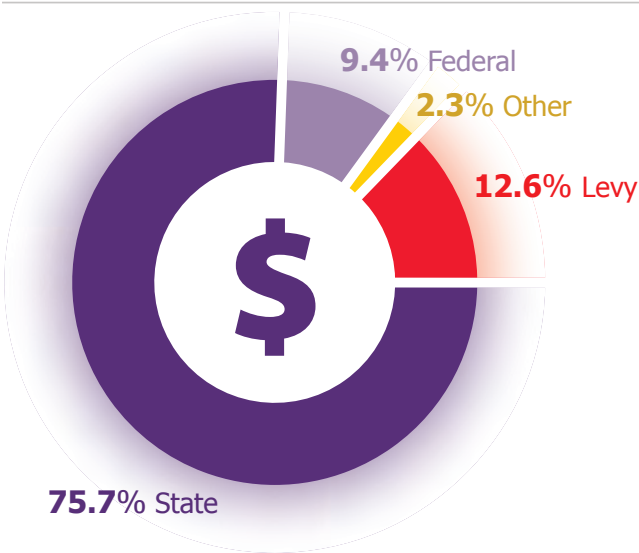


Inside WENATCHEE SCHOOLS



Renewal Educational Programs and Operations Levy Goes to Voters April 25, 2017

Wenatchee School District Budget



On April 25, 2017, the voters within the Wenatchee School District will be asked to vote on a Renewal Educational Programs and Operation Levy. The 4-year levy renews a levy approved by voters in 2013 and due to expire in 2017.

The renewal levy supports about 12.6% of the District’s budget and will maintain the District’s current level of educational programs and operation. Levies make up the difference between funding from the state and federal government and the actual cost of operating a school district.

School districts take both Levies and Bonds to voters. **What’s the difference between a Levy and a Bond? Levies are for Learning. Bonds are for Building.** Levies pay for teaching materials, equipment supplies and technology. Wenatchee’s Levy funds are collected over a four-year time period and must be renewed (similar to a magazine subscription). A Renewal Levy asks voters to renew an existing levy that is scheduled to expire.

Bonds are for Building. Bond funds are used for construction or renovation of buildings, major repairs, and land purchases; they cannot be used for basic education. Bond funds are generally collected over a 15 to 20-year period (similar to a home mortgage). Wenatchee School District will potentially be presenting a construction bond to voters in November 2017 for the modernization of Wenatchee High School and HVAC replacement for Foothills Middle School.

The levy pays for program support, equipment, supplies, and technology; examples include:

- Lower class sizes
 - Instructional assistants and support
 - Additional class offerings, such as online learning
 - Music, athletics and other extra-curricular programs
 - Elementary art specialists
 - K-12 counselors
 - Student Enrichment program
- AVID (Achievement Via Individual Determination) college readiness system
 - Technology hardware, software, training and operations support
 - Classroom textbooks
 - School materials and supplies
 - District operational costs
- Utilities
 - Transportation services
 - Capital equipment and replacement
 - Safety and Security services

Q & A

What is a Renewal Educational Programs and Operations Levy?

A local property tax authorized by voters to fund basic educational programs and operations to renew a levy that is scheduled to expire. The Washington Constitution limits educational programs and operation levies to a period not to exceed 4 years. School districts must then submit a new levy request to the voters. The District’s proposed 4-year educational programs and operation levy will renew the prior levy approved by the voters in 2013 and due to expire in 2017.

Why is a levy necessary?

The State does not fully fund the District’s basic education programs. The District’s proposed educational programs and operation levy makes up the shortfall.

What levy taxes are being proposed for the next four years?

The new levy request in 2018 is for approximately \$2.96 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The levy collection increases 3% each year to account for cost of living adjustments. See the following table:

Collection Years	Levy Collection
2018	\$12,527,890
2019	\$12,903,727
2020	\$13,290,839
2021	\$13,689,564

(Continued on page 2)

Dentro de Wenatchee Escuelas Públicas está disponible en español.

Inside WENATCHEE SCHOOLS
P.O. Box 1767 | Wenatchee, WA 98807-1767

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

ECRWSS
Postal Customer

Superintendent's Messages



Superintendent Brian Fones reads with children at Lincoln Elementary School during "Read In Day," when families and guests came to school for an hour of reading with students.

In this edition of inside Wenatchee Schools, we are pleased to highlight some of the outstanding accomplishments of our staff and students this school year, the exciting work that has started through Apple STEM Network, project based learning in our schools, results for our recent Wenatchee Learns Community Conversation using Thoughtexchange, and important information related to the renewal of our expiring Educational Program and Operations Levy.

Our district is able to provide a variety of quality educational experiences to our students because of the generous support of our community, exceptional parent involvement, and the outstanding efforts of our dedicated staff. **In 2013, we asked our public to consider our proposal to renew the replacement of our expiring educational programs and operations levy. The community responded by approving the levy. Now four years later, we are once again asking you to consider our proposal to renew our expiring levy on the Tuesday, April 25th ballot.**

We appreciate and thank you for your support on our current educational programs and operations levy. Please take a few minutes and read over the enclosed information for the 2018-2021 renewal levy. Please feel call me at 509-663-8161 if you have any questions, or if you would like us to present the information to a group or organization within the community.

Brian Fones, Superintendent

Survey Results from latest Community Conversation

We would to thank all of you who recently participated in our Thoughtexchange conversation regarding the school district and Citizens Facilities Committee's recommendation to consider a capital facilities project to modernize Wenatchee High School and address the heating and cooling system at Foothills Middle School.

