

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Regular Business Meeting - 5:30 PM
August 18, 2026
364 S Park St
Walla Walla, WA 99362

Watch Live: <https://wwps-org.zoom.us/j/94161246564>

Listen: Dial 1-253-215-8782 and enter the Webinar ID: 941 6124 6564

Individuals with disabilities and those individuals who may have difficulty attending a board meeting due to issues such as mobility limitations may contact the superintendent's office at 509-526-6715 no later than three days before a regular meeting and as soon as possible in advance of a special meeting so the district can arrange for them to participate.

Spanish Agenda / Agenda en Español: <https://www.wwps.org/district/information/school-board/board-meeting-schedule>

I. CALL TO ORDER: (5:30 p.m.) *Alayna Brinton*

II. FLAG SALUTE: *Elizabeth Alonso-Barrientos*

III. ROLL CALL:

- Alayna Brinton, President
- Kathy Mulkerin, Vice President
- Elizabeth Alonso-Barrientos
- Ruth Ladderud
- Derek Sarley
- Abril Salazar, Student Representative

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: *Alayna Brinton*

V. CONSENT AGENDA: *Alayna Brinton*

- | | |
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| 8. Excused Absence for Student Representative Abril Salazar from July 21, 2026 Regular Board Meeting | |
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VI. OATH OF OFFICE FOR STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE: (5:35 p.m.) *Alayna Brinton*

- Lucy Anderton, Student Board Representative

~ Oath administered by School Board President Alayna Brinton

VII. SPECIAL PROGRAMS/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: (5:40 p.m.) *Alayna Brinton*

1. Recognition of 2024-2026 Student School Board Representative Ari Kim-Leavitt: *Alayna Brinton*

VIII. CITIZENS' COMMENTS: (5:45 p.m.) *Alayna Brinton*

IX. REPORTS: (5:55 p.m.) <i>Alayna Brinton</i>	
1. Board of Directors Report: <i>Alayna Brinton</i>	
2. Superintendent's Report: <i>Dr. Ben Gauyan</i>	
3. GEAR UP Program Update: <i>Program Specialist Becky Waggoner-Schwartz</i>	19
4. Monthly Financial Dashboard Report: <i>Janette Jeffris</i>	
5. 2026-2027 School Board Committee Assignments: <i>Alayna Brinton</i>	34
6. 2026-2027 Board Meeting Schedule: <i>Alayna Brinton</i>	36
7. Policies First Reading: <i>Dr. Ben Gauyan</i>	37
• 1250 - Students on Governing Boards	
X. ACTION: (6:55 p.m.) <i>Alayna Brinton</i>	
1. 2026-2027 School Board Committee Assignments: <i>Alayna Brinton</i>	38
2. 2026-2027 Board Meeting Schedule: <i>Alayna Brinton</i>	40
XI. ADJOURNMENT: (7:00 p.m.) <i>Alayna Brinton</i>	



PERSONNEL REPORT

August 18, 2026 – Board Meeting

Date: August 13, 2026

EMPLOYMENT

Certificated: Kristin Olson, Special Education Teacher, Walla Walla high School
Madeline Payne, Temporary Math Teacher (2026-27), Walla Walla High School
Andrea Rodriguez-Ceballos, Temporary Dual Fourth Grade Teacher (2026-27), Green Park Elementary School

Classified: Rhena Burt, Head Start Assistant Teacher, WWCCF
Samuel Dantje, Para-Educator, Walla Walla High School
Laurie Doohan, Para-Educator, Edison Elementary School
Anelea Escobar, Head Start Assistant Teacher, WWCCF
Elsa Gomsrud, Para-Educator, Sharpstein Elementary School
Christina Gutierrez, Head Start Assistant Teacher, WWCCF
Taylor Hamada, Para-Educator, Garrison Middle School
Alyssa Hollingsworth, Head Start Assistant Teacher, WWCCF
Michelle Hudon, Para-Educator, Green Park Elementary School
Keith Nerdin, Para-Educator, Opportunity Program
Britania Sanchez, Para-Educator, Green Park Elementary School
Aracely Torres Morales, Temporary Bilingual Para-Educator (2026-27) Edison Elementary School
Brittany Zuger, Para-Educator, Walla Walla High School

RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT/SEPARATION OF EMPLOYMENT

Classified: Maya Fogg, Head Start Assistant Teacher, WWCCF, 1 year
Erika Ingersoll, Cook, Garrison Middle School, 10 years
Conner Robison, Para-Educator, Pioneer Middle School, 1 year
William "Billy" Yaw, Assistant Custodian, Prospect Point Elementary School, 3 years

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ATHLETIC CONTRACTS 2026-2027

