



INSIDE WENATCHEE SCHOOLS

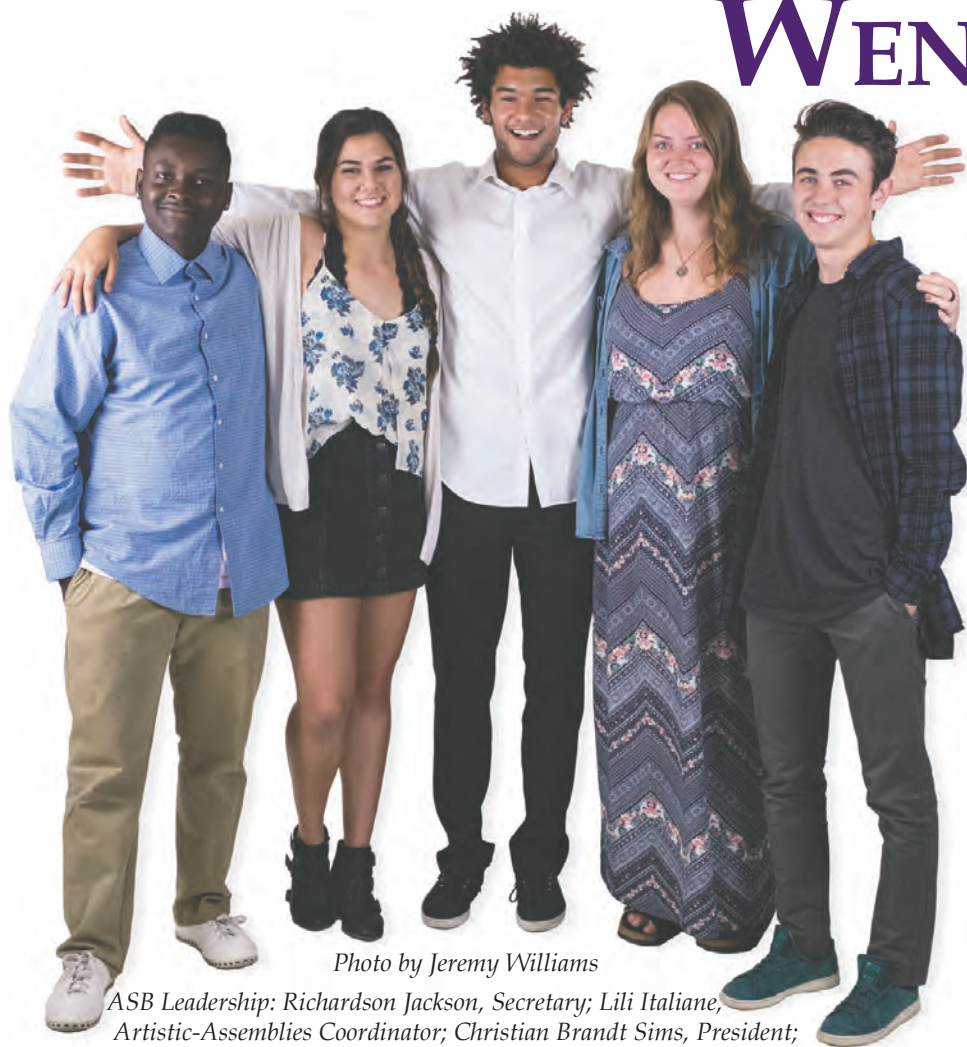


Photo by Jeremy Williams

ASB Leadership: Richardson Jackson, Secretary; Lili Italiene, Artistic-Assemblies Coordinator; Christian Brandt Sims, President; Madi McLaughlin, Treasurer; and Ethan Knutson, Vice President

Dentro de Wenatchee Escuelas Públicas está disponible en español.

Leadership Year in Review

By Wenatchee High School ASB President Christian Brandt-Sims

IF I HAD TO CHOOSE ONE WORD TO DESCRIBE THIS YEAR IT would be 'unimaginable'. I never had imagined that I would find myself standing on a log suspended in the air with nothing but 15 strangers to support me. I never imagined that I would want to wake up an hour earlier on Mondays to greet hundreds of students at the front doors. I certainly never imagined that I would become a part of a group of people that I can count on just as much as my own family.

My time spent with the other members of ASB has been filled with blood, sweat, and tears . . . but mostly sweat. Our mission to 'Connect the Dots' has been exhausting at times. We've spent countless hours figuring out how to incorporate Community, Support, Unity, Comfort, and Understanding into our school atmosphere. However, it's moments like now when we look back and reflect on the year and all that we've accomplished that we know it has all been worth it.

I think that everyone has begun to notice the change in our school. I've noticed changes in the small things. One of our fastest growing organizations in our school is Unified Sports [which brings special education athletes together with other WHS athletes]. A few years ago nobody would've imagined such a program being remotely successful, yet it has flourished. Students that never thought they would be involved in extracurriculars are now the ones encouraging other students to join their clubs. The high school, an already amazing place to be, is growing into an even more energetic and inclusive place to be.

(Continued on page 2)

Leadership at WestSide

By Courtney Welch, WestSide Leadership Team Co-President

EVERY TUESDAY WHEN THE LUNCH BELL RINGS, A sea of red-shirted students cram into Ms. Sheena's office with their lunches. They are all wearing red because every Tuesday Leadership Club students wear their club shirts, like a team. What is unique about each individual sitting in this meeting is that none of us considered a club to be "our thing." At any other school none of us would have joined a club or became a leader. Yet, here at WestSide, the unique array of students we have is what makes our club the success that it is.

Because of Leadership Club all of us are able to do amazing things. Before I joined leadership I was a shy and a quiet student. But when I learned about all the things Leadership did for the Wenatchee Valley, and saw how unique the group was, I knew I could put aside my shyness and do great things for others around me. Joining was the best choice I have made. Over the course of my time in Leadership I have become a new person. The feeling one gets when helping others is irreplaceable. Leadership club has helped me realize

(Continued on page 2)

WENATCHEE HIGH SCHOOL
112th Commencement
Friday, June 3, 2016 ~ 8:00 P.M. ~ Apple Bowl



Front row: Yesenia Gonzalez, Alyssa Laney, Eric Cervantes, Eric Morris; Back Row: Jessica Hall, Brandon Barker, Leadership Advisor Sheena Zacherle, Samantha Welch, Christabella Vasquez, Courtney Welch

WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL
Graduation ~ Tuesday, June 7, 2016
7:00 P.M. ~ Wenatchee Convention Center
Reception to follow

INSIDE WENATCHEE SCHOOLS

Wenatchee School District No. 246
 P.O. Box 1767
 Wenatchee, WA 98807-1767

Non-profit org.
 U.S. Postage PAID
 Permit No. 241
 Wenatchee WA 98801

ECRWSS
Postal Customer

WESTSIDE *(Continued from cover)*

that, yes, there are many scary things out in our world, but when you put your heart into it, and think hard, you are able to do anything you want to do. I went from a quiet, shy person in the background to being this year's Co-President and a real leader.

All of our members would tell you that what they love the most is that sense of belonging to something. In this room there is no judgment, and whatever you have done before holds no bearing on what you are capable of doing now. If I were to go to every member of the club and ask them why they joined, most of them would say because they wanted to be a part of something great, because they see how it has changed students' lives, or because they see that regardless of how they used to see themselves, this is a place for everybody.