The response from our community was encouraging, with 805 participants sharing 1,083 thoughts, and assigning 37,897 "Stars" to their top priorities.

The wide range of input will be extremely helpful to our Citizens Facilities Planning Committee in understanding the themes, community priorities, and next steps in addressing the facility needs at Wenatchee High School.

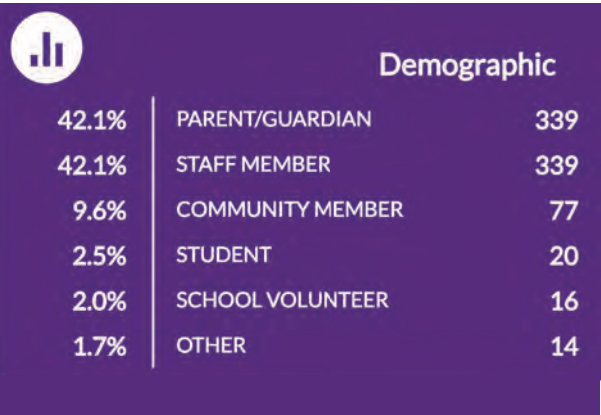
The time spent by our community to engage in this process is greatly appreciated and we hope you will continue to stay involved.

We are now ready to share the information and we encourage you to dig into the results and discover what our community is thinking and feeling about the project.

You'll find the results at:
<http://wsd.thoughtexchange.com>

Brian Fones,
Superintendent

Community Participation

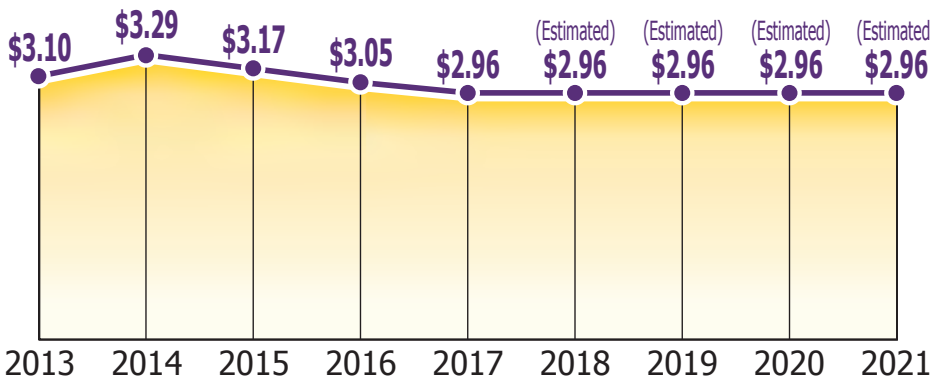


Renewal Educational Programs and Operations Levy Q & A

(Continued from page 1)

How does Wenatchee School District's proposed educational programs and operation levy rate compare to the District's prior levy rates?

See the following table for a history of levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value.



What are the voter-approval requirements for the District's proposed educational programs and operation levy?

Under State law at least 50% plus 1 of the votes cast must be "yes: to pass the levy.

How will the ballot proposition describe the District's proposed educational programs and operation levy?

PROPOSITION 1 WENATCHEE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 246
RENEWAL OF EXPIRING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND OPERATION LEVY
The Board of Directors of Wenatchee School District No. 246 adopted Resolution. No. 02-17, concerning a proposition for a renewal levy for education. This proposition would authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, in place of an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, for support of the District's General Fund educational programs and operation expenses:

Collection years	Approximate Levy Rate per \$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2018	\$2.96	\$12,527,890
2019	\$2.96	\$12,903,727
2020	\$2.96	\$13,290,839
2021	\$2.96	\$13,689,564
As provided in Resolution No. 02-17 should this proposition be approved?		
LEVY YES	LEVY NO	

Who do I contact if I have more questions?

You may contact **Brian Fones**, Superintendent or **Les Vandervort**, Chief Financial Officer, at (509) 663-8161

Is there a special tax exemption for senior or disabled citizens?

If you are at least 61 years old on December 31 of the application year with an annual household disposable income of \$40,000 or less, or unable to work because of a disability, or a veteran with a total disability rating for a service connected disability, you may be eligible for the Washington State property tax exemption program (dor.wa.gov). For information about your status, contact the office of the Chelan County Assessor at (509) 667-6365.

Julie Parker Earns National Board Certification



Julie Parker is the newest National Board Certified teacher in Wenatchee School District. The Pioneer Middle School Spanish and 6th grade Language Arts Teacher is one of 533 teachers nationwide who earned their certification as part of the class of 2016. Julie's certification brings the total number of active, National Board Certified teachers in the Wenatchee School District to 79.

"The National Board Certification process helped me become the best teacher I can possibly be for my students," said Julie. "It taught me to reflect more deeply on my instructional practices and to focus more on student learning."

"We are very excited to hear that Julie Parker has earned the distinction of becoming a National Board Certified teacher," said Superintendent Brian Fiones.

"It takes a great deal of time and dedicated effort to meet the standards for certification. Earning this distinction is truly a testament to Julie's commitment to her profession and her students."

Julie came to Wenatchee School District in 2012 from California where she taught in a Dual Immersion classroom. A graduate of Wenatchee High School, she earned a B.A. degree in Spanish from the University of Washington, and her teaching credentials from California State University Fresno, CalState TEACH.

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards is recognized as the "gold standard" in teacher certification. The National Board believes higher standards for teachers means better learning for students.