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
Jeremy Hubbard	Garrison Middle School	Head 8th Football
Dustin Stocking	Garrison Middle School	Assistant 8th Football
Zack Wood	Garrison Middle School	Assistant 8th Football
John P Avery	Garrison Middle School	Assistant 8th Football
Amber Davin	Garrison Middle School	Head 8th Volleyball
Vicki Johnson	Garrison Middle School	Head 7th Volleyball
Agnes Wooters	Garrison Middle School	Assistant Volleyball
Jami Schultheis	Garrison Middle School	Assistant Volleyball
Jennifer Thiel	Garrison Middle School	Co-Head 6th Volleyball
Bryan Eggart	Garrison Middle School	Head Cross Country
Serah Johnson	Garrison Middle School	Assistant Cross Country
Mariano Ledesma	Garrison Middle School	Head 8th/7th Boys Soccer
Gonzalo Fernandez Pinillos	Garrison Middle School	Assistant 8th/7th Boys Soccer
Ruben Garanzuay	Garrison Middle School	Head 8th/7th Girls Soccer
Reggie Byrd	Garrison Middle School	Assistant 8th/7th Girls Soccer
Chad Hulett	Garrison Middle School	Athletic Supervisor
Ethan Naftzger	Pioneer Middle School	Head Football 7th Grade
Ben Bentley	Pioneer Middle School	Assistant Football 7th Grade
Nick Wolfenbarger	Pioneer Middle School	Assistant Football 7th Grade
Tyson Schilling	Pioneer Middle School	Assistant Football 7th Grade
Jennifer Knowles	Pioneer Middle School	Head Volleyball 8th Grade
Kristin Richard	Pioneer Middle School	Head Volleyball 7th Grade
Yuri Can	Pioneer Middle School	Assistant Volleyball
Megan Davin	Pioneer Middle School	Assistant Volleyball
Jaimee Pollan	Pioneer Middle School	Head Volleyball 6th Grade
Maddie Hartzheim	Pioneer Middle School	Assistant Volleyball 6th Grade
Michael Locati	Pioneer Middle School	Head Cross Country
Rachel Geiter	Pioneer Middle School	Assistant Cross Country
Jose Maya	Pioneer Middle School	Head 8th/7th Boys Soccer
Kevin Arizmendi	Pioneer Middle School	Assistant 8th/7th Boys Soccer
John Brown	Pioneer Middle School	Athletic Supervisor
Justin James	Walla Walla High School	Head Football
Zachary Widmer	Walla Walla High School	Assistant Football
Scott Buttice	Walla Walla High School	Assistant Football

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ATHLETIC CONTRACTS 2026-2027

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
David Blocklinger	Walla Walla High School	Assistant Football
Kevin Gwinn	Walla Walla High School	Assistant Football
Andrew Brown	Walla Walla High School	Assistant Football
Travis McCauley	Walla Walla High School	Assistant Football
Cole Schmidt	Walla Walla High School	Assistant Football
Daniel Mears	Walla Walla High School	Assistant Football
Andrew Buchkoski	Walla Walla High School	Assistant Football
Kristen Pearce	Walla Walla High School	Head Volleyball
Audra Cummings	Walla Walla High School	Assistant Volleyball
Kate Keyes	Walla Walla High School	Assistant Volleyball
Taryn Cummings	Walla Walla High School	Assistant Volleyball
Shawna Wolford	Walla Walla High School	Assistant Volleyball
Nancy Rose	Walla Walla High School	Head Girls Swimming & Dive
Ryan Shiplet	Walla Walla High School	Assistant Girls Swimming & Dive
Bowe Ebding	Walla Walla High School	Head Cross Country
Amy Hisaw	Walla Walla High School	Assistant Cross Country
Eric Hisaw	Walla Walla High School	Assistant Cross Country
Cindy Saldana	Walla Walla High School	Head Girls Soccer
Victor Saldana	Walla Walla High School	Varsity Girls Soccer
Neliah Williams	Walla Walla High School	JV Girls Soccer
Kaitlynn Beuck	Walla Walla High School	C Team Girls Soccer
Anna Inman	Walla Walla High School	Assistant C Team Girls Soccer
Kaytlyn Romero	Walla Walla High School	Head Cheer
Makenzie Bishop	Walla Walla High School	Assistant Cheer
Alerionna Roberg	Walla Walla High School	Head Dance Coach Fall
Allen Stanley	Walla Walla High School	Head Slowpitch Softball
Maurice Handcox	Walla Walla High School	Assistant Slowpitch Softball
Vangie Young	Walla Walla High School	Game Supervision Fall
Lenna Henry	Walla Walla High School	Athletic Events Coordinator Fall
Shannon White	Walla Walla High School	Concessions Manager (F)