Westside High School's Leadership club has been a part of many students' lives. Although the club's motto is "Creating Change by Being the Change," what Leadership Club gave all of us was the opportunity to change ourselves, and with that, we are then able to be the change.

WestSide High School Leadership Club is not just a school club. It is change, it is opportunity, and it is life altering. We are here to serve. We are a family. We are change!



Brian Fones Recognized for Student Achievement Leadership

SUPERINTENDENT BRIAN FONES WAS NAMED RECIPIENT OF THE Student Achievement Leadership Award, a regional award given by Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA).

The award recognizes individuals who create innovative programs for the improvement of student achievement. It honors leadership that has resulted in measurable growth in student achievement.

The award was presented at the SAC (Superintendent's Advisory Committee)/WASA Award Luncheon on May 19 at the North Central Educational Service District.

Claudia De Robles New Member of the School Board

CLAUDIA DE ROBLES HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO THE WENATCHEE

School District Board of Directors Position No. 3, filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Jesús Hernández. Ms. De Robles brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the school district. She is the Vice President/Branch Manager for Cashmere Valley Bank and is involved with several community service activities including serving on the board for the Community Foundation of NCW, the YMCA and the NCW Hispanic Chamber.

"I truly appreciate the opportunity to serve on the Wenatchee School District Board," she said. "I look forward to representing the community and working with the current board members to continue the Board's vision towards our children's education."



Photo by Jeremy Williams

Israel Sixto-Sanchez Wins Gates Millennium Scholarship

ISRAEL SIXTO-SANCHEZ WAS NAMED A GATES MILLENNIUM SCHOLAR.

Israel was one of only 1,000 students selected nation-wide out of 53,000 applicants. The scholarship will pay for all of Israel's college expenses for the next four years, with the possibility of post-graduate fellowships as well.

"I was surprised and excited," says Israel of learning he had won the scholarship. He says he was also relieved that his college education is fully funded. He thanks mentor Katie Pauly, who helped him with the process of application, which was twelve pages and required nine essays, as well as letters of nomination for both academics and community involvement. He met Katie Pauly through a program at Northern Fruit where his father works. Katie manages a program at Northern Fruit that provides computers to some children of employees.

"Working with Israel was a delight," says Pauly. "He was the fastest learning person I have ever worked with. His capacity to learn things and put it into practice is impressive."

Israel is second to the youngest of eight sons of parents Filiberta Sixto-Sanchez and Ismael Sixto-Pineda. He was home schooled until the eighth grade in a household where Spanish was the primary language. Transitioning into public school and meeting so many people took getting used to, but he quickly found success. Israel has taken nine Advanced Placement (AP) classes during his high

school career—courses which offer rigorous college-level work. Israel is a member of FBLA, DECA, Earth Club, National Honor Society, Youth United and Youth Leadership Council.

"He has unlimited potential," says Pauly. "He has a very entrepreneurial spirit, and is willing to take intellectual risks. I am so excited to see what he chooses to do with his professional career."

Israel plans to attend the University of Washington next year, with a major in computer science.

WHS LEADERSHIP *(Continued from cover)*

As far as we have come, things still aren't perfect. My team and I are satisfied with all that we have been able to do. It certainly doesn't end here either. I have complete confidence in all of those chosen to lead and serve our school next year. I am extremely excited to see how they build off of this year.

Looking back to freshman year I never imagined that I would become the ASB president. I also never imagined that as a senior I would be wishing for more time in high school, not less. It has been an honor to serve my peers and my school this year. I've learned life lessons and made memories that I will take with me wherever I go. I wouldn't trade this year for anything and I know that my fellow ASB members feel the same.

Construction Update

WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY IS GETTING A BRAND NEW SCHOOL WHILE LINCOLN

Elementary is undergoing additions and modernizing. The projects were made possible by passage of a \$66.5 million capital improvement bond in 2014. Both projects are proceeding smoothly.

Washington Elementary School

Classes continue uninterrupted in the old Washington Elementary building while the new school is being constructed adjacent to the old. "Amazingly, our students have really paid little attention to or been distracted by all the construction noise," says principal Keith Collins. "I have been equally impressed by the resilience of our staff through this process."

The new Washington will be double the size of the existing school, going from 35,000 square feet to 72,000 square feet. "We're looking forward to a modern facility where we can count on the heat and air-conditioning working," says Collins. "We will be able to house all of our classrooms in one building and grade levels intact near one another. We will have a cafeteria for our students to eat in and complete teaching areas for all of our specialists."

(Continued on page 9)

Chelan County Excellence Award

JOYCE BLOCK, AMY VANWEY AND LISA JOHNSON

have been named Chelan County Excellence Award winners for 2015/2016. Joyce and Amy are the certificated staff winners, and Lisa is the classified staff honoree. The Awards honor extraordinary educators, and are sponsored each year by North Central ESD and school districts in Chelan, Grant, Douglas and Okanogan Counties.

Joyce Block is a science teacher at Wenatchee High School. She was nominated by Jamie Cannon of the U.S. Forest Service, and fellow WHS science teachers Michael Lasater and Graham Stansbery. Cannon said that Joyce connects her students with the community, and is dedicated to making learning personal for her students. Michael Lasater and Graham Stansbery each praised Joyce for the "countless hours developing a unique education experience for her students" in a watershed unit. This project based learning experience "engages students directly with their local ecosystem as well as local scientists." Joyce invites local experts into the classroom and takes her students into the field to explore and understand the Wenatchee Watershed at a personal level.

"I am surprised, grateful and honored," Joyce said. "All students need to be outside more, cathartically connecting with nature and designing and implementing field STEM research projects in our local ecosystems. This is the type of science they will never forget, long after any state or national exams are over."

Amy VanWey is a School Psychologist at Wenatchee High School. Donna Moser, Assistant Principal at WHS, nominated Amy, saying "Amy works tirelessly to increase success for all special education students at WHS." She wrote about Amy's collaborative nature, her steadfast efforts and vital role in helping each student complete the path to graduation.

"I was completely shocked and humbled when I heard about the award," said Amy. "It's always rewarding to help students reach their goals. We continue to work towards new ways to serve students and find more options for them to earn their diplomas. I'm thankful to work with amazing staff, parents, and students, so I'm surrounded by excellence every day."

Lisa Johnson is Office Manager at Pioneer Middle School. Mark Helm, Executive Director of Student and Support Services, and former Pioneer Middle School principal, nominated Lisa. He praised her work ethic and attention to detail, her leadership among district office managers, and the welcoming, friendly office atmosphere she fosters for students, staff and visitors. He highlighted her love of children, demonstrated by her years as a coach. Lisa has coached volleyball, girls and boys basketball, AAU basketball, Club volleyball, and brought the Hershey Track program to Wenatchee 22 year ago.

"I feel very blessed to receive this award and I hope that I have helped to make a positive difference in the lives of our students," Lisa said. "I am very fortunate to work with an outstanding group of administrators, teachers and classified staff at Pioneer Middle School. I am so lucky to work with our Pioneer 'Bear' family. We truly care about the students who come through our school, and it is a great place to work because of that."



Joyce Block



Lisa Johnson



Amy VanWey



The Wenatchee High School Varsity Baseball team finished the season undefeated. They are the League and Big 9 District Champions! As we go to print, the baseball team is one of the Final Four headed off for State competition. Jeff Zehnder is Head Baseball Coach.