"Achieving certification was, without a doubt, one of the greatest accomplishments of my life," said Parker of the arduous and challenging certification process.

"We have exceptional staff in our school district and we congratulate Julie on this great accomplishment and joining the other National Certified Board teachers in our district," said Superintendent Fiones.

Amazing Accomplishments



Ramon Rivera

Ramon Rivera has been named CMA Music Teacher of Excellence. CMA Is the Country Music Association, an organization with more than 7,500 industry professionals members around the world. "What an incredible recognition," said Rivera upon notification of the award. "I am very humble to be honored by CMA. I know what amazing work CMA does for Music Education."

"It was a pleasure to learn about your achievements as an educator through the Music in our Schools Tour and all that you are doing to impact the success of your students," wrote Tiffany Kerns, *CMA Director of Community Outreach*. *Music in Our Schools* is a nationwide contest hosted by Radio Disney. Rivera will be

honored at an awards reception on April 26, 2017 at Nissan Stadium in Nashville, Tennessee, hosted by Little Big Town.



Vivian Noyd

Senior **Vivian Noyd** won the Thomas S. Foley Speaker Award at the 2017 Thomas S. Foley Memorial Forensics Tournament in Spokane. This prestigious award is presented to the best individual speaker in the tournament. Noyd competed in six events going up against competitors from twenty-nine schools from three states. Noyd also has earned a berth to the National Speech and Debate Association finals in Birmingham, Alabama, June 18-23.

In other WHS Speech and Debate Team news, the team, coached by **Dave Carlson**, finished second place in the 4A division of the District



Sebastian Pasion

5/6 Debate division. Individual champions included **Vivian Noyd** in Student Congress, **Sebastian Pasion** in Impromptu, and **Aidan Hawes** in Humorous Interpretation. "The event culminates an excellent 2017 campaign," says Carlson, "including top Small Team honors in every district tournament they competed." Team members are training for the state championship tournament at the University of Puget Sound on March 11 and 17.



Aidan Hawes

WENATCHEE LEARNS

Strategy Four
Balance change for all with excellence for all

Key Objective
College and career readiness for all

Wenatchee High School Students Ponder Sewer Decision with City of Wenatchee Officials

Fifteen Wenatchee High School students walked in the shoes of the Wenatchee City Council on December 7 as they learned about sewage treatment in the valley, and deliberated over a possible extension of the city sewer line in Sunnyslope, a Wenatchee suburb.

Students from Scott Feil's business class, Hannah Simon's ag-biology class and Doug Merrill's pre-engineering classes traveled to City Hall where they met with Mayor Frank Kuntz and other City officials. The students studied the City budget, and learned where the money comes from (taxes). They also learned that housing is at capacity in Wenatchee, and several major developments are underway to build additional housing in Sunnyslope. With houses, they discovered, comes sewage, and sewage must be treated either with a home septic system or a sewer system. Mayor Kuntz, Public Works Director Matt Leonard, and Environmental Manager Jessica Shaw, among other City officials, shared maps of the potential sewer lines and answered questions.

Then it was time to see sewage in action. Students traveled to Wenatchee's Wastewater Treatment Facility where plant operator Josh Rader walked them through the process of transforming raw solids into freshwater. By the end of the tour kids were discussing gallons of capacity, flow, water-treatment microbes, and filtering solids. They also learned about the costs involved, and the education needed to pursue a career in wastewater management.

The students returned to City Hall where they debated the issue, as the City Council will do. Ultimately, they voted to expand sewer lines and increase rates.

"We learned about the sewage plant and came back and had a great discussion with Mayor Kuntz and all my friends here," said Freshman Riley Kunz. "I learned a lot." "The were a lot of bright people in this room with many different opinions and suggestions," said freshman Kelly Noland. "We all spoke our minds and had a really long discussion. In the end we came to a vote, eleven for creating the sewage lines in Sunnyslope, and three against it."

The experience was a Project Based Learning partnership between Wenatchee School District's Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Wenatchee Learns, designed to immerse students in real-life situations to learn and understand real-world issues. CTE Director Dennis Conger and Wenatchee Learns Coordinator Diana Haglund worked with Wenatchee Mayor Frank Kuntz and Executive Services Director Allison Williams to develop the project.

"It was a really good experience," said Riley Kunz, "and we made some good decisions."

iPad Ninjas Help Teachers and Students with Technology

By Ray Birks, Instructional Technology Facilitator



Dressed in all black, stealthily moving through the shadows, an easily accessible weapon at the ready. This is the typical characterization of a ninja, but in the Wenatchee School District you'll encounter ninjas of a different variety, and they'll be toting iPads. Instead of wearing black, these ninjas don colorful dog tags. In place of stealthiness, these students are lauded and rewarded with certificates and digital badges they can proudly display to their peers. In lieu of deadly weapons, they wield their iPads and are armed with knowledge and skills.

As part of a program graciously sponsored by Wenatchee Learns, Apple STEM Network and the WSD Instructional Technology Department, over 100 students in 5th and 6th grade iPad classrooms have voluntarily taken tests to further demonstrate their iPad skills and knowledge. Students become ninjas by studying for and passing tests about how to use their iPad for learning and teaching others, how to use specific iPad apps, and how to maintain a positive digital footprint. There are four different levels of increasingly harder tests starting with Novice and Apprentice and finally Ninja and Master. The first three levels are all taken

online while the Master level is a performance task that must be completed in front of a member of the Instructional Technology department.

