

INSIDE Wenatchee Public Schools

Project GLAD® research-based high-engagement strategies

Fifth graders gather around teacher Kathryn Anderson to discuss a book they had read together—*A Train to Somewhere*—a story of orphan trains of the early 20th century. The kids sit on the floor around Anderson and together they process the story using a chart covered in pictures and dialogue bubbles and vocabulary words like *orphan*, *tenement*, *locomotive* from the book.

During the day Anderson writes more words on a chart where nouns are orange, verbs are green, and adverbs are blue. She asks a question and instructs the students to “turn and talk” with partners.

The rich imagery, the vocabulary words, the color coding, the processing of story through talking with other students are all intentional teaching skills designed to engage students and help them learn. They are strategies of Project GLAD®, a research-based model of teaching strategies developed to promote English language

acquisition, academic achievement and cross-cultural skills. GLAD® stands for Guided Language Acquisition Design, and it’s tied to the Common Core State Standards and State Standards.

Cynthia Valdez, Kathy Anderson, and Terri Goveia are all becoming certified as GLAD® trainers so they can bring the tools throughout the district at a more economical cost than sending teachers to the extensive GLAD® trainings.

“The pictorial chart is content presented in pictures and developed in front of the kids. It’s all based on brain research and imprinting,” explains Cynthia Valdez. Valdez has been a teacher, principal, district administrator, and is now a Special Programs Coordinator who is bringing Project GLAD® classrooms throughout the district.

“I was trained in GLAD® two years ago,” says Terri Goveia, a teacher with over thirty years of experience. “It really transformed

me as a teacher. I saw what it did for the kids in my classroom. I saw some of my students who were shy or not confident absolutely bloom. They felt safe, they felt part of a team. Learning really became more of a team sport than an individual activity.”

“I really love how the students are engaged,” says Kathy Anderson, former third grade teacher and literacy coach. “Everybody—your English Language Learners to your high level students—are participating, and everybody is excited about learning.”

What does a GLAD® classroom look like?

“At the beginning of a unit the walls will be blank and everything will emerge with the students, created with and for the students,” says Valdez. “The walls will be dripping with language everywhere. You’ll see color-coding for brain imprinting. You’ll see pictures, the scaffolding of

sketches.”

The wall charts and pictures are produced, processed and reviewed with students. “They have ownership of all of the charts so they actually use them as resources,” says Anderson.

The GLAD® classroom also has students gathering together close to the teacher for instruction. “When you’re doing your key instruction the kids are always up close,” explains Goveia, who says our brains are hardwired to pay closer attention when someone asks us to move close.

What does a GLAD® classroom sound like?

You may hear discussions between students because a GLAD® classroom includes cooperative learning, where students work in teams. There are also the ten-two lectures, where teachers talk for ten minutes followed by two minutes of students talking to each other about

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WENATCHEE LEARNS

Wenatchee Learns Strategy Three: Use the best tools and resources to advance Learning
Key Objective: The right tools and resources for staff



Terri Goveia teaches fifth graders at Newbery Elementary using GLAD strategies. Students are working cooperatively in groups, and Terri has randomly selected a student to be spokesperson for her group. Notice the walls in the classroom are covered in charts created with the students and used as resources throughout the unit of study. Project GLAD is a model of professional development in the area of language acquisition and literacy.

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Susan Sears 2014 Washington State Career and Technical Educator of the Year

Susan Sears is the 2014 Washington State Career and Technical Educator of the Year. Susan is a Business Education teacher at Wenatchee High School, where she has taught for more than ten years. The award recognizes teachers who exemplify the highest standards in career and technical education.

"With all the deserving CTE professionals throughout the state of Washington, it is an incredible honor to receive this prestigious award," Susan said. "I want to thank Wenatchee High School and Wenatchee School District, along with Washington State Business Education Association for their

continued support and high esteem in Career and Technical Education."

"We are very proud of Susan and know that she is a great example of what all of our CTE teachers do on a daily basis," said Dennis Conger, school district Director of CTE. "Susan always has a can do attitude and goes the extra mile for her students every day."

In addition to her teaching, Susan is a Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) advisor. She has also accepted leadership roles at WHS, including co-chairing the Learning Improvement Team, taking a leadership role in the school accreditation process,

and leading the AdvancED organization when it was piloted at WHS. She has served as accountant for the Central Regions of Washington FBLA for several years, and accepted a position as board member of the Washington State Business Education Association (WSBEA). She represents WSBEA on the Washington Association for Career and Technical Education Board.