Sports Highlights



The Boys Varsity Soccer Team has made Final Four and earned a berth in the State Tournament. They finished 2nd in League with an 8-4 season. Dennis Tronson is the Head Soccer Coach (pictured on the right) and Peter Osborne is Assistant Coach (pictured on left).



WHS Sophomore Wil Jorgensen Named Promising Young Filmmaker

WENATCHEE HIGH SCHOOL SOPHOMORE WIL JORGENSEN WON PROMISING Young Filmmaker at the Leavenworth Film Festival on April 9, 2016, an award sponsored by North 40 Productions. His film, titled "Up There," explored skiing at Mission Ridge. The film was shown at the festival. "It was pretty cool," says Wil.

Wil's interest in photography and filmmaking started when he was only three, when he took photos with his grandfather's camera using film. "I got my first camera four years ago," says Wil. "I just loved it. I went to Leavenworth Film Festival in 2014 and I found what I was looking for through film."

Wil is a student in Eric Link's Cinematography class at Wenatchee Valley Technical Skills Center. "Just the practice of doing it every day is making me better," says Wil. He's already at work on his next film, about fly fishing. "The name at this point is The String Theory. It's based off a physics term. I think it's going to be all natural sounds of just fly fishing."

Foothills All-Girl Robotics Team Makes World Competition

AN ALL-GIRL ROBOTICS TEAM FROM FOOHILLS MIDDLE School traveled to Louisville, Kentucky for the VEX World Robotics competition April 20 – 23. Regan Tumilson, Caitlyn Drolet, Willow Baker and Chloe Wiegand joined about 5,000 students from 27 countries to compete in the elite world championship competition.

Science teacher Jenelle Bailey accompanied the team on the trip. "We were well prepared," says Bailey, who described the experience as overwhelming, exciting and consuming.

The team began when Willow and Caitlyn attended Stem-A-Palooza— a hands on STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math) camp held on the Central Washington University campus— over the summer, and got hooked on robotics. "We wanted to do a VEX team at our school because we enjoyed it so much," says Willow.

Science teachers Jenelle Bailey and Todd Jensen became the girls' advisors, and Regan and Chloe were added to the team. They began building robots and competing, working their way up to state competition in Seattle, where they won a STEM award and an Excellence Award, which qualified them for the World competition.

"They struggled initially with building an effective robot, but they persisted as a team," says Todd Jensen. "I loved hearing their dialogue during practice, identifying problems, coming up with various solutions and eventually coming to consensus on how to solve a problem."

The team is sponsored by the CWU Gear UP program, a federally funded grant program that provides services in each middle and high school building for seven years to build a sustainable culture of college-awareness and preparation. Foothills Gear UP Coordinator Jessica Frank says the program starts in the 6th grade and provides STEM focused service to students.

The team finished 140th out of 200, but the experience for the girls was profound. The team took a map of the world along with them and invited people who visited their display to pinpoint where they were from. Bailey says meeting all the people and collaborating with students from around the world was the highlight for the girls.

"In the end, they are the most versatile well rounded team," says Jensen, "excelling in driving their robot, developing code for autonomous driving, competing in the STEM challenge and team spirit."



Regan Tumilson, Willow Baker, Caitlyn Drolet and Chloe Wiegand



Theo Marshall at GWATA

Senior Theo Marshall and Teacher Brian Herling Win GWATA Honors

WENATCHEE HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR THEO MARSHALL AND WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER BRIAN Herling won honors at the GWATA Innovator Awards Luncheon on March 29. GWATA is the Greater Wenatchee Technology Alliance.

Theo Marshall was recognized for his engineering projects, including designing and building a jig to help a special education student in her job inserting batteries into a "ziosk" console at a local restaurant. He also led a team to build the high school's first Underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle, and helped build the high school's first quadcopter from scratch.

"I'm not used to receiving this much recognition for doing what I love to do," said Theo, a 3rd year pre-engineering student in Doug Merrill's class. "I have this unquenchable thirst to constantly be learning things about technology, like electronics and computer. All of my hobbies are related to it."

Theo plans on attending either WSU or Wenatchee Valley College next year.

Brian Herling teaches math and science at WestSide. He won the "Innovative Use of Technology in the Classroom" award. Brian bought a 3D printer with his own money and brought it into his classroom, then wrote a grant for another one. Students in his classroom began designing and producing objects with the printers. Seniors Christian Edson and Lucas Stadther took on the project of producing a prosthetic hand for Tom Guthrie, a triple amputee. "I think what they have learned will carry on with them," Herling said of the students in his acceptance speech. He also thanked WestSide principal Kory Kalahar. "WestSide is about finding a new way to connect with students."

Of his hands-on classroom, Herling said, "There's a chance to really have the kids interact with their knowledge. To see how your changes in variables, changes in values, changes in equations translate into direct objects—

(Continued on page 5)



Mr. Brian Herling

Who Says Girls Can't Do Tough Jobs

TWO HUNDRED FIFTY 8TH GRADE GIRLS FROM FOOTHILLS, PIONEER

and Orchard Middle Schools gathered at Wenatchee Valley College May 10 for Pizza Pop & Power Tools—an opportunity for girls to get hands-on experience in occupations that are traditionally male dominated. The students had a chance to climb a power pole with a Chelan County PUD lineman and learn about firefighting from Chelan County District No. 1 firefighters. They tried their hand at carpentry, machining, and welding, and got up close and personal with heavy equipment. They even got to change automobile tires in the Tire Rodeo competition.

Alongside trained professionals, the girls pushed themselves to try something new. "I didn't know I could do" was a phrase heard throughout the day. Chelan PUD hydro mechanic Sidney Whitten talked with students about high earnings potential for females in her own career and in similar fields. "Girls can do these jobs, do them well and make a great living," Sidney said. "They just need the confidence to go for it."

"This is a hands-on experience for girls to see what these careers look like and talk to people in the field," said Diana Haglund, Wenatchee Learns Coordinator. Wenatchee Learns fosters partnerships between students, staff, businesses, citizens and parents.

The event was designed to help girls gain confidence to take a career path they may not have considered before—perhaps to take educational opportunities to explore those options. They might consider enrolling in a high school career and technical education class such as construction trades or welding, or pursue post secondary vocational training or an apprenticeship program.

Along with the Chelan County PUD and Chelan County Fire District No. 1, industry volunteers included Valley Tractor and Rental for heavy equipment, Fort Simcoe Job Corps Center for carpentry, the WVC Automotive Department for auto repair, the WVC Machining Department for computerized machining, and the WVC Industrial Tech Department for welding.

And yes, there really was pizza and pop, provided by the North Central Washington Central Labor Council, the Teamsters, and Weinstein Beverage.

This was the first Pizza Pop & Power Tools event held in Wenatchee and was a collaborative effort between Wenatchee Learns Connect, Wenatchee School District Career and Technical Education and Wenatchee Valley College Workforce Education.



Pioneer 8th grader Charly Plinsky climbs a power pole with instruction from Brandon Hughes, Chelan County PUD lineman. Charly set a record for the day, making it to the top of the pole faster than any other girl. Charly's dad, Duane Plinsky is a hydro mechanic at the PUD. Her uncle, Doug, who was present to watch her climb, is a lineman. Charly said she had thought about PUD jobs like linemen and hydro mechanics, but thought they were too dangerous for girls. "But after this," she said, "I realize that girls can do it."