The goal of the program is not just to allow students to show off how much they know, but to ease the burden teachers face to have to teach important tech skills. Students must show aptitude in five specific categories, Google Apps 1 & 2, iPad Apps, iPad Operation and Digital Citizenship.



6th grader Joseph Johnson from Orchard Middle School is a Master iPad Ninja

The idea for the program came from a teacher on the west side who created and implemented tests for his students. With permission, Instructional Technology took the framework for the program and redesigned it to fit the needs of our current iPad classrooms. A few WSD staff have taken exams to prove their proficiency using Google tools, which increasingly have a place in today's digital classroom, but there were no such tests to be found for students.

As of the beginning of February over 100 students have taken over 1,600 tests earning prizes and accolades along the way. After passing a Novice and Apprentice test students receive a digital badge they can download onto their iPad and a printable certificate. Once they level up and pass a Ninja test they are rewarded with a 3D printed Ninja dog tag that was printed using Dan Myers' 3D printer in the Orchard Middle School tech lab. Those who venture further and become Masters, they receive an iPad Ninja t-shirt and a private pizza party, as well as special prizes and access to apps and technology before other students. Currently only one student, 6th grader Joseph Johnson from Orchard Middle School, has reached this level, but other students are sharpening their studying blades and honing their ninja skills as we speak.



WENATCHEE LEARNS

Strategy Three

Use the best tools and resources to advance Learning

Key Objectives

Personal technology devices for learners

Highly trained and engaged staff

Q & A with Jared Reinfeld: New School Resource Officer (SRO)

Police Officer Jared Reinfeld is the New School Resource Officer for Wenatchee School District. Reinfeld replaces Officer Brian Miller, who accept a promotion in the police department after two years as SRO.



Tell us about your personal history.

I grew up in Wenatchee, born here along with three older brothers. I attended the Wenatchee School District throughout my entire school career. I started at Washington Elementary School, went to Orchard Middle School, and then on to Wenatchee High School, graduating in 1996. I enlisted in the Marines after high school. After returning to Wenatchee I actually worked a one year grant position at Wenatchee High School. This position was a "Campus Security" role. Also, shortly after I returned to Wenatchee I married my wife Jill, who's a teacher in the Wenatchee school district. We have two boys.

When did you become involved in law enforcement?

To start my law enforcement career I became a reserve police officer. I went through the Reserve Academy here in Wenatchee and was a reserve for almost four years on a volunteer basis. I worked at the jail here, as a jailer, and then got hired by the King County Sheriff's Office. I was there for three years. This September will be 12 years for me with the Wenatchee Police Department as a patrol officer.

What made you decided to become a School Resource Officer (SRO) for the school district?

It goes way back to when I was at Wenatchee High School and they had the D.A.R.E. program with Officer Keith Sorenson. He's a great guy. He was firm but fair with the kids and just a great example and role model. In my senior year I talked to him about wanting to be a police officer and he wrote me a message in my high school year-book about it, inviting me to come back and see him. I always had that image of the police in my head, of a positive role model.

What are your goals as a School Resource Officer?

I want to be a positive role model for kids in the schools. I want kids to be able to trust me and also, on the other side, be a positive image for the public towards

police. I think the big thing is starting young with the kids, to show them that police are okay—that we're good people

What's the job of a School Resource Officer?

The primary goal is safety of the students and staff. I'll spend a lot of time at the high school, because that's the largest amount of kids in one place, but I'll be in all the schools. Primarily, I'm there for the safety of the kids. If something happens, I'm there to stop it. I also have to be an enforcer of laws. I do have discretion to enforce the law, and I will use that discretion, but there are times when you don't really have a choice. I don't want to be seen as just the authority figure. That's not my goal. I want an in between stance—firm but fair.

How will you spend your time?

I want to be in the schools during the day, but there are events and sporting events that I really think that I should be there for and in a supportive role to the schools. I want to be available for questions from the parents. I know there's tons of PTSA meetings out there. I would like to be invited to some meetings in case parents or the public have questions.

Any last thoughts?

My wife and I have two boys who are in the school district, in first and second grade. It's kind of nice because they're attending Washington School. And my wife teaches at Washington now and taught at Orchard before, so both schools that I attended. It's fun to think that I can come back and go full circle and be right back there where I was over 20 years ago.



WENATCHEE LEARNS

Strategy One

Design the personalized learning system of the future.

Key Objective

More positive and safe learning environment

Local STEM GROUP Awarded \$111,000 Grant



The Apple STEM Network has been awarded a \$111,000 grant from Washington STEM, a nonprofit group dedicated to advancing excellence, equity and innovation in STEM education in Washington State. The funds will be used to incorporate STEM (Science, Technology, Education and Math) into the classroom, to integrate the community into the process, and to engage students.

“We need to build community awareness for STEM, and how our economy locally is tied to STEM industries,” said Dr. Sue Kane, biology faculty at Wenatchee Valley College and Director of the Apple STEM Network.

The Apple STEM Network is a consortium of local schools, public agencies and nonprofits including Wenatchee Valley College, GWATA (Greater Wenatchee Area Technology Alliance), North Central Educational Service District, Chelan County PUD, and the City of Wenatchee, including Community & Economic Development and the Wenatchee Chamber of Commerce, and three school districts: Wenatchee, Cashmere and Eastmont. This leadership team got together over a year ago and

began to brainstorm ideas. They ultimately came up with a business plan that included objectives and goals around STEM education and integration with the community. They used that plan to apply for Washington STEM grants.