Susan was presented the award at the Washington State Career and Technical Education Summer Conference August 3-6, 2014 in Yakima, Washington. She will represent Washington State as a finalist, along with finalists



Sears

from each western state at the 2015 ACTE Region 5 Conference in April 2015.

WL WENATCHEE LEARNS
Wenatchee Learns Strategy Four: Balance change for all with excellence for all
Key Objective: Highly trained and engaged staff



State Ag Director **Bud Hover** and Washington's First Lady **Trudi Inslee**

Inslee, Hover, Visit to Celebrate Locally Grown Food in Schools

Washington's First Lady **Trudi Inslee** and State Agriculture Director **Bud Hover** visited three Wenatchee Schools as part of the Taste of Washington Day, an annual celebration of Washington grown foods served in school meals.

At Newbery Elementary, Inslee talked to the kids as they were enjoying lunch that included fresh locally grown produce and locally raised beef. "Wenatchee has been ahead of the curve about Farm to School programs by serving locally supplied food to their students for several years," said Inslee. "We want to brag about that and make sure other schools across the state want to replicate this, as many already are."

Don "Bud" Hover, Director of the Washington State Department of Agriculture, which co-sponsors Taste of Washington, said that many people are losing the connection of where their food comes from. "Particularly in the Puget Sound area where more and more people have become detached from where their food is grown or how it's grown or what it takes to grow it," Hover said. "It's important to get those folks to understand what it takes to put high quality, healthy, nutritious food on the table."

NEWS BRIEFS

NATA Safe Sports School Award to WHS

Wenatchee High School is the recipient of the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) Safe Sports School award. The award champions safety and recognizes secondary schools that provide

safe environments for student athletes. The award reinforces the importance of providing the best level of care, injury prevention and treatment.

"We are only the second school in the state to earn this honor, says **Dale Blair**, Certified Athletic Trainer and Sports Medicine program director.

Athletic trainers are health care professionals who specialize in the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of injuries and sport-related illnesses, and this award reflects the commitment to keeping student athletes safe during physical education classes, team practices and games so they can accomplish their own goals of great competition, winning records, fair sportsmanship and good health.

"The award represents the

quality of individuals that we have working in our sports medicine department," says Jim Beeson, Athletic Director, "and the hard work they put in to ensure the safety of our student athletes."

National Merit Commended Students

Serena Fitzgerald and **Austin Schmaltz** have been named Commended Students in the 2015 National Merit Scholarship Program. Each student receives a Letter of Commendation from Wenatchee High School and the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, which conducts the program. About 34,000 students throughout the nation are recognized as a Commended Student Standard, which is based on their exceptional academic promise.



Fitzgerald



Schmaltz



Dale Blair is a Certified Athletic Trainer and Director of the Sports Medicine program at WHS.

ASB President Luke Carlson: Positivity and Kindness

By Luke Carlson

As some of you might know, my name is Luke Carlson. I am the ASB president here at Wenatchee High School. I was generously asked to write a column for the

In the past, our ASB did not always prove that they were willing to do what needed to be done for the improvement of WHS. That raises the question, does something

a problem. Talk with the students of WHS and ask them. I have. Wherever students feel alone and unwanted lies a problem.

Last year when I transferred to WHS I didn't know a whole lot of people. I spent the first couple weeks engaging in small talk with random students in my classes and at lunch. Being the social butterfly that I am, soon enough I had gained a strange assortment of friends and buddies. One particular fellow I was privileged to meet had recently moved to Wenatchee from a different state. He did not know one person from the state of Washington. As our relationship grew and I learned more about him I realized how gentle, thoughtful and humble he was. At first glance you might have been startled by his long dark hair and the sad expression on his face, but in reality his appearance was everything that he was not.

Getting to know someone is as simple as asking them how they are doing with a genuine smile on your face. I challenged the students of WHS to learn the name of a person you don't know every week. I challenged the WHS student body to care for their fellow students. Students need this simple act of love more than we could ever know. Through acts of genuine kindness we can make a positive impact on the atmosphere in our school. I know ASB's official job is to put on events and plan dances, but as student leaders we have the influence to impact our surroundings and our classmates with positivity and kindness. I, along with the whole ASB team, will not squander this opportunity to help those in need. My hope for WHS is to start making the conscious decision to bring positivity and kindness to school every day.