Desiree Schmidt Honored as Hometown Hero by Red Cross

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS HONORED DESIREE SCHMIDT, SECOND

grade teacher at Lewis & Clark Elementary School, as a Hometown Hero. Desiree was recognized at the 2016 American Red Cross Hometown Heroes Celebration on March 24th at the Wenatchee Convention Center. Desiree was one of eight local individuals recognized for their heroism or service to community during the past year.



Her husband, William, and Captain Doug Jones of the Wenatchee Police Department, nominated Desiree for the award. She was nominated for her leadership, kindness, and commitment to serving her neighborhood following the Sleepy Hollow fire.

In the pre-dawn hours on the Monday, June 29th, the Schmidts returned to their neighborhood with little hope of a standing structure to turn a key in to. When they saw that their home had been spared, Desiree was moved to do something for others. She erected a canopy and began providing cold drinks

and snacks in the neighborhood park. For the next six weeks, from early morning to evening, Desiree manned a post at the tent and was a friendly face to neighbors and friends. She leaned heavily on her faith during the initial aftermath and invited the neighbors to join her for a small prayer gathering at noon. Close to 100 people participated. But her actions did not stop with the canopy. She washed towels and returned them with clean water in buckets for fire personnel, sifters and friends to cool down. She led evening walks and exercise opportunities weekly during the summer and when disaster struck in Chelan, she connected people wanting to help with folks in that area.

In his nomination, Captain Jones highlighted the importance of Desiree's efforts in establishing a "Refuge Center" mid-way down on the most fire stricken block of the neighborhood. This quickly became the place where groups including Disaster Chaplains met to share information and coordinate work parties to sift through rubble. The neighbors were appreciative of all the efforts of the volunteers who maintained the Refuge Center, expanding their services from cool refreshments and snacks to donated tools fire victims could use to tend to their property. The Schmidts contributed significantly to the recovery efforts within the Broadview neighborhood in countless ways. The Refuge Center was just one of the many efforts spearheaded by Desiree.

GWATA HONORS (Continued from page 4)

that connection is what I think is missing a lot of times. They change a number and watch the results. It gives real tangibility to the stuff that you're trying to teach."

The awards were presented at the 16th Annual GWATA Innovator Awards Luncheon at Wenatchee Convention Center.

GWATA's video biographies of the winners can be found at these links:



Fish Project Headed to the Lunch Room at WHS

"EVER SINCE I CAN REMEMBER, I'VE BEEN INTERESTED IN FISH AND water," says WHS junior Moses Lurbur. He started with an aquarium at home, but as his interest grew, so did the scale of his projects. "I discovered aquaculture my freshman year," says Moses, who raised plants and fish in an aquarium in Beth Hammerberg's agriculture biology class. Now he's taking Hammerberg's advanced agriculture science, and a component of the class is a Supervised Agricultural Experience project (SAE). Moses decided that raising tilapia would be a perfect project. Why tilapia? "They are tough," says Moses. "They're not sensitive to water quality and temperature."

Originally he planned on raising 300 fish, but his budget forced him to downsize to 100. Although it may sound simple to set up a tank and raise fish, the project has been full of challenges. Moses says the first step was figuring out the size of the system according to the budget he had to work with.

"His original budget was around two thousand dollars," says Beth Hammerberg,



who encouraged Moses to figure out a more cost effective way to accomplish the project. "He talked to people and delved into the information to find a more economical way."

Moses looked for ways to raise money for the project. He wrote and received an SAE grant to help fund the project, and began approaching people and businesses for donations.

One of the first people Moses and Beth approached was Food Services Director Kent Getzin. "It was going to cost some money to get their first batch of fish, and they were wondering if we were interested in helping them out," says Getzin. "Giving kids the opportunity to learn through project-based learning is something we talk about as a leadership team," says Getzin, who says the project sounded like a great way to support the concept.

Coastal Farm and Ranch donated 150 pounds of tilapia food to the project, more than enough to feed the 100 fish until they grow to about a pound.

Moses made a 55-gallon tank from a recycled plastic drum set up in the greenhouse. He has since moved the tilapia into a 100 gallon tank in Hammerberg's room. Moses thinks the fish will make weight at the end of the school year.

The plan is to have the fish become a meal at the high school. "The idea was to have the high school grow the fish," says Getzin. "We take the fish to the tech center and the culinary students butcher the fish and process them." Getzin says he's hoping to get one meal out of the fish.

Beth says Moses' project has been a great way for him to explore his interest in depth, which is the goal of the SAE projects. "Ag teachers are here to support that," says Beth. "We like to see kids have that dedication, so we can move them along that path. Anybody has the potential to do it."

Moses plans on continuing the project his senior year. "I've learned so much about being persistent," says Moses. "I learned how to apply for grants, and to talk to businesses and ask for donations. It's been quite a process and I've learned a lot."

Students Raise Salmon in Partnership with Local Agencies

Students in three diverse classrooms are raising hundreds of Summer Chinook Salmon which will be released into the Chelan River in May and June thanks to a partnership among several agencies and the Wenatchee schools. Biologist Sean Koester of Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group (CCFEG) is overseeing the project. The Icicle Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited donated the aquariums. The Community Foundation of NCW and the Icicle Fund, in cooperation with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, provided funding for the project.

In January Koester delivered 100 salmon eggs to three classrooms: Dave Williams' third graders at Washington Elementary School, Joyce Block's science students at Wenatchee High School, and to Hana Butler's Environmental Leadership class at the Wenatchee Valley Technical Skills Center. The eggs came from Chelan County PUD's East Bank Fish Hatchery at Rocky Reach Dam. The students have been taking care of the salmon, making sure the water chemistry is correct and feeding the fish.

When the classrooms received the eggs they were about 30 days old and in the "eyed egg" stage, meaning they looked like fish eggs, but had eyes forming. By January 27 some eggs entered the "early sac fry" stage—they had tails and swam around a bit. They progressed to the smolt stage, and will be two to three inches long when they're released. Dave Williams' class will travel to Power House Park so the kids can help release their salmon into the Chelan River, a tributary to the Columbia River.



Dave Williams and Sean Koester welcome the new salmon into their 3rd grade classroom at Washington Elementary.

"I think it creates that organic connection between the students and their natural environment that you cannot teach," says Koester of the egg-to-river process. "That sense of what's actually happening in the natural environment. What's happening in that fish tank in their classrooms is happening in the Wenatchee River every day at the same time."

Fire Science Students Place in State Competition

FOUR STUDENTS IN THE FIRE SCIENCE PROGRAM PLACED IN STATE competition a part of the Skills USA program. Daniel Ledesma took 1st, qualifying him for national competition. Ryan Thompson took 2nd, Hunter Czlapinski took 3rd and Hannah Czlapinski took 4th. The Firefighting contest evaluates the student's preparation for firefighting careers through hands-on skill demonstrations and both written and oral presentations. Areas tested include: safety; breathing apparatus; fire streams; ladders, ropes, knots and hoses; fire control; ventilation; emergency medical care and rescue; and protecting fire cause evidence. The students are in Kurt Blanchard's Fire Science Class, a program in the Wenatchee Valley Technical Skills Center.