“The Apple STEM Network was made an official Washington STEM Regional Network in October 2016, when they were awarded the grant,” said Diana Haglund, Wenatchee Learns coordinator and member of the Apple STEM Network leadership team. Haglund organizes many of the STEM hands-on experiences that connect the community with students.

“We’ve got some really strong, really talented educators behind this project,” said Dr. Kane. “We put some emphasis [in the grant] on increasing personalized and project-based learning, where Wenatchee School District excels.”

The grant will be matched by \$100,000 in local contributions. An additional \$100,000 will be awarded by Washington STEM in summer 2017 to continue the work.

The Apple STEM Network will use grant funds to . . .

- Provide a constructive support system for educators who aim to meet the rising challenge for all students to develop 21st century skills and STEM literacy
- Integrate community mentorship and promote authentic project-based learning and field experiences for all levels of education
- Engage students in exploring the world of opportunities on the horizon through STEM.

“If we understand our regional economy is driven in many ways by STEM industries, and our students need STEM skill sets like critical thinking and problem solving to be successful,” Kane explained, “then it follows that our priorities should be on supporting educators and working to integrate STEM into the learning experience.”

“This is a collaborative effort and we can all do a part of this work,” said Kane. “We may not all be doing the same types of things or even have the same capacity to devote resources to the STEM efforts here, but collectively we will move this work forward if we keep working cooperatively.”

While Washington STEM is supporting the regional efforts and providing support to help catalyze the educational transformation, the Apple STEM Network goals and priorities are locally sourced. “It’s organically coming from us, the Wenatchee region, and not an outside agency coming in,” said Kane. “It’s everybody sharing this vision that we can create some pathways for kids to succeed in STEM.”



Members of the Apple STEM Network accept a check from Washington STEM to incorporate Science, Technology, Education and Math into the classroom, to integrate the community into the process, and to engage students.



WENATCHEE LEARNS

Strategy Two: Tap into the power of our whole community

Students Raise Salmon to Release into the Wild

Wenatchee third graders are raising Summer Chinook Salmon from eggs and releasing them into the Chelan River later this spring. The project is a partnership with Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group.

Third graders in Dave Williams’ class at Washington Elementary piloted the project last year. “We could read these things in a textbook. We could look then on a video,” said Williams. “But for the kids to see the salmon develop, to release them into the river . . . it’s so important for that hands-on learning.”

A short documentary was made of the project, and after the film was shown to all staff, the other third grade teachers in the district were eager to participate. Science Coordinator Jill Fineis and Cascade Group’s biologist Sean Koester worked with Jodi Smith Payne, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, to include the program into every third grade.

Fineis developed a curriculum for the project based on Next Generation science Standards, which anchor lessons to a ‘phenomena.’ “The phenomena we decided to use was the decline of the Spring Chinook,” explains Fineis. “They live right here in our Wenatchee River, and they are counted by the federal government, so we have data on them. They are relevant and meaningful to all the people in our valley.”

Wenatchee School District bought fish tanks for six elementary schools—Williams aquarium was donated last year by the Icicle Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited. One hundred Summer Chinook salmon eggs (which are easier to obtain than the endangered Spring Chinook) were delivered in January. About 30-days-old



Third graders in Dave Williams’ Washington Elementary School class release salmon eggs they raised into the Chelan River.

when they arrived, the eggs were in the “eyed egg” stage, meaning they looked like fish eggs but had eyes forming. By early February eggs were entering the “early sac fry” stage, where they have tails and begin to swim.

The eggs grow into “alevins” and then “smolt.” They will be two to three inches long by the time they’re released into the Chelan River where it flows into the Columbia River.

“Everybody is captivated by these fish eggs hatching,” said Fineis. “There’s something about it that’s very magical.” Fineis says she hopes that students will gain a personal understanding and connection with these creatures that are part of our local watershed. “The amount of joy and wonderment and excitement and awe and inspiration that kids get from this project is overwhelming.”

“We need to let them witness nature first hand,” said Koester, “in a way that I, or their teacher . . . or any other adult could ever teach them.”

Teacher Dave Williams appreciated the community involvement. “It is so important not only for teachers to be part of these kids lives, but for community members to come into the classroom and share their knowledge,” said Williams of the Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group bringing experts into the classroom. “This is transforming the way that I’m teaching and the kids are learning.”

Watch the video of Dave Williams’ third graders raising and releasing salmon: <http://bit.ly/2l0IUVG>



WENATCHEE LEARNS

Strategy Two
Design the personalized learning system of the future

Key Objective
STEM/Project based learning

Steve and Sandi Brady Bequeath Funds to Elementary Libraries



The gift is given in honor of their late son, Mike Brady. “Mike died in a tragic car accident in January of 1977 at the age of 11,” Karin Abbott wrote in the letter to Superintendent Fones.

Former elementary school principal Steve Brady and his wife Sandi bequeathed \$50,000 to Wenatchee School District elementary libraries. Their daughter Karin Abbott contacted Superintendent Brian Fones in December 2016, writing on behalf of her parents. Steve Brady was principal at Lewis & Clark, Abraham Lincoln, and Columbia elementary schools. Steve Brady passed away in 2012, and his wife Sandi passed away in 2016.

Karin’s letter went on to say that Steve and Sandi have three grandchildren in Wenatchee School District at Wenatchee High School (WHS), Orchard Middle School and Washington Elementary School. Another grandchild graduated from WHS in 2016. “Their grandchildren have personally benefited from some excellent librarians in the district such as Amy Ferrell . . . and Kathy Dorey.”

