Learning

classrooms to deliver SEL curriculum and provide other student supports. Another pandemic recovery strategy implemented this year is expanding Sources of Strength suicide prevention programming.

Annual survey data shows students feel they belong on campus and staff and parents feel more supported.

Board Meeting Highlights

APPROVED »

Minutes from the March 1, 2022 regular study meeting, personnel report, extracurricular athletic contracts, March 15 accounts payable, February financial report, rescind imprest accounts and asset preservation annual report.

COVID-19 UPDATE »

Health Services Director Amy Ruff reported Monday's first day of optional mask wearing for staff and students went smoothly. Cases remain low. The WWPS Dashboard has six students and one staff member within their 10 day isolation period. WWPS testing positivity rate is 0% over the past seven days and WW County's positivity rate is 1.4% with three hospitalized.

BUDGET/ENROLLMENT »

Fiscal Services Director Nancy Taylor reported the Ending Fund Balance is slightly below board targets of 6 to 8 percent. She expects it to rebound by the end of the year to 7%. Board members reviewed state funding projections and staffing formulas in preparation of developing the 2022-23 General Fund budget.

HS STUDENT REPORT »

Last night Walla Walla High School Senior Rachel Clark, who serves as the school's liaison to the school board, reported students are planning for prom, Conspiracy of Hope and elections.

BLUE ZONES REPORT »

Last night Meghan DeBolt presented on the Blue Zones Project. She discussed the partnership with the school district to support healthy lifestyles for staff and students.

Education Support Professionals Week

Superintendent Dr. Wade Smith honored classified staff for Education Support Professionals Week March 14-18, 2022.

Approximately 390 education support professionals work with and help students throughout Walla Walla Public Schools. These staff members work to maintain school buildings and grounds, provide administrative support, prepare and serve meals, provide safe transportation, keep school facilities clean and safe, assist in the

classrooms, provide information technology and media services and more.



EMPLOYMENT ...

Certificated:

ANGELA JOHNSTON, SPEC ED (22-23), WA-HI

Classified:

NORMA ARCEO, PARA-EDUCATOR, EDISON

ITZEL SALAZAR, 21ST CENTURY SITE COORDINATOR (TEMP), GREEN PARK

RESIGNATION/RETIREMENTS ...

Administration:

LIZ CAMPEAU, HUMAN RESOURCES, 16 YEARS

Certificated:

JEFFREY TOWNSEND, SEATECH, 7 YEARS

Classified:

SASHA AUSTIN, WWCCF, 3 YEARS

KAITLYN TOOMEY, GREEN PARK, 1 YEAR

HERACLIO TORRES, GREEN PARK, 12 YEARS

Quote of the Week

"Education is the kindling of a flame, not the filling of a vessel."
Socrates

Top Three in State Recognition

Last night, outstanding students and school teams that have placed in the top three in state championships this winter were recognized. These students, coaches and advisors support the WWPS mission and model the district's vision of Developing Washington's Most Sought-After Graduates.

3A Boys Wrestling (Jacob Butenhoff, Coach)

- Mateo Caso (3rd Place - 145lbs)
- Jake Humphrey (2nd Place - 170lbs)

3A Girls Bowling (Jason Postlewait, Coach)

- Kaitlynn Beuck (3rd Place with a score of 760)

3A Cheerleading (Morgan Arreola, Coach) (3rd Place)

- o Lauren Ewoniuk
- o Lola Ewoniuk
- o Gabi Reyna-Marie
- o Bianca Olmos
- o Sophia Walters
- o Marisa Fullen
- o Grace Miller
- o Kendra Kelly
- o Ally Beuck
- o Tazie Betzler

JROTC (SFC Mark Mebes, Rifle Team Coach)

Cassidy Hanson

- 1st Place JROTC Western Regional Rifle Championship

Tristan Scott

- 1st Place Junior Olympic Men's Air Rifle
- 1st Place Junior Olympic Men's Three Position Air Rifle

Music (Roger Garcia, District Music Director)

All-State

- Caleb Wagner
- Sofia Groff
- Ember Richardson

Western International Band Clinic

- Suzanne Nicault
- Aaron Christopherson

Bond Update - March Progress Report

Last night Superintendent Dr. Wade Smith provided an update on the district's bond program. The bond program reached another significant milestone Monday with the opening of the new kitchen at Walla Walla High School in the fully remodeled and expanded Commons. Staff and students were treated to more than a dozen entrees for lunch, free ice cream and giveaway items. Music filled the air as students enjoyed their time together with their classmates eating nutritious meals.

Contractors are roofing the Wa-Hi academic building and framed in the new entrance off Abbott Road. The original music building is well on its way to being the school's new drama facility. Excavators are moving dirt for the new parking lot near the track and all the portables have been sold and will be removed in June. At Pioneer MS, look for the exterior of the gym to get finished next and the grounds to be cleaned up and landscaped. Progress continues at the historic Lincoln HS as the project remains on schedule to open this fall.