Luke Wilson

Photo by Kiana Wilson, Apple Leaf staff photographer

district newsletter. My hope is to convey through this unique opportunity my intentions for the 2014–2015 school year at WHS.

need to be done? And if something does, what would it be? Is there something actually wrong with the high school? I say that there is

Personal Tech Devices Engage Students, Facilitate New Online State Testing

By Ray Birks and Ron Brown

As we move more classwork and assessment online additional personal learning devices are critical to give our students the tools they need to succeed. To that end, Instructional Technology has purchased seven mobile Chromebook labs for use in the high schools and middle schools, along with additional mobile iPad and MacBook Air labs to use in our K-8 buildings. In addition, Tina Nicpan-Brown's fifth-grade students at Lincoln Elementary are using the brand new Samsung Galaxy Tab 4 tablets. These tablets have a similar look and feel as an iPad and have many of the same functionalities and apps. As with

the iPads being used in the middle and elementary schools, the goal of using the Samsung tablets is to foster engaging and personalized learning to match the district's current initiatives.

With the need for online testing growing every year, Chromebooks provide a flexible, less expensive way to get technology into the hands of students and teachers to begin meeting the demand for technology in the classroom. The primary purpose of the additional hardware is to decrease the time it will take to give the all online Smarter Balanced assessments in the spring.

A Chromebook is a laptop running the Chrome OS operating system and is designed to be used primarily with an Internet connection through Google. Students will be able to access their information stored in the cloud with our Google Apps for Education suite.



NEWS BRIEFS

Apple Leaf Recognized for Excellence

On Sept. 11, the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA) announced the The Apple Leaf as a finalist for the 2013 Newspaper Pacemaker awards for high school publications. Entries were judged on coverage and content, quality of writing and reporting, leadership on the opinion page, evidence of in-depth reporting, layout and design, as well as photography, art and graphics.

Bryce Newberry, Emily Cieslak, Eduardo Ramos and Kiana Wilson will attend the fall convention in Washington DC November 6-9.

Rivera Named NFL Seahawk Hispanic Heritage Award Winner

Ramon Rivera was presented the NFL Seattle Seahawks Hispanic Heritage Award at an assembly at Wenatchee High School on September 26th. Rivera is the Director of the Mariachi Music Program in Wenatchee School District. Seahawks representative

Armando Mejia, accompanied by two Seagals, presented the award to Rivera. Upon accepting the award, a surprised Rivera teared up. "I may have to go cry for two hours after this," he said.

The award recognizes the contributions of Hispanic leaders in each NFL market, and Ramon was selected for the Seattle Seahawks. Part of the award includes a \$2,000 donation to an organization that serves the local Hispanic community. Rivera has selected the Mariachi program.

Donor Funds Rec Park Renovations

A private anonymous donor is providing up to one million dollars to renovate Recreation Park. Renovation will include new batting cages, replacing infield grass and soil with synthetic turf and new soil, modernization of existing restrooms and concession areas.

"With tremendous gratitude and appreciation that we accept this donation," said board member Jesús Hernández.

New Assistant Principals, Director

David Perkins, WHS Assistant Principal



David Perkins is the new assistant principal at Wenatchee High School, replacing Gracie Helm who moved to elementary assistant principal.

David grew up in Seattle and graduated from Washington State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Social Studies and teacher certification.

"I started off majoring in pharmacy," he says. "Then I really felt like I wanted to be with kids and working with people, so I switched my major to social studies."

After graduation he and his wife, Amber, moved to Phoenix, Arizona where he taught middle school social studies and she taught second grade and kindergarten. David went on to earn his Masters Degree from Northern Arizona University in Educational Leadership. He became Dean of Students at a K-8 school where his responsibilities included student discipline, teacher evaluation, assessment coordinator, and English Language Learner program coordinator. "I wore a lot of hats in that position," says Perkins. "It was great training before taking the assistant principal position at WHS."

Perkins priority is building positive relationships with students. He's focused on providing the best possible learning environment for students. He's impressed with the large size of WHS because of the many opportunities it offers in academics, athletics and activities "There's something for everybody, and I think that's really important."

