



WWPS DISTRICT UPDATE

Winter 2020

Dr. Wade Smith, Superintendent of Schools



Walla Walla Public Schools
Developing Washington's Most Sought-After Graduates

@bondwwps
#deliveringonourpromise

District at-a-glance

- Est. 1857
- By the Numbers
 - 5,800 students
 - 60% F & R lunch
 - 46% Diversity
- \$86M General Fund Budget
- Employ about 800 total personnel
 - 3rd largest employer in the region
- Maintain 1.0 Million square feet of facilities, 200 acres of campus, and host thousands of events every year across our 13 sites



2017-2022 Strategic Plan



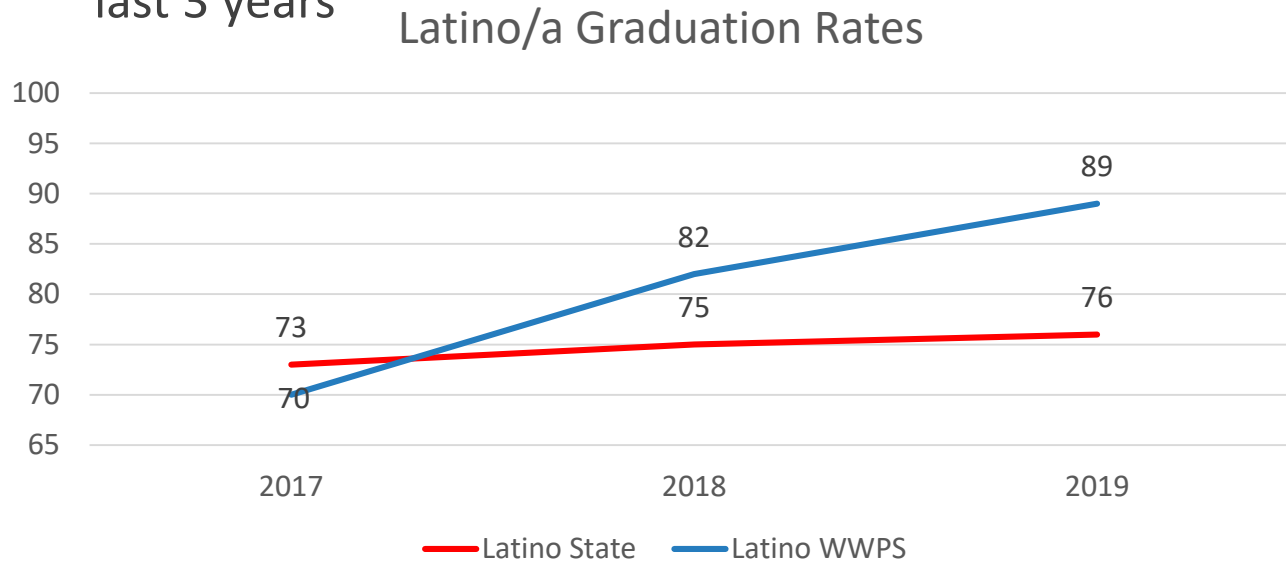
Four Goals:

1. High Quality Instruction
2. Aligned and Coherent Systems
3. Social and Emotional Needs
4. Safe and Engaging Environment



School District Success

- Graduation Rates Soar!
 - State 81%, WWPS over 90%, up 11% in last 4 years
- Latino/a Graduation Gap Closed
 - State Latino/a 76%, WWPS Latino/a 89%, up 19% in last 3 years



School District Success

■ ACT Scores Up

- .6 composite increase from last year, 2nd highest ever
- Highest ever for Latino students (1.3 increase and surpassing the state!)