Daniel Ledesma, Ryan Thompson, Hunter Czlapinski and Hannah Czlapinski

Artists in Residence: New Kindergarten Program

Local artists began teaching drawing, watercolor and ceramics to all district kindergartners this January. Until then most kindergartners didn't receive art instruction because district elementary art specialists teach only first through fifth grade due to time and budget constraints.

Last year, parent volunteer Sara Rolfs decided to try to bring art to Washington Elementary School where her two children go to school. She wrote grants and received funding from the Wenatchee Arts Education Consortium and the Woods Foundation to bring artist Terry Valdez into Washington. Terry developed and taught the curriculum for drawing and painting. Afterwards, Rolfs and volunteer Selina Danko surveyed kindergartners' parents about the art experience, and the responses were overwhelmingly positive. Other kindergarten teachers throughout the district heard about the project and wanted their students to join in.

This year the art program branched out to all kindergarten classes thanks to funding provided by the Community Foundation of North Central Washington's source funding (which allowed donors to give online to the Wenatchee Arts Education Consortium), the Woods Family Music and Arts Fund, the Icicle Fund, the Wenatchee Arts Education Consortium, the North Central Washington Foundation for Youth, and Wenatchee School District.

Participating artists are Terry Valdez, Patty Carroll, Martha Flores, Lance Dooley, Lisa Robertson, Wendy Pippel, Sheryl Smith, and Cordi Braburn.



Kindergartner Evelyn Ostrom tries her hand at watercolor painting.

163 Teachers and Specialists Complete PBIS "Container Challenge"

One hundred sixty-three teachers and certificated specialists throughout the district completed a professional development process called the "Container Challenge," including 100% participation at Columbia Elementary School

The "containers" are teaching strategies that address behavior management and student success, part of PBIS. PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) is a district-wide framework that establishes school-wide expectations and a common language for social and learning behaviors, followed by a process of teaching, prompting, and practicing those behaviors.

The challenge invited teachers to show evidence of five different actions or activities in each of the five containers, and to do that five times. Colleagues and principals observed each action or activity in action, including a collaborative feedback session with a peer, an instructional coach or the principal.

The "containers" were:

- 1: Maximize Structure Within Your Classroom
- 2: Define, Teach, Review, Monitor & Reteach Positively Stated Expectations
- 3: Establish a Continuum of Strategies to Acknowledge Appropriate Behavior
- 4: Actively Engage Students in Observable Ways
- 5: Establish a Continuum of Strategies to Respond to Inappropriate Behavior

"The cool thing about it was it was embedded in the school day in front of the kids," says Jodi Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning. "It made teaching public. Teachers were learning from and with each other."

Sixty percent of the staff in eight buildings participated.

Mission View Teacher/Librarian Dan Gemeinhart has New Book Release

Mission View teacher/librarian and author Dan Gemeinhart's second book was released to outstanding reviews. His first book, *The Honest Truth*, was published in 2015, and his newest book, *Some Kind of Courage*, was released January 26. Scholastic published both books. We asked Dan some questions about his new book, and his double life as a teacher and an author.

Q: Tell us about your latest book.

Dan: The book is called *Some Kind of Courage*. It's set here in this area in 1890. It's about a twelve-year-old boy, Joseph Johnson, on the journey west. The rest of his family dies and he is an orphan. All that he has left of his old life and his old family is his horse, Sarah. He's had her since he was a baby and he loves her more than anything in the world. Chapter one starts with the mean old man that he's living with selling Sarah to a cruel horse trader passing through. His horse is gone, so Joseph sets off on a journey across the frontier to get his horse back. It's kind of a classic western with outlaws and grizzlies. It's kind of a rollicking adventure.



Q: You have a busy life as a teacher, a husband, and father to three girls. How do you find time for writing?

Dan: This year it's gotten a lot easier because I cut back to teaching half time. I had been teaching full time for the past several years, and that was really hard. I'd write in the evenings. I'd write from nine to midnight and try to get some time on the weekends, but it was really tough. What I learned when my first book came out last year is that writing takes time, but being an author is a whole other job. There are emails to answer and things to take care of, and travel. After the book came out last year I didn't write all spring, which was really frustrating. I had a little writing cottage built in the backyard. I can go out there and I can write for hours a day, and that really helped.

Q: What else would you like people to know?

DAN: NCRL [North Central Regional Library] has been awesome. They picked my book as a regional read. They bought hundreds of copies and circulated them through the middle schools, and then they sent me to nine schools in the fall, and they're sending me to more this spring. It's been really awesome, and an opportunity for me to interact with all these kids.

Also, I'm really, really happy and fortunate being a teacher. I really enjoy it and I value it. It's every bit as important—more important—than writing. I'm just as happy being a teacher as I am an author.

The full interview with Dan can be found online at www.wenatcheeschools.org/extra



School Board Member Dr. Walter Newman congratulates Margaret King, Sunnyslope Elementary teacher, for completing the PBIS "Container Challenge." Teachers practiced the tools that PBIS offers for behavior management and student success with feedback from their peers, instructional coaches and principals.

Shout Outs

I would like to send a Shout Out to **Jim Broome**, our school Counselor. He has been present in so many ways at Newbery. We appreciate all that he does for our staff and students each and every day. Thank you, Mr. Broome!

I would like to send a Shout Out to **Karen Flynn**, our TSS at Newbery. She is always very quick to help with our technology needs and works very hard to keep us all in operation. Karen also organizes our Veterans' Day activities and our canned food drive and family gifts each year. Karen, you are appreciated in all that you do!

I would like to send a Shout Out to **Brandon Gabel** in our Structured Learning classroom. Time and time again, Brandon has been seen or heard talking with one of the students with the utmost of patience. The students respond to his calm, even demeanor. Brandon, thank you for your patience and kindness with our special needs students!

● Kathy Fulkerson, Office Manager,
John Newbery Elementary

Shout out to **JoAnn Tanneberg** at Orchard. I just had the opportunity to observe her teaching, and trust me when I say she is a MASTER teacher! She was teaching social studies to 6th graders, and she employed a number of strategies and modes to keep high level learning moving. PBIS, Marzano, GLAD, iPads—she had it all gliding along seamlessly. The kids were engaged, they obviously knew she liked them and they liked her right back, she handled minor misbehaviors in an unobtrusive yet effective way, and kids learned a lot. I wish everyone in the country could see what I just saw, proving the immense heart and skill teachers bring to students that is waaaayyy beyond what most people can imagine. Way to go, Joann, and thanks for everything you do for kids!

● Kari DeMarco, K-12 Highly Capable
Programs Coordinator

Dina Duncan is one of the most compassionate and caring teachers I have ever met. She works with our special education students and does an outstanding job. She is creative and fun. I am really impressed by her desire to partner with other staff so they can meet and interact with her students. She is a great advocate for, and true champion of, her wonderful students.

● Wendy Endaya, After School Program Site
Coordinator, Orchard Middle School

Shout out to our **K-5 ELA staff at Columbia, Lewis & Clark, Lincoln, Mission View, Newbery, Sunnyslope, and Washington!** Our teachers, intervention specialists, paras, coaches, and principals are learning about and working together collaboratively to deliver our new ELA curriculum effectively. Thanks to their hard work, passion, and dedication, more than 3,400 students are learning how to become successful readers!