Perkins also enjoys how the community embraces Wenatchee High School. "Going to last week's football game was a great experience for me—sort of that Friday Night Lights atmosphere. It's a really fun environment. I'm glad I'm here."

Perkins and his wife have a three-year-old son, Grant.

Jeremy Wheatley, Orchard Assistant Principal



Jeremy Wheatley is the new Orchard Middle School Assistant Principal, replacing Taunya Brown who is now Orchard Principal.

Wheatley has a BS in Technology Education from Eastern Washington University, and a Masters Degree in Education Administration from University of Washington. He earned his principal credentials in 2004 from University of Washington and recently earned his CTE Director credentials.

His career in education has taken him from teaching woodshop and industrial arts at Willapa Valley High School, then taught and became Dean of Students at Cedar River Middle School, which is located in Maple Valley.

He then moved to Cashmere Middle School where he was Assistant Principal and Athletic Director for the past eight years.

"Wenatchee is a big school district that has that small school feel," says Wheatley, whose focus is on consensus decision making, being part of the building leadership team and professional learning communities.

He grew up on a wheat farm in Dayton, Washington. "I grew up farming and wanted to be a farmer, but there wasn't room on the farm for one more. Anything with agriculture is certainly at the core of what I like to do."

Jeremy Wheatley is married to Tera, a Speech Language Pathologist at Vale Elementary School in Cashmere. They have two daughters Ralene 8, and Kylie, 6.

"We raise animals at home—beef and chickens," says Wheatley. "Back to my farming roots. We always do a big vacation spring break because I go back home to Dayton for wheat harvest every summer. It's a really big part of who I am."

Adam Bergstrom, Director of Safety and Security



Adam Bergstrom joined Wenatchee School District as the Director of Safety and Security in August. Bergstrom served as a Special Forces Green Beret in the Army during a twenty-two year military career, serving many years in the Middle East.

After retirement from the military he became a contractor for the Missile Defense Agency for three years before becoming Program Manager and Security Specialist for the Department of Defense Education.

"They run the kindergarten through twelfth grade schools around the world on the military bases," says Bergstrom. "I liked the idea of working with the kids to make sure they're safe."

He held the position for the past seven years and lived in Washington, DC for the last ten years along with his wife Allison, who was a senior counterintelligence analyst and editing manager for counterintelligence communications. They wanted to live in a small community, and found Leavenworth and felt they belonged. When the job came along in Wenatchee, it was the perfect fit.

His goal for the district is safety and security that is comprehensive and consistent.

Bergstrom is also an accomplished artist, specializing in woodworking, fine art pencil, oils, and most currently powdered graphite drawings, where he dusts layers of graphite onto paper with a dry brush. Check out his website at www.adambergstromart.com

He has two daughters, Jennifer, 28 and Amy, 24, who live in Kansas.



Wenatchee Learns Strategy Four: Balance change for all with excellence for all
Key Objective: Highly trained and engaged staff

Snow Days

How and when will you find out if school is late or closed?

- Listen to local radio stations, both English and Spanish language stations.
- Look at the school district website: www.wenatcheeschools.org
- Follow us on Twitter.
- Some schools call home using the Parent Link phone calling system.

How does the school district decide whether to close or delay school?

"The Wenatchee School District is registered and receiving weekly briefings and high alert messages from the National Weather Service based out of Spokane, for our particular region," says Director of Transportation Marcia Hahn. "This technology allows our district to have the most up to the minute and impending weather forecasts. Having this resource at our fingertips allows us to be well informed in making the tough decisions on late starts or school closures. These decisions are now based on fact and current information streaming in and not by just driving around and/or looking outside!"

Hahn then reports her findings to the superintendent, who makes the final decision on school closures.

Why is school start delayed?

Delaying school gives the transportation department time to chain up the fleet. "It also puts our kids in a safer, non-commute time," says Hahn, "when people aren't going into work, so there is less traffic on the road."

School delays and closures can really impact a family's schedule. What can be done about the disruption?

"This is not something that is taken lightly," says Hahn. "We know it's very disruptive for working parents that have to come up with "Plan B" for the care of their children. Families of young children should have a backup plan in the event that we do have one of these days."

It's important for kids to wear appropriate winter clothing - coats, boots, hats and gloves.

Questions? Call Transportation: 662-6168.