“I know I can speak for all of the elementary teacher-librarians when I say that this gift is absolutely amazing!” said Amy Ferrell, librarian team leader. “We all have sections in our library that are in desperate need of updating and this bequest, made in the name of Mike Brady, will help us tremendously. We are so grateful and excited to be able to update our collections thanks to the generosity of the Brady family.”

Shout Outs

My shout out goes to Jan Bullock, counselor at WSHS. I am always impressed with Jan as she tackles so many projects that are above and beyond the traditional call of duty with regard to a counseling role. She works hard to provide curriculum and content to our students in areas where we are not adequately preparing them in other avenues. In particular, she has single-handedly orchestrated multiple Wellness Days at WestSide by bringing in community professionals to teach our students in areas such as Suicide Prevention, Mindfulness, Addiction, Domestic Violence, and Sexual Awareness. In addition, Jan realized that many of our students needed a hands-on artistic outlet where she applied and was granted \$2,000 to give our students an opportunity to work with a local artist. These experiences will pay big dividends to our students in a multitude of ways. Thank you Jan!

Kory Kalahar, Principal
WestSide High School

My shout out goes for Caitilin Velazquez, Librarian at Lewis and Clark, for organizing the author’s visit at Lewis and Clark recently. This is only one of the many extra activities that Caiti takes on to provide new experiences to Lewis and Clark students. Caiti also organizes activities like The Battle of Books, Dr. Seuss’ Birthday, The Night of Code etc. Caiti works tireless to provide a rounded education to all students!

Alfonso López, Principal
Lewis & Clark Elementary

A huge shout out to Special Programs secretary, Pat McQuoid! Pat is the rare kind of person that you truly can rely on to always give 100% in everything she does. I have been saved from many catastrophes by Pat’s knowledge, organization, and willingness to help. She’s incredibly patient and never gets exasperated or frustrated when asked to help, again and again, with the myriad of documentation and records required in Special Programs. She’s simply the epitome of a dedicated employee and helpful person. She deserves recognition for her many years of excellent service to myself, all intervention specialists, the Special Programs department, and the district. Thank you, Pat!

Lorenda Tangen, K-5 Reading Intervention Specialist
Columbia Elementary School

Shout out to teachers Jennifer Deveraux, & Ruby Sanchez, Instructional Coach Holly McPhetridge, our GLAD Trainers Kathryn Anderson and Terri Goveia, and Principal Kory Kalahar for orchestrating a fantastic learning opportunity for 20 teachers and WestSide High School students! The team analyzed attendance and credit needs of students and selected 31 students to participate in a condensed GLAD unit of study on the Revolutionary Ideas of the Industrial Revolution. 27 students who completed the project with 100% attendance were engaged in all aspects of 21st Century Skills of collaboration, communication, critical thinking and creating while increasing literacy skills and history knowledge through rigorous learning. Students earned a .25 credit and produced phenomenal work. The phrase “whatever it takes” was absolutely fulfilled in this out-of-the-box thinking! And student written evaluations of the experience validate it was worth all the effort-even with 2 days of 2-hour delays!

My sincerest respect and admiration,
Cynthia Valdez, Assistant Director Special Programs

It is a pleasure to recognize Michelle Mahoney-Holland, WHS CTE Secretary, for the outstanding job she is doing for WHS Career Technical Education (CTE) and WHS students. Michelle is approachable, friendly, and willing to help in any way she can. She welcomes teachers and students alike with her bowl of goodies. Especially noteworthy is the kindness she has shown to one of our students who

was having trouble socially and academically. She volunteered with the Dean’s Den to provide extra support for this student. The student checks in with her before and after school. She is quick to give praise for accomplishments and focuses on the positive things going on. She has found ways for the student to belong by encouraging the day-to-day interaction as well as coordinating with one of our Agricultural teachers to help with a classroom project. This student is blossoming. Michelle has a heart of gold and is truly making a difference!

Meg Lovercamp, Business Education Teacher
Wenatchee High School

Loud & boisterous applause to all the district’s family advocates–Wendy Endaya, Lina Maldonado, Mari Villasano, Brenda Webley, Veronica Mendoza, Belia Sanchez Torres, Luisa Hernandez, Francine Alvarado, & Carolina Morrow! Thanks for all the support you give to students & their families. From hats to food to hugs--your hearts tell it all.

Suzanne M. Stanton, McKinney-Vento Liaison
Wenatchee School District

A big shout out to Carolyn Paule, Eric Kuntz, Jake Kerns, Katherine Burt, Lila Carta, and Rose Jones for their daily hard work and commitment to helping our students reach their full potential. The life skills program would not be what it is without you!

Kelly Sims, Life Skills Teacher
Wenatchee High School

To the Kindergarten Team at John Newbery Elementary. They have supported each other like a true team both in the classroom and with personal concerns. Collaborations are kept on topic and all are welcome to provide suggestions, and all suggestions are heard. Once a month they gather outside of school for a little R & R. Good times and great laughs all around. This team does its very best to make sure students needs are met, academically, socially and emotionally. This team has gone above and beyond in many aspects of their teaching. Great job Kinder Team!

Soyla Reyna Smith, Kindergarten Teacher
Newbery Elementary

I want to give a shout out to Terry Fike and the Construction Program for taking on a Tiny Home. The Crew has been building a Tiny Home for a community member for the last 2 months. The students are getting to see the many different aspects of building in “Tiny” amounts!