● Sarah Hanchey, Director of Curriculum
& Instruction

Shoutout for **Jim Harris**, new head custodian, WestSide High. Jim has so much positive, helpful energy. Always cruising the halls, cleaning windows, looking for things that need to be done. He not only cares for the physical environment but also positively impacts the affective environment with his infectious smile and "I'm on it now" attitude when help is requested. The sign on his desk says it all -The Kingdom of Positive Attitude. He has made a big impact on the atmosphere in the building.

● Tracy Maynard, Math/Science
WestSide High School

I'd like to give a shout out to our **Mission View staff** because we are more than coworkers, we are a family! We care about each other, help each other out, and most of all, we work together to make teaching and learning a success! I love being a part of this wonderful building.

● Patti Montalvo, 1st Grade Teacher,
Mission View Elementary

I want a shout out to all of my **CAP Students**, especially in the afternoon--you make my days brighter!

● Andrea Danahey-Feil, CAP Teacher
Westside High School/WVTSC

Administrative Changes in the District



Bill Eagle New Director of Special Program

Bill Eagle is the new State and Federal Programs Director replacing Nancy Duffey who will be retiring at the end of the school year.

"I'm excited to try and help students who struggle," Bill said, "which is a big part of what the state and federal programs are about."

Bill Eagle is currently principal at Columbia Elementary School, a position he has held since

2012. He served as Assistant Principal at Orchard Middle School from 2005 to 2012. Before entering administration Bill was a district math coach from 2003 - 2005, and a math teacher and math department chair at Wenatchee High School from 1998 - 2004. Bill earned a B.A. in Mathematics and an M.A. in Mathematics Education from Central Washington University. He earned his principal and superintendent certification from Washington State University in 2005 and 2013.



Si Stuber New Principal at Columbia Elementary

Si Stuber is the new Principal at Columbia Elementary. He replaces principal Bill Eagle, who took the Director of Special Programs position. Si was the top choice out of nineteen applicants who applied for the position. He has been the Assistant Principal at Union Gap School K-8, in Union Gap, Washington, for the past six years. Si earned a B.S. in Human Development K-8 at Lee University in

Cleveland Tennessee, and a Master's Degree in School Administration from Central Washington University.

Si and his wife Stephanie have three children, a 3rd grade daughter, a 1st grade son, and an incoming kindergarten son. The new principal position begins on July 1, 2016.

Cynthia Valdez New Assistant Director of Special Programs

Cynthia Valdez is the new Assistant Director of Special Programs. Cynthia has served the students of Wenatchee School District for the past six years as the Coordinator of Migrant, Bilingual and Title programs. She earned her teaching certificate in 1992 with K-8, Reading and ESL endorsements. She earned her Principal Certificate in 1996 from Eastern Washington University and has served as a program administrator, elementary principal and middle school assistant principal prior to coming to Wenatchee.



Annika Bibby New Assistant Director of Special Education

Annika Bibby is the new Assistant Director of Special Education. She is currently a teacher on special assignment as Assistant Principal of Wenatchee High School. She taught Special Education at WHS from 2014 to 2015, and was previously a Special Education teacher for Cashmere School District. Annika earned her bachelor's degree at Eastern Washington University in Elementary Education and Special Education. She earned her Master of Education from Central Washington University.



Jacob Bucholz New Wenatchee High School Dean of Students

Jacob Bucholz has been selected for the Dean of Students position at Wenatchee High School. Jake has been with the district for the past twelve years teaching eighth grade Science, Technology and AVID at Orchard Middle School, and most recently as the Assistant Principal at Lincoln and Columbia Elementary. Jake earned a Bachelor of Science in biology at Eastern Washington University in 2004, a Master of Education in Educational Technology from Lesley University in 2010, and Principal Certification from Washington State University in 2015.



Packing Friendship

THERE ARE CHILDREN IN THE WENATCHEE VALLEY WHO DON'T HAVE ENOUGH food to eat on the weekends. Free breakfasts and lunches are provided to children at school based on their families' monthly income and household size, but once the bell rings on Friday, they're on their own.

Five years ago Barbara Tilly, a member of the Grace Lutheran Church, heard about a program called Weekend Backpacks from a friend in Gig Harbor. A Lutheran Church there provided food for children in need for the weekends. Tilly says they decided to give it a try, and provided food weekly for 18 students from spring break through the end of school. "We now have twenty-three churches and one service club," says Tilly. And the program has grown. "Last week it was 430," says Tilly. "It seems to grow by one or two most weeks."

The Grace Lutheran team, including Tilly, Jen Pearson-Gale and Rebecca Lake applied for a grant to help cover some costs of the program—it costs \$5 to \$7 per backpack. They share the grant money with all the organizations, then each church or organization is responsible for buying their own food, packing and delivering.

"Each church or organization does it a little bit differently," says Jen Pearson-Gale. "Here at Grace Lutheran volunteers do the shopping and people donate food, too. On Sunday mornings, between our Sunday school hour and our worship hour, members of the congregation help pack the bags. Later in the week volunteer take them to the schools."

Packing the food involves everyone from small children to grandparents, all working together on a team. The churches choose a school in close proximity to provide food for, and both Wenatchee and East Wenatchee schools are included.

"We try to find as healthy food as we can that kids want to eat," says Pearson-Gale, "but is shelf-stable so it doesn't have to be refrigerated."

It's up to each school to decide which children need the food, and each school's Family Advocate distributes the food. "On Friday they go home with this wonderful bag," says Rebecca Lake. "They'll have twelve to fifteen food items to carry them through the weekend—cans of spaghetti, macaroni and cheese, granola bars, instant oatmeal, puddings, containers of fruit."

We asked Barbara Tilly what is it about the program that's motivated them to stick with it for five years. "Because of the feedback we get," she says. "Parents talk to the counselor or family advocate and thank them and shed tears. We've had nothing but positive feedback."



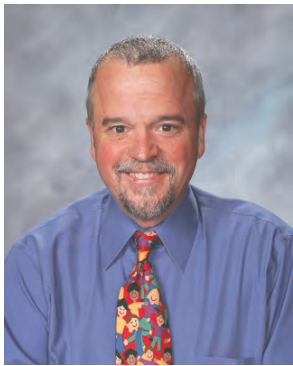
Barbara Tilly talks to the gathering of church and Rotary representatives for Packing Friendship. Tilly was instrumental in getting the program started and expanding it to include 22 churches and Rotary.

"It's just a wonderful ministry to be a part of," adds Rebecca. "We're giving to others, but we're connecting with different schools and meeting different people. We're all in this together to help these children."

"It means a lot to me to see the community come together—this diverse group of people and ages working together. We're very different churches or organizations, but we've seen there's a problem and we work together to address the issue," says Jen.

They invite anyone who wants to get involved, whether that means volunteering to pack or transport food, to donating funds, to call the Grace Lutheran Church at 663-2189.

"It just breaks your heart to hear there's a child that didn't have food on the weekend," says Barbara. It's our Christian obligation to love our neighbor and take care of them. We just feel like we're saving the child."



Kevin Loomis Named Regional Principal of the Year

KEVIN LOOMIS, PRINCIPAL AT JOHN NEWBERY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, WAS NAMED 2015/2016 DISTINGUISHED Principal for North Central ESD by the Elementary School Principals Association of Washington. The award recognizes the contributions Kevin has made to his school, students and community.