Science Technology Engineering & Math + Community Experts

Students Study Fish with Biologist

Biologist **Sean Koester** taught hands-on fish anatomy to third graders at Washington Elementary School in October. Students dissected trout in the fish anatomy lesson, but they learned all about salmon along the way.

Students examined the outside of the fish and learned that spots and speckles are camouflage, that fish breathe using gills, that fish are slimy to help them survive when they bump into hard things, like rocks at the bottom of a river, and that fish slime also offers antibiotic and antiseptic protection. The kids learned that although fish don't have eyelids, the brain turns off eyesight when they want to sleep, that fish have teeth in their mouth and on their tongue, and that salmon's sense of smell is a thousand times better than the

family dog.

With the help of adult volunteers the fish were cut open. The kids identified each organ, learned what the organ functions are, and carefully placed each part on a labeled grid. Swim bladders, hearts, livers, and spleens saw the light of day, and the function of each organ was discussed. Even the fish brain got into the action.

Koester is with The Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement



Kerra Stewart, Tessa Pollock, Molly Jackson and Alana Reinfeld study fish anatomy with biologist **Sean Koester**. The third graders are students in Heidi Bucholz's class at Washington Elementary.

Group—a non-profit organization working within Chelan, Douglas, Okanogan and Ferry counties to facilitate sustainable fisheries enhancement projects for future generations. “We see education

as part of a solution to restoring native fish runs,” says Sean. “Our organization does physical habitat restoration, and [coming into schools] is a part of that.”

WENATCHEE LEARNS

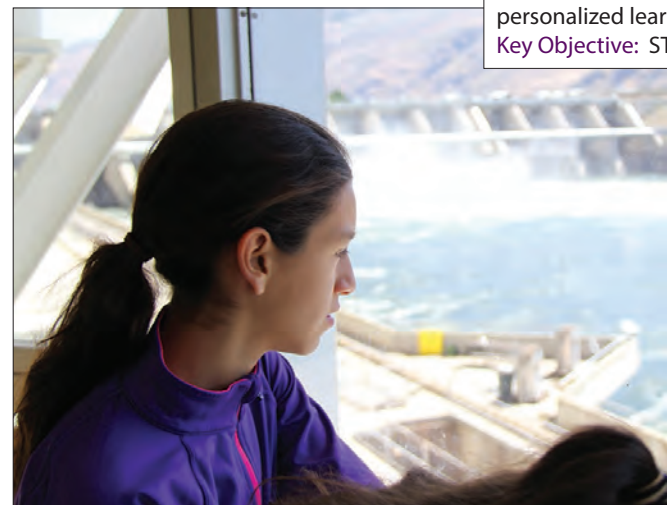
Wenatchee Learns Strategy One: Design the personalized learning system of the future
Key Objective: STEM/Project based learning

Chelan County PUD's River of Power

River of Power is a science field experience partnership between Chelan County PUD and Wenatchee School District. Each June, fourth graders explore Rocky Reach Dam and learn about electricity, hydropower generation and transmission, the power of the Columbia River, salmon habitat, alternative power, the engineering of a dam, along with local history and habitat.

Thanks to Chelan County PUD's **Debbie Gallaher**, Visitor Services Manager and **Bob Bauer**, Education and Communications Specialist, for coordinating this rich learning experience.

Science Coordinator **Jill Fineis** and Science Resource Center Specialist **Ariahna Jones** coordinate school side of the experience.



Kassandra Tapia, a student in **Kevin Parr's** 4th grade class at Lincoln Elementary last June, learns about the spillways at Rocky Reach Dam.

Soil Erosion Studies at Dry Gulch Preserve

Second graders traveled to Dry Gulch Preserve to study land, how it changes, and what factors affect change. In hands-on activities students studied the affect of rainfall on soil using a stream table. They used turbidity—the amount of soil suspended in water—to see how much soil was washed away by rain. In teams of four, the kids

observed what happened to soil in a stream table when it rained (water poured rain-like onto soil). Muddy water streamed down the table and through a hole in the bottom into a cup. Next they evaluated the turbidity of the water, and found it had a high turbidity—it was pretty muddy water.

Students learned the seven steps of engineering: identifying the problem (turbidity in water caused by too much soil run-off), brainstorm a solution, design, build, test & evaluate, share the results with others, and redesign. Teams brainstormed a way to keep the soil from eroding, and created drawings of materials and designs they would use

to keep the soil from washing away. They chose from a variety of materials, like rocks, trees, lichen and canvas, which they added to their soil according to the design.