NON-ATHLETIC EXTRA/CO-CURRICULAR CONTRACTS 2026-2027

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
Stephanie Gomsrud	LI	Annual (Yearbook)
Yaneth Hernandez	GA	Annual (Yearbook)
Kuyler Lang	PI	Annual (Yearbook)
Bernard Ma	W	Annual (Yearbook)
Janelle Martinez	GA	Annual (Yearbook)
Ky Hafen	W	Auditorium Coordinator
Jennifer Hein	W	AVID Advisor
Greg Lupfer	W	CTSO Advisor (FBLA)
Erin Dorso	SEA	CTSO Advisor (FCCLA)
Sarah Moore	W	CTSO Advisor (FCCLA)
Jennifer Crane	W	CTSO Advisor (FFA)
Kirsten Gilbert	W	CTSO Advisor (FFA)
Jessica Johnson	W	CTSO Advisor (FFA)
Alexis Leather	W	CTSO Advisor (FFA)
Rebecca Brown	SEA	CTSO Advisor (HOSA)
Michael Locati	W	CTSO Advisor (HOSA)
Hayley Stout	W	CTSO Advisor (HOSA)
William Hammond	W	CTSO Advisor (SkillsUSA)
Eric Matson	SEA	CTSO Advisor (SkillsUSA)
James Polson	SEA	CTSO Advisor (SkillsUSA)
Andrew Sayers	SEA	CTSO Advisor (SkillsUSA)
Todd Smith	SEA	CTSO Advisor (SkillsUSA)
Matthew Stimmel	SEA	CTSO Assistant Advisor (SkillsUSA)
Shari Widmer	W	Department Head Counselor
Jessica Johnson	W	Department Head CTE
Kimberly Cassetto	W	Department Head Dual Credit & CiHS
Jacob Heezen	W	Department Head English

NON-ATHLETIC EXTRA/CO-CURRICULAR CONTRACTS 2026-2027

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
Sarah Thompson	W	Department Head Fine Arts
Jimmy Hill	W	Department Head Math
Crystal Evans	W	Department Head Physical Ed
Shannon Ahrens	W	Department Head Science
Terry Carlsen	W	Department Head Science
Keith Michels	W	Department Head Social Studies
Brooke Kimball	W	Department Head Special Ed
Stephanie Garcia	W	Department Head World Languages
Grace Fritzke	W	E-Sports
Nathan Paine	LI	E-Sports
Tobi Powell	GA	E-Sports
Adrian Sandoval	PI	E-Sports
Chantell Lopez	ED	Elementary Vocal
Marybeth Norby	BE	Elementary Vocal
V. Caleb Condie	GA	Elementary Orchestra
Julia Woods	PI	Elementary Orchestra
Stefanie Crumpacker	SH	Elementary Vocal
Brylie Fitzgerald	GP	Elementary Vocal
Denise Hurst	PP	Elementary Vocal
Jonathan Arthur	PI	FIRST Robotics Advisor
Michael Bertram	GA	FIRST Robotics Advisor
Suzette Kennedy	PP	Guiding Coalition Team
Jennifer Aceves	ED	Guiding Coalition Team
Jamie Adolfae	GP	Guiding Coalition Team
Seth Ahrens	PI	Guiding Coalition Team
Debora Ambler	GP	Guiding Coalition Team
John Avery	PI	Guiding Coalition Team

NON-ATHLETIC EXTRA/CO-CURRICULAR CONTRACTS 2026-2027

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
Heather Babbitt	PP	Guiding Coalition Team
Wendy Baldwin	PP	Guiding Coalition Team
Laura Berg	SH	Guiding Coalition Team
Kristopher Bland	LI	Guiding Coalition Team
Rebecah Boeckman	GP	Guiding Coalition Team
Angela Bona	BE	Guiding Coalition Team
V. Caleb Condie	GA	Guiding Coalition Team
Ana Diaz Madrigal	BE	Guiding Coalition Team
Lyndsey Doherty	SH	Guiding Coalition Team
Elisabeth Entrena	ED	Guiding Coalition Team
Nathan Ferraro	GA	Guiding Coalition Team
Marcia Frandsen	GP	Guiding Coalition Team
Rachel Geiter	PI	Guiding Coalition Team
Lori Gillin	SH	Guiding Coalition Team
Stephanie Gomsrud	LI	Guiding Coalition Team
Amy Heinzman	PP	Guiding Coalition Team
Jeremy Hubbard	SH	Guiding Coalition Team
Kelley Hubbard	BE	Guiding Coalition Team
Staci Humphreys	PP	Guiding Coalition Team
Denyse Hutchinson	SH	Guiding Coalition Team
Nicole Hyatt	SH	Guiding Coalition Team
Ilana James	BE	Guiding Coalition Team
Laura James	GP	Guiding Coalition Team
Denise Jausoro	PP	Guiding Coalition Team
Zaklina Jones	BE	Guiding Coalition Team
Kimberly Kearbey	BE	Guiding Coalition Team
Dominique Kiefel	PI	Guiding Coalition Team

NON-ATHLETIC EXTRA/CO-CURRICULAR CONTRACTS 2026-2027

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
Christy Kuhlman	GA	Guiding Coalition Team
Richele Locati	SH	Guiding Coalition Team
Jazmin Lopez	ED	Guiding Coalition Team
Lacey Mendoza	SH	Guiding Coalition Team
Katie Mirkovich	GP	Guiding Coalition Team
Gabriela Mora	GP	Guiding Coalition Team
Joyce Moreno	ED	Guiding Coalition Team
Jeanette Nuno	GP	Guiding Coalition Team
Sofia Parsons	ED	Guiding Coalition Team
Vanessa Prull	PP	Guiding Coalition Team
Shawn Reser	BE	Guiding Coalition Team
Iris Salazar	GP	Guiding Coalition Team
Theresa Salemme	PI	Guiding Coalition Team
Cecilia Solis	ED	Guiding Coalition Team
Kimberlee Spanish-Endres	GA	Guiding Coalition Team
Andrea Valencia	ED	Guiding Coalition Team
Benjamin VanDonge	SH	Guiding Coalition Team
Felipe Virrueta	PI	Guiding Coalition Team
Erica Wauchek	LI	Guiding Coalition Team
Agnieszka Wooters	GA	Guiding Coalition Team
Laura Curtis	W	High School Accompanist
Jacob Try	W	High School Band
Julia Woods	W	High School Orchestra
Sarah Thomson	W	High School Vocal
To Be Determined	GA	Jazz Band
Rebekah Jillson	PI	Jazz Band
Anthony Marrero	W	JROTC (bi-annual 09/01/26 - 02/26/27)