Kevin has been at Newbery as principal since 2012. Before that he served as an Assistant Principal and Principal in the Sedro-Woolley School District.

Kevin will be honored at the AWSP (Association of Washington School Principals) /WASA (Washington Association of School Administrator's) Summer Conference, June 26-28, 2016 in Spokane.

CONSTRUCTION (Continued from page 2)

WLK Joint Ventures is the construction company on the \$29.5 million project. Washington construction is about 50% complete. The steel frame and roof of the main building is finished and roughed in for plumbing and electrics. Work has started on the brick exteriors, while the interior sheet rock and dry walling is underway. Concrete block walls of the new gym, cafeteria, stage and multi-purpose room are going up. Classrooms will be clustered in pods according to grade level and open onto a common area.

"The educational spaces support 21st century teaching," says David Zeitlin of Hill International, project manager. "There will be more light in classrooms and great technology in the classroom. The whole building will be lighter, airier, and more open."

School is expected to start in the new building in the fall. Construction crews will demolish the old school over the summer, and begin putting in parking, student drop off areas, and playgrounds.

Lincoln Elementary School

Lincoln Elementary is undergoing extensive modernization and additions, which requires juggling of students and staff as school is in session. "The biggest challenge has been dealing with the noise and dust associated with construction while attempting to focus on learning," says principal Tim Shepperd. "Construction can be noisy and dirty."

The first phase is nearly complete, including construction of a new wing with ten classrooms, the addition of a library, and new administrative offices. The project is about a third of the way complete.

Shepperd says the staff is looking forward to updated classroom and workspaces, along with the addition of new spaces such as a full-size gym, offices for reading intervention and a designated classroom for highly capable students. "We are also looking forward to the addition of the most current technology available in all instructional spaces."

Like Washington, classrooms will be in pods by grade level opening up to a common area. Each pod will have its own set of computers, and each classroom will be outfitted with technology.



Lincoln 4th grader Kianna Lara-Farias works in an area right outside the 4th grade classrooms in the new wing at Lincoln Elementary. The new classroom design at both Lincoln and Washington clusters grade-level classrooms around an open space for collaboration and small group work. The educational spaces support 21st century teaching, including state-of-the-art educational technology in the classroom.

There will be a brand new library, a new gym, and remodeled commons, along with more teaching space for PE, performances and gatherings, and a place for kids to move indoors on inclement weather days.

Twenty-six classrooms and offices moved into the new wing over spring break, and now work will begin on renovating the old wings. Construction is projected to be finished in October. Lydig Construction Company is the contractor.

News Briefs



Jordan Gonzalez



Edan Patterson

Three Apple Leaf staff members were honored at the National High School Journalism Convention in Los Angeles for their writing competition entries on April 17. Features editor **Jordan Gonzalez** received an Excellent rating for Editorial Writing, and business manager **Edan Patterson** received an Excellent rating in the Commentary Writing category. Both are seniors. The Apple Leaf Managing News Editor junior **Moses Lurbur** received an honorable mention in Newswriting.

Twenty-one Wenatchee DECA members competed at the International Career Development Conference in Nashville, Tennessee April 23-26, along with 18,000 high school DECA students. **Vivian Noyd** took first in the nation in the Sports & Entertainment Operations Research Plan, while **Arturo Diaz** took second in Principles of Hospitality & Tourism. Nine WHS students qualified for finals by placing in the top 20 out of 160 competitors in their competitive event.

Donna Young, Office Manager at Columbia Elementary School, was selected as the North Central ESD Region Classified School Employee of the Year. Donna has been with the Wenatchee School District for 24 years, all of them at Columbia. Donna was nominated by Bill Eagle, Columbia principal, who talked about the many ways Donna goes above and beyond expectations, whether it's inviting the mayor and school board for Dr. Seuss' birthday, to nursing students in need. Donna and Bill attended the awards ceremony in Olympia April 28.



Isadora Bekker



Moses Lurbur



Vivian Noyd



Arturo Diaz

Wenatchee High School Senior **Isa Bekker's** print "Lovely Vulpes" won the Judges' Choice Award at The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) 43rd Annual Superintendent's High School Art Show. Isa's art teacher is Don Collins. Winners were honored at an event co-sponsored by OSPI and the Washington Art Education Association (WAEA), on May 20, 1-3 p.m., at the OSPI building in Olympia. Isa was one of Four Wenatchee High School students who took Best of Show in the 37th Annual Regional Art Show in Wenatchee in March, which qualified her for State competition. High school students throughout Chelan, Douglas and Okanogan counties submitted work for the regional show, and four students, all from Wenatchee High School, moved onto the OSPI State Art Show in Olympia.

Peer Mentoring: Kids Teaching Kids

STUDENTS IN ERICA WILSON'S 7TH GRADE SCIENCE CLASSES TRAVELED FROM PIONEER MIDDLE SCHOOL TO COLUMBIA ELEMENTARY EARLY in May to teach 5th graders about food chains and food webs. The materials they used for the lessons were books that they wrote, illustrated and published themselves.

Just a few weeks earlier at Sunnyslope Elementary, Amy Lammert's fifth graders paired up with 1st graders in Peggy Martin's class for a STEAM (Science Technology Engineering, Arts and Math) project to see which team could built the tallest tower that would withstand wind.

In both STEAM lessons, older students were teaching and helping younger students in unique learning experiences.

"The 7th grade scientists created children's books using Google Docs for the writing, and either hand drawn pictures or pictures created on an iPad," explained science teacher Erica Wilson. "The students used real publishing software and compiled their stories and pictures into a real book which has an ISBN number. These books are carefully created to help 5th grade students learn about food chains and food webs."

Seventh grader Emma Gonzalez wrote Hedgehogs Take a Swim with Karissa Murie, illustrated by Alicia Monge. "We don't use pencil and paper," Emma



Emma Gonzalez, a 7th grader in Erica Wilson's science class, teaches Columbia 5th graders Elgin Negrete and Martina Ramirez Jeronimo about food chains using *Hedgehogs Take a Swim*, a book she wrote with Karissa Murie, illustrated by Alicia Monge.

said of working in Wilson's science class. Whether they're creating books or doing science lesson, Wilson's students use iPads.

Wilson created a lesson plan, which was included in each book, and the information in the books meets the Next Generation Science Standards. The 7th graders read their books to two 5th graders, and helped the elementary students create a food chain poster.

Columbia 5th grade teachers Gretchen Cline, Alison Haug and Katie Weaver selected the student-created books to keep in their classes for future lessons. Books were also donated to the Columbia library. "It was great to have mentor teaching," said Katie Weaver. "They were all engaged and it was amazing to watch. The seventh graders had pride in being published."

In the peer-teaching lesson, at Sunnyslope 1st and 5th graders teamed up for a project called Tallest Towers Design Challenge. Teachers Amy Lammert and Peggy Martin's have teamed their students before. "First graders learn skills like sharing," says 1st grade teacher Peggy Martin. "It helps my kids a ton to be read to and problem solve [with an older student]. The 5th graders learn patience."

"The question was," said teacher Amy Lammert, "how can you make a tall tower that mimics how plants are able to stand in the wind?"