They tested their designs with rain, observing the amount of water and turbidity of water that ran off the soil.

There were spectacular successes. One team member watched the nearly clear water run from her team's design. “This is what we wanted to happen,” she said.

It may have been a hard day of engineering, but Olivia, a second grader in Ryan Weaver's class, said, “It was awesome that we got to do this. I loved this day.”



Second graders study the erosion after a rainstorm. Notice how the soil has washed down to the bottom of the tray.



Students identified the problem (erosion), brainstormed, and engineered a design to hold soil in place. These students selected grass, lichen, rocks, trees and sticks. They measured the success of their design by the turbidity (muddiness) of water collected in the cup.

Wenatchee Learns Connect Partnership Center Kicks off with a Party

By Diana Haglund, Wenatchee Learns Connect

On August 28 The Wenatchee School District unveiled the new Wenatchee Learns Connect (WLC) Partnership Center with a loud and exuberant celebration in downtown Wenatchee. The sound of music, laughter and excitement filled the air at 2 South Mission Street as Superintendent Brian Fones and Wenatchee Mayor Frank Kuntz prepared to cut the ribbon during the grand opening. Over a hundred Community leaders, District staff, parents, students and businesses turned out to join in the celebration.

The opening of Wenatchee Learns Connect is a significant milestone for the District and was the direct result of the 2011 Wenatchee Learns strategic visioning process that allowed students, staff and the community to set the direction for learning.

Three key themes that emerged from that process where the need to develop a more personalized approach to education, leverage technology, and

extend the role of educator.

The partnership center serves as a physical hub for connecting community, engaging parents, and cultivating relationships with business partners. In addition they manage the District's new online volunteer application portal wenatcheelearns.com and support District wide college and career readiness initiatives.

Launch of Online Partner (volunteer) Portal a Success

Since the grand opening of Wenatchee Learns Connect Partnership Center over 1,500 people have signed up using the new online partner (volunteer) application at wenatcheelearns.com.

The online application allows partners (volunteers) to create an online account and choose from a list of volunteer categories that match their area of interests. Categories range

from general classroom/school volunteer support to career related mentorship.

Businesses can also sign up using the partner portal at wenatcheelearns.com to create company profiles and share information about their business and industry with students and staff. These profiles are accessible to high school students through their online college and career readiness course. Business partners can make an impact on students early in their academic careers by helping them put their future into focus.

For more information about the online partner (volunteer) application got to wenatcheelearns.com or call (509)888.2828

Parent Organizations – Beyond the Bake Sale

Involved parents understand the challenges schools face and become part of the solution. Parent groups such as PTA, PTO, and Migrant/Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) are

dedicated groups of parents that provide programs and resources to all families to improve learning. Parent groups are partners with their schools and the District and address issues that are important to educators and parents.

How to join

PTA or PTO - contact your child's school office for current organization president

Migrant/Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) contact Cynthia Valdez at valdez.c@wenatcheeschools.org or (509) 663.8161 x 33248

Don't have access to a computer or internet?

Make an appointment with the Wenatchee Learns Connect staff by calling (509) 888.2828 and we'll help you complete the partner (volunteer) application.



Superintendent Brian Fones and Mayor Frank Kuntz cut the ribbon for the new Wenatchee Learns Connect office at 2 South Mission Street

Left to right: Robert Sealby and Jennifer Talbot, school board members, Superintendent Brian Fones, Mayor Frank Kuntz, Dennis Conger, CTE Director, Kris Cameron, WenEA President, Sarah Hanchey, Curriculum & Instruction Director

WENATCHEE LEARNS

Wenatchee Learns Strategy Two: Tap into the power of our whole community
Key Objective: Citizen-student mentoring

Community Partner Opportunity: Science Field Experience

We are looking for volunteers to be field instructors for outdoor science experiences held throughout the year. Students and volunteers will be immersed in hands-on science practices and fun outdoor learning. You do not need to be a trained scientist, and you can choose the age and activity. We are looking for motivated and interested community members who understand the value field science adds to classroom curriculum. As a field instructor, you will lead a small group of students through a series of activities.