Peter Jelsing, Director
Wenatchee Valley Technical Skills Center



WENATCHEE LEARNS

Strategy Four
Balance change for all with excellence for all

Key Objective
Highly trained and engaged staff

School-Based Health Center Comes to Lincoln Elementary School

Students at Lincoln Elementary will have the opportunity to receive primary health care services while at school. Lincoln Elementary School is partnering with Columbia Valley Community Health (CVCH) to provide a school-based health center.

The partnership came about when Lincoln principal Tim Sheppard and Dr. Kristen Callison, a Mental Health Interventionist on staff at Lincoln, realized many of their students weren't ready to learn when they came to school. Dr. Callison conducted research and collected data on Lincoln students and discovered Lincoln's students had high ACEs incidents. ACEs stands for Adverse Childhood Experiences. ACEs can negatively affect a child's school performance, and influence the child's lifelong health and life opportunities.

"We knew that there were a lot of barriers that were keeping kids from being ready to do school," said Sheppard. "We're trying to alleviate as many of those blockages that we can."



Sheppard says the research on school-based health centers shows a positive effect on student learning. "The research is pretty astounding as far as how it's helped educationally."

Sheppard and Callison have been working together the last three years to move forward with the school based health center concept. Callison contacted Columbia Valley Community Health (CVCH) in early 2016

to discuss the possibility of a partnership, and this proved to be a major step forward. Carol Diede, Chief Operating Officer of CVCH, says that Sheppard was also the driving force behind the partnership. "The principle has been very active in identifying the needs of his kids in his school," said Diede. "He has very high ACEs scores and he knows that those can be improved if we could provide care on site."

The pilot program began this fall with behavioral health and dental screening services. Full dental services will be added in the future. Medical services, including general check-ups, sports physicals, and treatment for illness or injury, will rely in large part on grant funding. CVCH will ultimately provide an ARNP—a Nurse Practitioner—to be on-site during days and times that fit the school needs and schedule.

The Wenatchee School Board recently approved the partnership. The CVCH Board has approved the behavioral health and the dental components, and will consider approval to move forward with the medical portion once a grant is awarded and

they can review the proposed budget.

The school-based clinic, the first to be offered by CVCH, is a good fit for Lincoln Elementary School. About 90 percent of Lincoln students have been patients at CVCH. "Columbia Valley Community Health is a community health center," said Diede. "We really saw this as an opportunity to expand our access beyond the walls of our clinics and get out in the community."

With Lincoln's recent remodel a new, larger health room and nurse's office provide enough space to share with CVCH staff.

"For dental, those will be done a little differently," said Diede. After screening, families of kids who have a family dentist will be encouraged to take their child to the dentist. "For the children who don't have a dentist, we offer our services," says Diede. CVCH has thirteen dental work stations and will soon have seventeen. They are in the process of organizing school-based transportation to take a group of students from Lincoln to CVCH for dental work all at one time, and get them back to school within an hour or so.

"The research is pretty astounding on how school-based health centers help schools educationally," said Callison, who points out that most Seattle School District schools have them. "The community is saving by not taking kids to the emergency room for basic medical needs. The cost to the community for that is huge."

And research shows that children who get into the habit of going to the doctor and dentist regularly keep up those habits into adulthood.

"When you think about lifelong health, lifelong learning," says Dr. Callison, "if we can address these issues now, it could have a positive relationship with high school graduation rates, kids staying out of detention and future prison, kids having better health over the lifespan."

In the future, a separate building on the campus may house the health center, making it possible to provide health services for parents, students and teachers.

Diede says CVCH is excited to partner with Lincoln for this pilot project. "We're hopeful that it will work out well, and maybe other schools will want to participate in the future."



WENATCHEE LEARNS

Strategy Two
Tap into the power of our whole community

Key Objective
Partnerships with businesses

New Student Calendar for 2017/2018 Includes Full Day Conferences

The Wenatchee School Board approved a new school calendar which includes three full days of parent/teacher conferences for the 2017/2018 school year.



Conferences will be held November 1-3, 2017. In the past conferences have taken place during five half days of school. Three full days of conferences would add morning conference times, which were not previously available. Day and evening conferences will

still be available, and teachers would be able to spend more time with parents, if needed.

A committee of teachers, classified staff and administrators studied calendars in school districts in our region and around the state, and surveyed staff. Regionally, Eastmont, Cascade and Chelan school districts hold full day conferences. Eastmont and Wenatchee try to coordinate schedules whenever possible.

"By having three full days available, we have more hours for conferences and are able to adjust our working hours to meet the needs of the families that we serve," says Eva Martinez, 4th grade math teacher at Lewis & Clark and calendar committee member.

Wenatchee High School English teacher and committee member Chris Cloke adds, "Full days for conferences not only allow the schools to flex the hours to better suit the needs of the parents but also increases the number of hours the schools can provide for conferencing with parents."

The current schedule provides 17.5 hours for conferences, while the three full days will allow 21 hours. The committee hopes that missing three full days of school will be less of an interruption to families and to instruction than missing five half days. The new schedule also allows families to enjoy a short break in the fall. Spring conferences would be increased from one half day to one full day.

"The goal with conferences is always centered on helping students and providing parents with the information they need to support their children to succeed in school," says Cloke.

View the new calendars:
2017/2018 <http://bit.ly/2IJrWv8>
2018/2019 <http://bit.ly/2IJCRVz>



WENATCHEE LEARNS

Strategy Two
Tap into the power of our whole community

Key Objective
More engagement of parents

Giving Back

Students Volunteer to Help Others

Students of all ages in the Wenatchee School District volunteer their time and efforts to help others in our community. We thought you might like to see some of the ways our students and teachers are giving back to the community. Here we share some of the volunteer activities at our secondary schools.