NON-ATHLETIC EXTRA/CO-CURRICULAR CONTRACTS 2026-2027

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
Mark Mebes	W	JROTC (bi-annual 09/01/26 - 02/26/27)
Terry Carlsen	W	Knowledge Bowl Supervisor
Rebekah Jillson	PI	Middle School Band
Rebekah Jillson	GA	Middle School Band
V. Caleb Condie	GA	Middle School Orchestra
Julia Woods	PI	Middle School Orchestra
Stephanie Crumpacker	PI	Middle School Vocal
V. Caleb Condie	GA	Middle School Vocal
Angela Gardea	W	National Honor Society
Becky Jo Gifford	W	National Honor Society
Stephanie Kytola	PI	National Honor Society
Jami Eggart	GA	National Jr. Honor Society
Greg Lupfer	W	Newspaper
James Lux	GP	Safety Patrol
Gregory Pegel	PP	Safety Patrol
Benjamin VanDonge	SH	Safety Patrol Advisor
Ashley Escalante	AD	SEW Fair Coordinator
Quiara Avalos	PP	Social Emotional Learning Team
Rachelle Baerlocher	PI	Social Emotional Learning Team
Amanda Bess	PI	Social Emotional Learning Team
Makenzie Bishop	BE	Social Emotional Learning Team
Reginald Byrd	GA	Social Emotional Learning Team
Brian Casey	GA	Social Emotional Learning Team
Laci Cole	SH	Social Emotional Learning Team
Amy Collins	GP	Social Emotional Learning Team
Allyssa Contreras	GP	Social Emotional Learning Team
Itsel Corona Madrigal	ED	Social Emotional Learning Team

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NON-ATHLETIC EXTRA/CO-CURRICULAR CONTRACTS 2026-2027

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
Jacob Croft	PI	Social Emotional Learning Team
Katharine Curles	SH	Social Emotional Learning Team
Dakotah Fryatt	PI	Social Emotional Learning Team
Becky Jo Gifford	W	Social Emotional Learning Team
Carrie Gonzales	BE	Social Emotional Learning Team
Erik Gordon	LI	Social Emotional Learning Team
Ashley Goss	SH	Social Emotional Learning Team
Rob Graham	W	Social Emotional Learning Team
Sadie Hartelius	BE	Social Emotional Learning Team
Amy Hartford	BE	Social Emotional Learning Team
Shayna Hutchens	W	Social Emotional Learning Team
Nicole Hyatt	SH	Social Emotional Learning Team
Liza Jacobson	PP	Social Emotional Learning Team
Dallas Jones	W	Social Emotional Learning Team
Stephanie Kytola	PI	Social Emotional Learning Team
Kuyler Lang	PI	Social Emotional Learning Team
Victoria Lidzbarski	LI	Social Emotional Learning Team
Melissa Linklater	GP	Social Emotional Learning Team
Yara Martinez	SH	Social Emotional Learning Team
Mikayla McFetridge	PP	Social Emotional Learning Team
Patrick McFetridge	ED	Social Emotional Learning Team
Greg Pegel	PP	Social Emotional Learning Team
Carolyn Pemberton	W	Social Emotional Learning Team
Steve Pitzer	GA	Social Emotional Learning Team
Shelly Robertson	LI	Social Emotional Learning Team
Jami Schultheis	GA	Social Emotional Learning Team
Marquilyn Shields	W	Social Emotional Learning Team

NON-ATHLETIC EXTRA/CO-CURRICULAR CONTRACTS 2026-2027

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	
Veronica Solis Martinez	ED	Social Emotional Learning Team	
Julie Wiley	PP	Social Emotional Learning Team	
Nilda Williams	ED	Social Emotional Learning Team	
Amanda Bess	PI	Sources of Strength Advisor	
Yaneth Hernandez	GA	Sources of Strength Advisor	
Shayna Hutchens	W	Sources of Strength Advisor	
Brandi McIntire	W	Sources of Strength Advisor	
Nicole Mueller	GA	Sources of Strength Advisor	
Shelly Robertson	LI	Sources of Strength Advisor	
Terry Carlsen	W	Technology Coordinator I	12
Katharine Curles	SH	Technology Coordinator I	
Jeffrey Irland	PP	Technology Coordinator I	
Giessell Martinez	GP	Technology Coordinator I	
Erika Torres	CCF	Technology Coordinator I	
Kristopher Bland	LI	Technology Coordinator II	
Kimberly Cassetto	W	Technology Coordinator II	
Lisa Davis	BE	Technology Coordinator II	
Conor Fish	GA	Technology Coordinator II	
Sara Strickland	PI	Technology Coordinator II	
Martin Telstad	ED	Technology Coordinator II	
Jonathan Arthur	PI	TSA Advisor	
Stephanie Penrose	GA	TSA Advisor	
Michael Bertram	GA	TSA Advisor	

WARRANT SUMMARY

Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, are approved for payment. Those payments have been recorded on this listing which has been made available to the board.