For more information and/or to volunteer contact:

Jill Fineis, K-8 Science Coordinator, 663-9106 x251 Email: fineis.j@wenatcheeschools.org. Or Ariaehna Jones, Science Resource Specialist, 663-9106 x248, Email: jones.a@wenatcheeschools.org

State Board of Education Tours Wenatchee Schools

By Rick Steigmeyer, Wenatchee World Staff Writer

Washington State Board of Education directors were impressed with the Wenatchee School District after their tour of two schools and the new Wenatchee Learns Connect office Thursday.

"I am totally impressed on the district's focus on hope and intrinsic motivation," said Deborah Wilds, the board's vice chairman from Issaquah and former president of the College Success Foundation. "I'm in schools all the time and this is something that has been fundamentally missed in the educational process. You have hit it on the head here and the data shows it with nearly a 90 percent graduation rate."

Members of the statewide school board toured Washington Elementary School and Wenatchee High School Thursday to wind up their three-day meeting and retreat in Wenatchee. The Washington Elementary tour focused on the school's Washington Achievement Award-winning reading program.

At the high school, the focus was on college and career preparation, something the board has been grappling with in recent meetings as it develops policy to align state schools with Common Core standards. One of many changes coming up is the transition to new assessment tests that will show high school students' strengths

and weaknesses as they prepare for college and career.

Wenatchee High School Principal Bob Celebrezze told the group that the school's goal is to make all its students life-long learners with hope and confidence for the future. The school's 89.5 percent graduation rate may be well above the state average of 76 percent, but it's not good enough, he said. Not all students are destined to go to four-year colleges, but all should have ideas about their career path and how to pursue them, whether it be through college, trade schools, military service and job training programs.

Members were particularly interested in the new Wenatchee Learns program and its Connect system of partnering students with community businesses and organizations, said Brian Fones, Wenatchee School superintendent.

"Wenatchee Connect is cutting edge. It's the only program of its kind in the state and the board wants to see how it's working and how it can be extended to other schools," Fones said.

The program is a way to personalize learning and offer students clear ideas about career paths through internships, job shadowing and other experience,

said Diana Haglund, Wenatchee Learns coordinator. The program is just getting started after a series of community surveys about how to personalize education began in 2011 and more than a year of preparation, she said.

Connie Fletcher, a board of education member from Issaquah, said she, too, was very impressed with the program. "Work experience is so important to kids. It gives them a real idea of what life is like after school and it's a source of pride for the community to be involved."

Story reprinted with permission from The Wenatchee World, September 15, 2014.



State Board of Education Executive Committee Vice-Chair **Deborah Wilds, Ph.D.** of Issaquah talks with **Jose Murillo** and **Eric Zaldivar**, students in **Beth Hammerberg's** Ag Biology class.

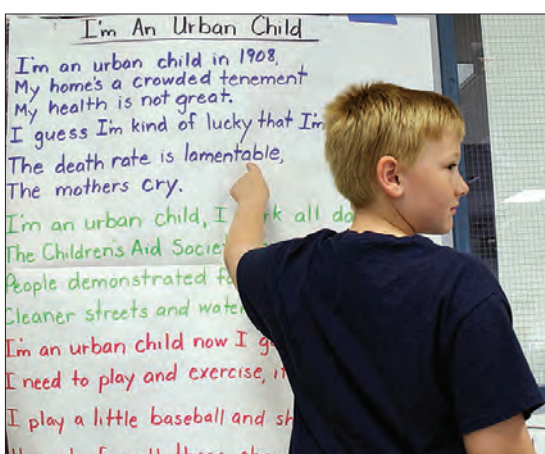
Project GLAD® continued from page 1

the material. "We really want to make sure kids get that time for oral processing," says Valdez.

You will also hear students sing chants written by teachers that include key vocabulary, and then set to a tune. Music is stored in a different part of the brain and helps students learn and access information. "Last year I was giving an end of unit test in science to name the three parts of a seed," says Goveia. "I saw one of my second language learners at his desk sing the song, and write it

down. It just helped him access the information."

There are more than 70 strategies in GLAD®. "It's a model of effective strategies that have been pulled together from research from experts in brain compatibility learning," says Cynthia Valdez. "It's put together into a bundle which is like a gift for teachers. It has high levels of student engagement. It works on refining your teaching skills. It pushes teachers to be the best teacher they can be."