■ EL and Sped Performance Up

- EL “Exit Status” up 3% and surpassing the state for the first time in years
- SPED math/ELA performance revealing unprecedented growth

■ District-wide Improvement

- Improvement in ELA and Math SBA scores (although work remains)
- Science scores continue to exceed the state

■ Engaged and Involved Students

- Elimination of fees results in unprecedented student involvement in extra, co-curricular, and elective opportunities

■ School Board Recognized

- 2nd consecutive year receiving the prestigious Board of Distinction Award

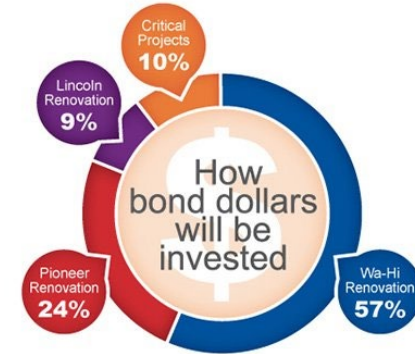


Jeannette C. Hayner Park



School Bond Update

- \$65.6M Local + \$52.6M State Match = \$118M
- Renovate WaHi, Pioneer & Lincoln
- Safety/Security and Critical Roof, HVAC & Energy Efficiency Upgrades



Delivering on Our Promise

- Don't tear it down if you can preserve it
- Make efforts to keep money local
 - Over \$10M already awarded to 20 Walla Walla companies



- Improve safety and security
 - Summer 2019 access control and security improvements
- Accountability and transparency
 - Bond Oversight Committee
 - Monthly bond budget dashboard reports
 - Participate in selection and procurement processes

Accountability & Transparency

We Listened to Our Community.

» Excess Funds

Any remaining funds will be used to pay down debt and reduce the rate for taxpayers.

» State Match

All State Match funds will only be applied to Wa-Hi, Pioneer Middle School and Lincoln High School projects.

» Feedback

Public input drives Facilities Task Force to unanimously propose No Tax Rate Increase replacement bond proposal.

» Renovation vs. Demolition

Preserve historic schools while meeting classroom needs.

» Keep Money Local

Through intentional project phasing, delivery methods, and careful programming, WWPS will make every effort to maximize the opportunity for local contractor/vendor involvement.

» Bond Oversight

A 11-member Independent Bond Oversight Committee has been established to monitor bond spending.



New Science Building

- 18,000 sq ft facility
- 8 identical fully-functional laboratory classrooms
- 4 science prep rooms
- Architecture to match existing campus
- Energy efficient heating/cooling systems
- High ceilings
- Natural light design considerations





**WALLA WALLA CENTER
FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES**
WHERE OPPORTUNITY, ACCESS, AND ENGAGEMENT MEET



Center Development

- Following eight months of study, stakeholder engagement and research, the Walla Walla Public Schools' Board of Directors reached a unanimous decision in October 2019 to re-purpose Blue Ridge Elementary School into a regional early learning center for children and families effective the 2020-21 school year

Why Does Walla Walla Need Such a Facility?

- Numerous community studies, alarming statistics/trends and overwhelming community-wide support point to the need for a comprehensive early learning center for families and youth.
 - Less than 25% of incoming kindergarten students prepared in Walla Walla, nearly half the state-wide average, and one of the lowest in the entire region.
 - Nearly 2/3rds of incoming kindergarten students lack availability to formal early learning experience/exposure in the Walla Walla region.

Center for Children and Families (CCF) Priority Focus Areas and Services

3 Core Focus Areas:

- State-funded 4-yr old preschool for those who lack access
 - Focusing heavily on social/emotional and discovery-based learning
- Birth-age 3 services for students and families
- Hub/center for ALL families
 - Parent resources/training
 - Access to community resources
 - Extended day, weekend, summer opportunities
 - Community partnerships



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Walla Walla Public Schools

Developing Washington's Most Sought-After Graduates

Replacement Education Levy | Election Date: February 11, 2020



This is a...

**REPLACEMENT
EDUCATION LEVY**

not a bond to
build facilities.

Learn more at:
www.wwps.org

Replacement Levy

The following educational programs and services will continue to be funded by this Replacement Education Levy.



February Replacement Levy

- Wait, didn't we just pass a big levy?
- Wait, I thought the state fully funded schools with the McCleary decision?



February Replacement Levy



Levy = Learning Bond = Building

Levies are different than bonds. Levies pay for educational programs and opportunities for students the state does not fund. Bonds are used for the construction of new schools, major building remodels or major facility upgrades.