As of August 21st, the Board, by a majority vote, does approve for payment those vouchers and electronic transfers included in the following list and described as follow:

Warrant Date	Warrant Number	Fund	Warrant Number	Amount
		General Fund		
8/4/2026	253624	Through	253719	\$ 622,410.18
8/18/2026	253721	Through	253826, 253836	\$ 3,179,949.94
8/4/2026	9000000000	Wire Transfer	9000000005	\$ 1,462.87
8/18/2026	9000000006	Wire Transfer	9000000011	\$ 1,143.98

		Capital Projects		
8/4/2026	253720	Through	253720	\$ 886.72
8/18/2026	253833	Through	253835	\$ 135,546.39
		Wire Transfer		
		Wire Transfer		

		ASB		
8/4/2026	253615	Through	253623	\$ 3,920.57
8/18/2026	253827	Through	253832, 253837	\$ 11,128.34
		Wire Transfer		
		Wire Transfer		

		Transportation Vehicle		
		Through		
		Through		
		Wire Transfer		
		Wire Transfer		

		Payroll		
7/31/2026	253556	Through	327794	\$ 2,246,921.27
7/31/2026	1400001	Wire Transfer	1401084	\$ 3,769,964.15
7/31/2026	NA	Payroll Taxes	NA	\$ 1,327,552.47

TOTAL:	\$	11,300,886.88
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SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT:

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD:

Alayna Brinton

Dr. Ben Gauyan, Superintendent



TO: Dr. Ben Gauyan - Superintendent

FROM: Janette Jeffris— Director of Fiscal Services

DATE: August 7, 2026

RE: Student Accident Insurance

David Borth from McDonald Zaring Insurance notified me off the rates and coverage for the 2026-2027 student accident plans from Myers-Stevens & Toohey & Co., Inc. The rates will remain the same as the 2025-2026 school year with the exception of the rates for adult/parent volunteers (+10%) and summer sports/conditioning (+109%). These rates are paid by families if they chose to enroll not the district.

For many years, we have worked with Myers-Stevens & Toohey & Co., Inc. for our student accident insurance plans. I am satisfied with services provided to students and their families. It is my recommendation that we continue to offer the plans available from Myers-Stevens & Toohey & Co., Inc. for the 2026-2027 school year.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Regular Business Meeting – 4:00 p.m.
July 21, 2026
WWPS Administration Building / 364 S. Park Street

PRESENT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alayna Brinton, President
Kathy Mulkerin, Vice President
Elizabeth Alonso-Barrientos
Ruth Ladderud
Derek Sarley
Abril Salazar, Student Representative

ADMINISTRATORS

Dr. Ben Gauyan, Superintendent
Christy Krutulis, Director of Teaching and Learning
Janette Jeffris, Director of Fiscal Services
Keith Ross, Director of Technology
Mark Higgins, Director of Communications

AUDIENCE

Approximately 16 individuals, including board members, administrators and guests, were in attendance.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. in the Administration Building Anne Golden Boardroom, by President Alayna Brinton.

II. FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute and Pledge of Allegiance were led by Director Alayna Brinton.

III. ROLL CALL

All board members were present.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Ruth Ladderud and seconded by Derek Sarley to approve the agenda as presented; the motion carried unanimously.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Derek Sarley and seconded by Ruth Ladderud to approve the consent agenda consisting of the following items: 1) personnel report; 2) July 7 & 21 accounts payable & June payroll; 3) 2026-2027 out of state tuition; 4) agreement for information systems services; 5) regular business meeting minutes of June 16, 2026; and 6) excused absence of student representative Ari Kim-Leavitt from July 21, 2016 regular board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. SPECIAL PROGRAMS/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

VII. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Public comment was received by one individual.

VIII. REPORTS

Board of Directors Report: The Board members shared of events and activities in which they participated or attended since the last Board meeting; Director Ladderud noted that she attended a WSSDA meeting helping plan great workshops for the upcoming conference.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Dr. Ben Gauyan noted the bright t-shirt he was wearing as a symbolic gesture as we went dark. We have a motto go dark, shine bright today. We are in colorful clothes as we go into our Qmlativ work.

2026-2027 Budget and Four-Year Budget Summary: Janette Jeffris, Director of Fiscal Services presented a budget based on an anticipated decline of 115 full-time equivalent (FTE) students for the upcoming school year. She also shared enrollment forecasts indicating the district could experience additional declines of approximately 100 students annually over the next several years. Jeffris also reported that the district remains committed to the Board of Directors' policy of maintaining an 8 to 10 percent fund balance reserve. Through disciplined budgeting, thoughtful staffing management, and prudent financial oversight, Walla Walla Public Schools continues to meet this important fiscal benchmark, providing financial flexibility and stability to navigate future enrollment changes and economic uncertainties.