Connor Rounds points out an interesting vocabulary word from a chart that is color-coded by stanza. The color coding provides a scaffold for all students, but especially those who have difficulty reading or are second language learners. Like scaffolding used in building a house, GLAD® scaffolding strategies provides support for students until they master the material.

Construction Bond Update

The Mission View safety improvements for pedestrians, autos and buses were ready for the first day of school. The Mission View Elementary School project is collaborative project between the Chelan County Public Works, the Wenatchee School District, and the state Safe Routes to School program to improve safety for students walking to school and other pedestrians.

The safety project provided:

- New one-way driveway entrance & exit for orderly drop off & pick up.
- New drop off sidewalk and wider sidewalks next to school.
- New bus queuing area with ADA (American Disabilities Act) compliant bus access path.
- Revised bus lane student drop off and pick up.
- Added 53 parking stalls for a total of 122.
- Revised fire lane access.
- Created 5 ADA compliant stalls in main parking area.
- Created ADA compliant curb ramps at the two street crossings next to the school.

The school district contribution was paid for by bond funds from the successful bond vote in February. Thank you, voters, for funding a safer Mission View Elementary School.



Wenatchee Learns Strategy Four: Balance change for all with excellence for all
Key Objective: Sound fiscal and resource management

Wenatchee Learns Strategy 2: Tap into the Power of Our Whole Community

Lewis & Clark PTSA and Alcoa Buy New Playground Equipment

Years of fundraising efforts by the Lewis & Clark PTSA (Parent Teacher Student Association) along with an Alcoa partnership came to fruition in September with the dedication of new playground equipment.

PTSA co-presidents are **Connie Strawn** and **Danielle Mitrakul**. Mitrakul said that the school's PTSA's throughout the years have hosted activities to raise funds for the equipment, saving it from year to year with the goal of purchasing new playground equipment.

The Alcoa Foundation has a program called Action—Alcoans Coming Together in Our Neighborhoods. The program supports the efforts of employees who volunteer together on a community service project. Eight Alcoa employees dedicated 100 combined hours of service to the Lewis & Clark project, which qualified for an Alcoa Foundation grant of \$3,000.



PTSA Co-President **Danielle Mitrakul**, 3rd grader **Naomi Valle**, and Alcoa's **Doug Humphries** celebrate the new playground equipment.

EVENTS

November

- November 5 College & Career Expo at WVC
- November 11 Veteran's Day
- November 13-15 & 20 - 22 Hairspray at WHS
- November 26 Students dismissed 3 hours early for Thanksgiving Break
- November 27-28 Thanksgiving Break

December

- December 16 & 17 Winter Concerts Band, Orchestra and Choir @ WHS
- December 22 - January 2 Winter Break
- January**
- January 19 Martin Luther King Day
- January 31 Instrumental Solo/ Ensemble NCW middle and high school

Class of '63 Donates Electronic Readerboard to WHS



Story by Reno Franklin, Appleleaf reporter. Photo by Kirsten Walker, Appleleaf photographer

A new reader board has been installed in front of Wenatchee High School and was paid for by donations of the Class of 1963 as a 50th year gift for the school. A total of \$18-19,000 was raised. Dick Black, a WHS alumni and retired brigadier general, led the effort to get the new board installed. "Nearly all schools that I have seen have an electronic reader board and I noticed that Wenatchee High School didn't," Black said.

Graybeal Signs was hired to place the reader board in front of WHS. The reader board will be used to communicate events, school-related successes, to thank people, and to release more information to the public. WHS installed a Class of '63 sign above the board to honor and thank them for their fine efforts in raising the money.

"We really appreciate the class of 1963 for the persistence

and hard work they put into this," Activities Director Brent Grothe said.

"This is a gift to the community when we advertise our school to the public," Black said at the dedication. "This gift was a wonderful way to improve our school and many thanks were given to the classmates that raised the money to purchase the reader board."

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Wenatchee School District 246



Wenatchee Schools

Directed by Paul Atwood
Music Direction by Dawn McCormick
WHS Choral Department Presents

hairspray
• THE BROADWAY MUSICAL •

**Nov. 13-15
and 20-22**

WHS Auditorium

**Evenings at 7:30 pm,
Saturday matinees at 2:00 pm**

Adults \$18, Students \$15
Ticket Info 888-0780
Available at Pak-It-Rite, 126 N. Wenatchee Ave.
Tickets also available online:
Wenatchee High School home page: whs.wsd.wednet.edu