Wenatchee High School

ASB students, **Brent Grothe** advisor, put on the Janice Franz Talent Show to benefit a community member in need. This year's recipient was **Wendy Skalisky**, a local volunteer at the Wellness Place who is currently battling breast cancer. This year's show raised \$28,000. The first show was held in 1998 to benefit Janice Franz a WHS teacher who lost her battle with cancer. The show has raised over \$226,000 for community members in 20 years. After the show the students held a Dance for the Cure, proceeds going to Children's Cancer Research.

As of March, students in ASB Core and in Leadership classes had performed nearly 2,500 hours of service in the school and community and have raised nearly \$35,000 for charitable causes.

The Interact Club, advised by **Jon Magnus**, has raised \$37,000 toward building a Habitat for Humanity house. Their goal is \$50,000.

Random Acts of Kindness Club, **Shelley Jelsing** advisor, volunteer at Columbia Heights Retirement Community teaching dance, making crafts, and they adopt a Senior Citizen; put together bags of essential items (shampoo, conditioner, lotion, socks, etc.) for our Homeless Community; volunteer in elementary after school programs being big brother/big sisters and working on crafts and other activities; conduct the Panther House Food Drive on Make a Difference Day for our WHS Homeless/Needy students—2 truckloads of food were donated this year; Fundraise for #SamStrong, which raises awareness for childhood cancer; and plan the Special Education Prom for the Wenatchee Valley.

WestSide High School

Local: Leadership Club, **Sheena Zacherle** advisor, hosts an annual Spaghetti Feed/Silent Auction for a needy individual or family in the valley. This year's beneficiary is Camila Castenada. We have raised over \$6,000 the last two year each.

National: On the state level, the Leadership Club takes on an annual Pennies for Patients Drive where we raise money to give to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

International: WestSide's international cause has included selling Rafikis, bracelets and necklaces made in Africa. In Swahili, Rafiki means Friend. For every Rafiki sold, \$5 goes back to the "Me to We" Foundation's village fundraising projects.



WENATCHEE LEARNS

Strategy Two
Tap into the power of our whole community

Key Objective
Skilled volunteer opportunities

Orchard Middle School

Orchard principal **Taunya Brown** reports that Orchard students used the last half day of the semester on projects to benefit the community. Eighth graders baked dog biscuits and made dog blankets to donate to the Humane Society, and made flip flops to send to people living in Uganda. Seventh graders worked on a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) project using KEX, a hands-on 3D building system to build their own creations. And Sixth graders made fleece scarves that they will leave around the community for those in need, and Valentine's cards for retirement centers, among other projects. Principal Taunya Brown was proud of Orchard students who spent today's half day of school creating many items for the community and those in need.

Pioneer Middle School

Pioneer's Random Acts of Kindness club, advisors **Sally Knipfer** and **Tye Goodrich**, made lavender heating neck warmers for our Special Education families. They are also putting together toiletry bags for the homeless. They club will also be putting together kits of toiletries for the homeless and the Women's Resource Center.

Pioneer staff gave out over \$300.00 in gift cards to brighten some of their students' holidays.

Advanced Choir visited Colonial Vista for Veterans Day to share patriotic songs.

Pioneer students and staff partnered with Chelan County PUD to collect food, and made food baskets for needy families for the holidays.

Brock Hurt and **Betsy Strean's** AVID students participate in Youth United, a United Way volunteer organization for kids. The goal is to have students donate 75 community service hours each year. They join local clubs, manage sports clubs, babysit for churches, and other activities to serve the community.

Pioneer students sold 500 SAMSTRONG bracelets, as well as t-shirts in support of classmate Sam Dorey, who is currently in Children's Hospital undergoing cancer treatments.

Foothills Middle School

Horizons elective class, **Monique Force** advisor, participated in various student-led mini service projects as part of a 12 Days of Giving unit. Some students made fleece-blankets and birthday cards that were donated to Lighthouse Ministries. Other students led a class food drive in exchange for home baked goods. Three boxes of food were donated to the Community Cupboard in Leavenworth.

Foothills students participated in a toy drive for CASA in November.

Leadership class, **Heidi Sherman** teacher/advisor, has done the following projects: winter clothing drive for men and women's shelters, blanket/towel/toy drive for Humane Society

7th graders participated in "Make a Difference" projects.

Foothills students and staff partnered with the PUD to provide gift cards to needy families during the holidays.

Wenatchee Public Schools

Brian Flones, Superintendent
(509) 663-8161
flones.b@wenatcheeschools.org

Wenatchee School Board

Laura Jaecks, Vice President
Board Position #01

Dr. Walter S. Newman
Board Position #02

Claudia de Robles
Board Position #03

Robert Sealby, President
Board Position #04

Jennifer Talbot
Board Position #05

Social Media



Follow us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/wsd246



Connect with us on Twitter
twitter.com/WenatcheeSD



YouTube
www.youtube.com/user/WSDCommunications

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 does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Title IX Coordinator, Section 504/ADA Coordinator, Mark Helm, Executive Director of Student Services, helm.m@wenatcheeschools.org Civil Rights Compliance Coordinators: Mark Helm, Executive Director of Student Services (students) helm.m@wenatcheeschools.org Lisa Turner, Executive Director of Human Resources (staff) turner.l@wenatcheeschools.org 235 Sunset Ave, Wenatchee WA, 98801 509.663.8161