The students first learned the vocabulary of building and design, words like mimic, tower and engineer. They built a tower out of pipe cleaners, newspaper, masking tape, popsicle sticks, among other materials, trying to build the tallest tower they could that would withstand wind—in this case generated by fans

(Continued on page 11)

Washington Elementary Recognized by State for Reading Achievement for Third Consecutive Year

FOR THE THIRD YEAR IN A ROW, WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY IS A RECIPIENT of the 2015 Washington Achievement Award for Reading Growth.

"It's certainly a great honor," says Washington principal Keith Collins, "because you're placed in the top 5% of all elementary schools in the State of Washington."

"The Achievement Awards recognize schools and educators making a difference in student outcomes," said Isabel Muñoz-Colón, State Board of Education Chair. "Award recipients are schools that have made measurable progress helping students prepare for college, career, and life."

The awards use the State Board of Education Revised Achievement Index and are based on statewide assessment data for the three previous years. The Achievement Index measures school performance, emphasizing improvement and recognition.

Collins says he and his staff have spent a lot of time learning about the Achievement Index to better understand it, and to understand how the state is measuring students. Then they focus on sub-groups of students who may struggle with reading and language arts, such as special education, low income or bilingual students. The teachers and intervention specialists know exactly who those students are, and they monitor their progress, as they do all students, so they can step in and help when any student struggles.

"The big thing for us has been taking that data we have on each of those students, and then providing them with intervention that specifically targets their specific sub-skill deficiency," explains Collins.

The Washington Elementary team has achieved being in the top 5% statewide in reading growth for three years despite the fact that there have been three different state assessments to measure reading achievement, and a new reading curriculum was introduced in the district this year.

"It's been a real team effort," says Collins.

The award-winning schools were honored during a ceremony on May 10 at Union Gap School in Union Gap School District. Two hundred fifty eight schools earned Washington Achievement Awards for 2015.



Renee Wilkens teaches a reading lesson at Washington Elementary. The school has been recognized by the State of Washington Board of Education for achievement in reading three years in a row. "It's been a real team effort," says Washington Principal Keith Collins.

WestSide Students Compete at National Leadership Academy

THREE STUDENTS FROM WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL COMPETED AT A "JOBS for America's Graduates" (JAG) National Leadership Academy in Washington D.C. December 2-6. Jordyn Jackson, Anthony Reyes-Rodriguez, and Carsen Bertram attended the Academy.

The Academy hosted leadership activities and awards, along with competitive events in public speaking, employability skills, and math skills.

Carsen Bertram, a sophomore, took 2nd place in the math skills competition, the first time a student from the Washington State has placed at nationals. Senior Jordyn Jackson competed in public speaking, and senior Anthony Reyes-Rodriguez competed in employability skills.

Jordyn was selected as the Washington State representative, and attended a special luncheon where she sat with two national board members and Washington's superintendent Randy Dorn.

"The students did phenomenal at representing our school, our program, and our state," said Sheena Zacherle, JAG instructor who accompanied the students

(Continued on page 12)

PEER MENTORING

(Continued from page 10)

in the multipurpose room. Students also had to figure out the cost of their project. The design challenge matched the Next Generation Science Standards.

"It was fun," said 5th grader Lauren. "It taught the 1st graders a lot about towers."

"You can see a lot of caring and engagement," said principal Dave Perkins. "The best way to learn is to teach. It's a great challenge."



First grader Jessica Chi and 5th grader Ella Dickmann measure the height of their tower/flower. Their project took the tallest tower award that stood up to the wind test.

Technology and STEM Showcase

Our annual technology and STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) showcase was another hit this year. For 2016 we packed Pybus Market with over 30 exhibits featuring students, teachers, and vendors from North Central Washington. If you didn't get a chance to attend the event you can catch a glimpse of the awesomeness on the web at <http://bit.ly/techshowcase2016>. There are some exciting things happening in some of our 21st century classrooms that would make any geek giddy! Here are a few highlights of the topics on display: science of video games, Google Apps, drones, robots, 3D printing, virtual reality, biopolymers, paperless classrooms, computer science, digital book reviews, and many more hands on learning exhibits.



Lincoln students show off robotics and 1:1 devices (one student gets one computer tablet to use all year) at the Technology Showcase Saturday May 14 at Pybus Market. Teachers Tina Nicpan-Brown (orange) and Daren Ferson watch the action.

Wenatchee Public Schools
P.O. Box 1767
Wenatchee, WA 98807-1767
Phone: 509.663.8161
Fax: 509.663.3082
www.wenatcheeschools.org



Important Dates

- ➔ **June 3:** WHS Graduation
- ➔ **June 7:** WSHS Graduation
- ➔ **June 10:** Last Day of School (students dismissed 3 hrs. earlier than their regular dismissal time)

Brian Fiones
Superintendent
(509) 663-8161
fiones.b@wenatcheeschools.org

Wenatchee School Board

Jennifer Talbot, President
Board Position #05

Robert Sealby, Vice President
Board Position #04

Laura Jaecks
Board Position #01

Dr. Walter S. Newman
Board Position #02

Claudia de Robles
Board Position #03

WESTSIDE COMPETITION *(Continued from page 11)*

on the trip. "This trip is an incredible experience for students."

Over seven hundred students from around the nation attended the academy. Along with learning leadership skills, the WestSide students attended a wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington Cemetery, visited the Holocaust Museum and went on a night tour of the city.

The trip was made possible due to the generosity of the Wenatchee's Women's Junior Service League, who paid for flights and the hotels, and the Wenatchee Rotary, who paid for Academy registration.

JAG is a nonprofit organization that helps at-risk young people overcome barriers to graduation from high school and become college and career ready.



Carsen Bertram



Jordyn Jackson



Anthony Reyes Rodriguez



Sheena Zacherle



Brenda Castaneda

Sports Medicine Team's Case Study Selected for National Conference

BRENDA CASTANEDA, DANIKA KAPEIKIS, KAYLI BROWN, AND JULIA JOBE, ALL seniors in the WHS Sports Medicine Program, have been selected to present their medical case study at the National Athletic Trainers Association Annual Meeting to be held in Baltimore, Maryland June 23-26.

Dale Blair, Director of the Sports Medicine Program at WHS, says it's a blind submission process where names and schools are not included on the papers. The WHS case study competed with those submitted by university professors, graduate and undergraduate students. Only a selected few are chosen to be presented at the conference.

"They are the only high school students in the nation to have a case study accepted this year," said Blair.

The WHS case study involved a 24 year-old collegiate female distance runner with a fractured sesamoid bone in the foot.

"All four of these girls have made significant contributions to our program in the last three years," says Blair. "This is just one more outstanding accomplishment they can be proud of."



Danika Kapeikis



Julia Jobe



Kayli Brown

Inside Wenatchee Schools is a newspaper published quarterly by the Wenatchee School District Communications Office, Teri Fink, Editor (509) 663-8161. The Wenatchee School District complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, marital status, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained guide dog or service animal by a person with a disability, in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. This holds true for all staff and for students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities. Inquiries may be directed to RCW Officer, Title IX and ADA Coordinator Lisa Turner. Issues related to 504 should be directed to Mark Helm, Administrator of Student Services. Dentro de Wenatchee Escuelas Públicas está disponible en español en las escuelas de Wenatchee o en la oficina del distrito o llame (509) 663-4598.



Follow us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/wsd246



Connect with us on Twitter
twitter.com/WenatcheeSD