Policies Second Reading: Dr. Gauyan presented the following policies for second reading:

- 3241 Student Discipline
- 3414 Infectious Diseases

IX. PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2026-2027 BUDGET ADOPTION AND FOUR-YEAR BUDGET SUMMARY

President Brinton opened the public hearing for comments, which is pursuant to RCW and WAC to review and adopt the 2026-2027 budget and four-year plan as advertised in the Walla Walla Union Bulletin. Being there were no comments, Derek Sarley moved and Ruth Ladderud seconded to close the public hearing; the motion carried unanimously.

X. ACTION

Resolution 04-2026 - 2026-2027 Budget and Four-Year Budget Summary: Motion by Ruth Ladderud and seconded by Elizabeth Alonso-Barrientos to approve Resolution 04-2026 - 2026-2027 Budget and Four-Year Plan as presented; the motion carried unanimously.

Policies Second Reading: Motion by Kathy Mulkerin and seconded by Elizabeth Alonso-Barrientos to approve policies 3241 & 3414 as presented; the motion carried unanimously.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

President Brinton adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Minutes to be presented for board approval on August 18, 2026.

APPROVED:

Dr. Ben Gauyan, Superintendent
and Secretary of the Board
- Veronica

Alayna Brinton
School Board President

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Special Meeting/School Board Retreat – 8:30 a.m.
July 23, 2026
WWPS Administration Building / 364 S. Park Street

The Board of Directors conducted a special meeting on July 23 at 8:30 a.m. for the purpose of a school board retreat. All elected board members and student representatives were present. The special meeting concluded at 3:20 p.m. and was open to the public.

Minutes to be presented for board approval on August 18, 2026.

APPROVED:

Dr. Ben Gauyan, Superintendent
and Secretary of the Board

Alayna Brinton
School Board President

~ CITIZENS' COMMENTS ~

We welcome your comments and questions during the time set aside in regular business meetings for citizens' comments. Attendees sign up to provide public comment using the sign-in form in the boardroom prior to the start of the Citizens' Comments period of the meeting.

Citizens' Comment Script:

This is the time in the meeting we welcome citizens to come forward and offer public comment, ask questions, or provide recommendations for educational improvement. Per Board policy we typically refrain from providing responses following public comments, and will ensure follow up is made if requested and necessary.

We also ask that you adhere to the following guidelines:

- State your name.
- Keep your comments brief and to the point, with a **three-minute time limit**.
- Do not reflect adversely on the political or economic view, ethnic background, character, or motives of any individual.
- If you have a specific complaint about an individual employee, it must be addressed through the Superintendent's office and not in this setting.

At this time, please come forward if you wish to address the board.

01/03/2022



2025-2026

Special Programs Report to Walla Walla School Board



Welcome and Introduction



DeeAnn Beaulaurier, GEAR UP Interim Site Manager

Becky Waggoner-Schwartz, GEAR UP Program Specialist



What is GEAR UP



Who we will work with this year!

- **G**aining
- **E**arly
- **A**wareness
- **R**eadiness
- **U**ndergraduate
- **P**rograms
- *Class of 2026 Following them into their first year out of High School!!*
- *Class of 2027*