Summary of 2020 Levy Proposal

2021 - \$11.01M (projected rate \$2.50 per \$1,000)
 2022 - \$11.29M (projected rate \$2.50 per \$1,000)
 2023 - \$11.57M (projected rate \$2.50 per \$1,000)
 2024 - \$11.86M (projected rate \$2.50 per \$1,000)

These rates are based on per \$1,000 of assessed property value.

Replacement Levy

The following educational programs and services will continue to be funded by this Replacement Education Levy.

LEVY EXPENDITURES

Expenditure	Total	%
Approximately 40 Teachers (e.g. Music, Art, Drama, PE, AP/Honors)	\$3,534,951	32%
School Health Clinicians	\$453,363	4%
School Safety	\$288,930	3%
Highly Capable Program	\$205,535	2%
Extra-Curricular/Athletics/Clubs	\$1,488,352	14%
School Intervention Specialists	\$800,855	7%
Special Education/Psychology Services	\$560,051	5%
Facility Maintenance/Operations	\$1,108,816	10%
Classroom Technology	\$400,704	4%
Classroom and Kindergarten Assistants	\$366,275	3%
Professional Development for Staff	\$252,128	2%
Curriculum, Supplies, Field Trips	\$490,547	4%
Community and Parent Outreach	\$127,701	1%
Additional Days Beyond State Minimum	\$932,194	8%
>> Total Levy	\$11,010,402	

NOTE: Total FTE Staff Funded by Levy: 103 Employees

State Funding Limitations

The State of Washington funds a basic prototypical school model for public schools. This funding model does not provide the level of programming offered in Walla Walla Public Schools. The Replacement Education Levy makes up the difference.

Here are
some
powerful
facts:

STATE BASIC EDUCATION FUNDS: (WWPS) WWPS LEVY FUNDS ENSURE: (Actual)

<1 Less Than 1 Staffed Nurse for 5,800 Students	13 School Health Clinicians
1/3 1/3 of a Social Worker, District-Wide	16 Intervention Specialists/Social Workers
9 Teacher's Assistants, District-Wide	24 Classroom & Kindergarten Assistants
21 Campus Custodians for 1M sq ft	30 Campus Custodians
1 School Safety Staff for 12 Campuses	7 School Safety Staff
3 Technology Employees	9 Technology Employees
10 Facilities/Maintenance Employees	20 Facilities/Maintenance Employees



Need More Information?

BOND

is for Building

LEVY

is for Learning

ELECTION INFO.

Remember to Vote! February 11, 2020

Dates & Approval:

- » Election date: February 11, 2020
- » Ballots mailed: Wednesday, January 22, 2020
- » 50% + 1 vote required for approval

Voter Registration Information:

310 West Poplar St. | (509) 524-2530 | elections@co.walla-walla.wa.us

Tax Exemptions:

Senior and disabled citizens may be eligible for an exemption. Contact the Walla Walla County Assessor's Office at (509) 524-2560 for additional information.

Levy Revenue is Fixed:

Schools receive no additional dollars beyond the amount approved by voters. Increases in property values will not increase levy revenue.

Further Information:

www.wwps.org | (509) 526-6716 | email: mhiggins@wwps.org

VERSIÓN EN ESPAÑOL DISPONIBLE EN EL SITIO WEB DEL DISTRITO --- WWW.WWPS.ORG



We're On The Right Track!

- Student performance is way up
- Student involvement is way up
- Staff, student and parent feedback is incredibly strong, surpassing nationwide “Schools of Distinction” based on annual CEE survey
- Community feedback is extraordinary based on our annual statistically-reliable community-wide phone attitude survey
 - 90% would recommend WWPS to others
 - 84% believe WWPS operates in an open and transparent manner
 - 100% positive rating from Spanish speaking households



Stay Connected

- **Website: www.wwpsbond.org**

- Live video feed
- Project Updates
- Opportunities for Involvement
- Project Schedules
- RFP's and Local Contractor Involvement

- **Twitter: [@bondwwps](https://twitter.com/bondwwps)**



- **Superintendent Advisory Luncheons**

- **Contact me at anytime: 526-6715 or wsmith@wwps.org**