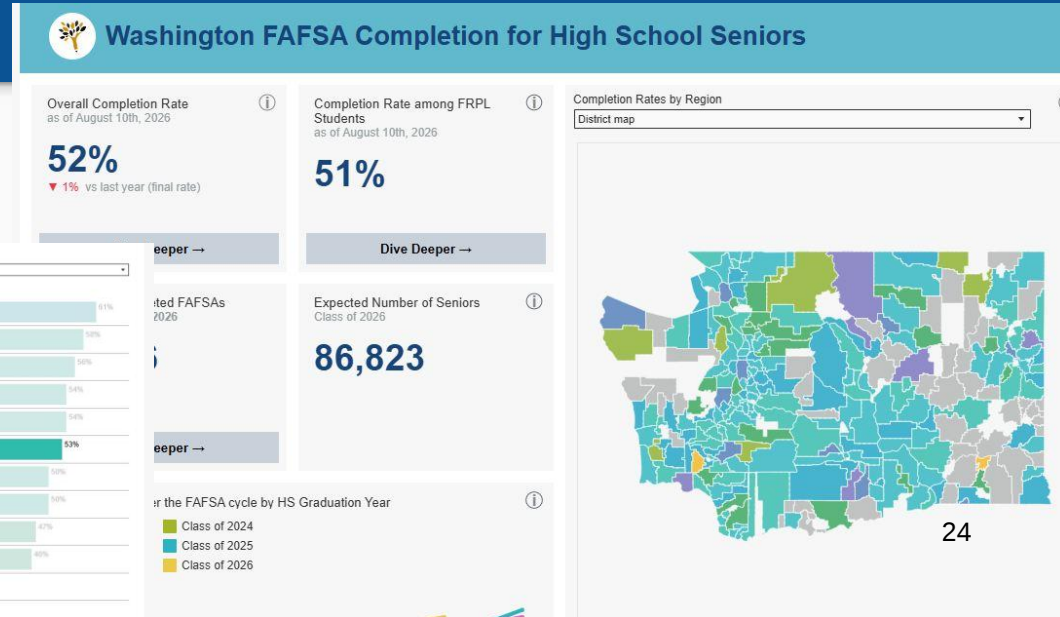
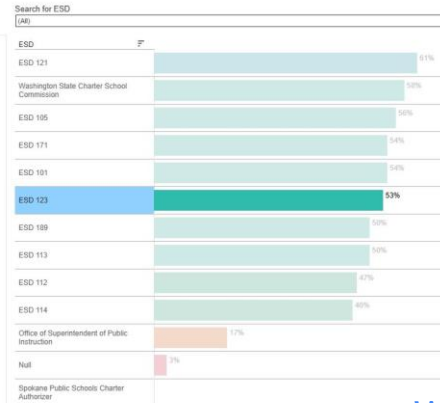
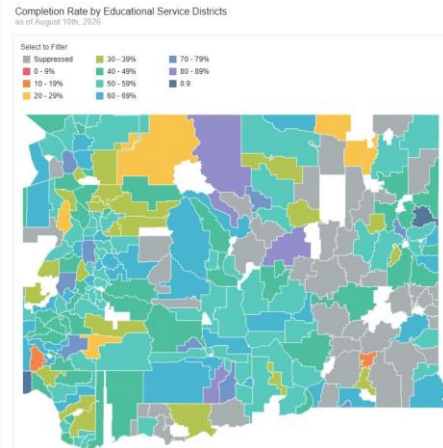
We are in the 7th year of a 7²² year grant cycle

This year's highlights and GU by the numbers

- Colleges/University Campus Visits 25-26
 - University of Washington
 - Pacific Lutheran University
 - Central Washington University
 - Walla Walla Community College
 - Washington State University
 - Spokane Fall Community College
 - Lewis-Clark State College
 - University of Idaho
 - Boise State University
 - Washington State University Tri-Cities

This year's highlights and Wins

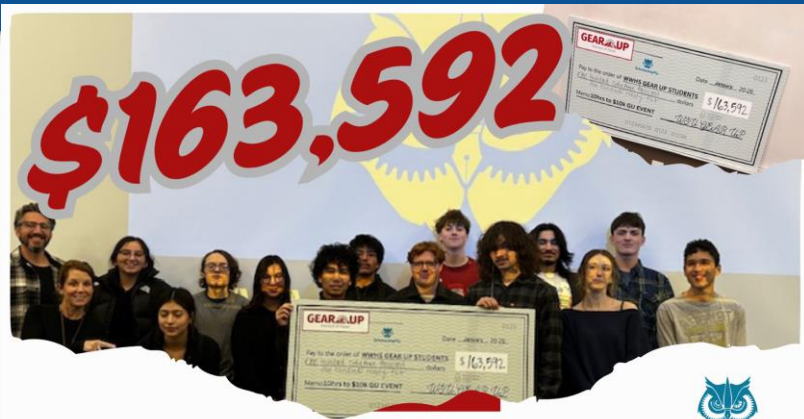
- FAFSA Completion
- WWHS 73%



WWHS beat the state percentage by 21 points and our ESD by 20 points!!

This year's highlights and GU by the numbers

- Daily Classroom interactions
 - GEAR UP has 3 tutors spread out in Math, Science and AVID classes as well as after school tutoring/homework help!
- SAT Prep and SAT registration
 - GEAR UP held a full day SAT Boot Camp - teaming with a national company; Cambridge Mastery Prep. 50 High School Juniors spent an entire day learning content, testing strategies and even some YOGA breath exercises!!
- 10hrs to \$10k! Scholarship Workshop
 - 3 Saturdays of intense writing, learning, and finally submitting over \$163,000 in scholarship monies!



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
TRI-CITIES

GEAR UP

10HRS TO \$10K @ WALLA WALLA HIGH SCHOOL
JANUARY 10, 17TH AND 24TH!!



WASHINGTON STATE
OPPORTUNITY
SCHOLARSHIP

SAT prep

Your mood doesn't come from your mind, it comes from your body. For most of history we believed emotions were created by the mind....
"the brain decides how you feel, then the body responds."

Neuroscience has flipped this completely! The brain doesn't generate your emotions. It reads your body and builds them from what it finds there. Every second, your body sends thousands of signals upward to the brain: *your heart rate, your breathing, your gut activity, your muscle tension, your posture.*

The brain takes all of this in and asks: *What emotional state does this data match?* This is called *interoception: the brain's reading of the body's interior.* Tuning into your body is one of the most scientifically validated paths to emotional regulation.

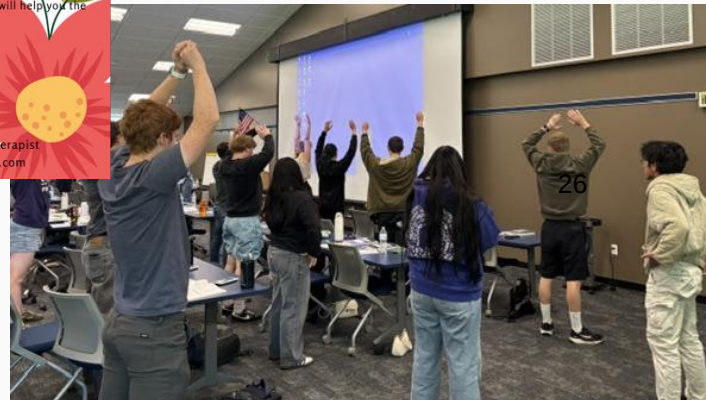
SLOW YOUR EXHALE : *Your brain reads "SAFE"*
ROLL YOUR SHOULDERS BACK: *Your brain reads "CONFIDENT"*
PUT YOUR FEET ON THE GROUND: *Your brain reads "GROUNDED"*
Prepping for the SAT'S is more than studying. It's sending messages to your brain that you can do this!

Pay attention to the signals your sending your brain through your body.
List three activities you enjoyed from our time together that will help you the morning of the SAT's :



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Sarah Eaton
Level 1 (500hr) Yoga Therapist
sarah@visitalisyyoga.com



Where does the Walla Walla GU Grant stand in the overall outcome tracker?!



- Where are we TODAY in the Grant measurable outcome tracker:
 - By the end of 12th grade, students successfully completing advanced course in Mathematics will increase to 31.4%. WWHS = **156.7% of GOAL! 49.2% of our students have completed an advanced Math Course.**
 - By the end of 12th grade, students successfully completing advanced course in Science will increase to 29.9%. WWHS = **190.6% of GOAL! 57% of our students have completed an advanced Science course.**
 - By the end of 12th grade, students successfully completing advanced course in English will increase to 26.7%. WWHS = **182% of GOAL! 48.7% of our students have completed an advanced English course.**
 - By the end of 12th grade, each cohort will increase the percentage of students passing the state²⁷ administered proficiency exam in Science to 57%. = **97.5% of GOAL! 55.6% of our students have passed the state proficiency exam in Science**

Summer Opportunities for classes of 2026-2027

- June 6th SAT Test on campus
Walla Walla High School
 - GEAR UP paid for all test of any student who didn't qualify for a waiver this year!!
- Florida NASA trip
- Arizona STEM Biosphere and college visits with 'all aboard'
- Leah's Pantry - nutrition and meal planning for college and beyond!





GEAR UP and Summer PD

Expanding access to rigorous coursework!



- Keeping with tradition of GEAR UP sponsored professional development. GEAR UP partnered with WWPS to send Refugio Reyes to AP Spanish Language and Culture (Advance Placement) Summer Institute and will be helping to send Kim Cassetto to the AP Forum for AP Coordinators in Las Vegas, NV this fall.
- GEAR UP staff attended the annual NCCEP conference in Washington DC this year along with one Student Leader from WWHS, Sofia Camacho. Sofia attended the Youth Leadership Summit in DC and will share her experience and we are excited to have her share information about the newly formed Student Advisory Board for GEAR UP!

GEAR UP Students in Washington DC!!



GEAR UP STUDENT BOARD

OUR MISSION:

TO GIVE A STUDENTS PERSPECTIVE ON THE
VARIETY OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
AVAILABLE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL.

OUR IMPACT:

STARTING IN
SEPTEMBER, WE
PLAN TO VISIT,
WALLA WALLA
TRI-CITIES
MOSES LAKE
VANCOUVER
PROSSER
HIGH SCHOOLS
AND MIDDLE
SCHOOLS TO
GET OTHER
STUDENTS
INVOLVED

OUR TEAM:



BY THE END OF THIS
SCHOOL YEAR:
WE WANT TO GIVE AT
LEAST 500 STUDENTS
A PLAN AFTER HIGH
SCHOOL AND GROW
OUR STUDENT BOARD
TO PASS DOWN.



Introducing
Sofia Camacho-Salazar!

Walla Walla High School Class
of 2027
And our GEAR UP Student
Board Representative!!



Questions and Contacts

Questions?

Our Staff:

Becky Waggoner-Schwartz, GEAR UP Program Specialist
rwaggoner@wsu.edu 509-526-8622



DeeAnn Beaulaurier, GEAR UP Interim Site Manager
deeann.beaulaurier@wsu.edu 509-526-8626





School Board Committee Assignments 2026

Board Committee	Board Member(s)	District Lead	Committee Charge	Approximate Duration/commitment/meetings
Administrator Consult and Confer***	Board President	Ben Gauyan		
Administrative Finance Committee*	Derek Sarley Elizabeth Alonso-Barrientos Abril Salazar	Janette Jeffris	Review district financials and participate in audit entrance and exit conferences	1 x per month- 1 hour (3rd Thursday) Audit- 2 meetings- 1 hour each
Administrative Policy Committee*	Ruth Ladderud Kathy Mulkerin Abril Salazar	Chris Gardea	Review of policies prior to moving into business meeting agendas.	Typically 2-3 times a year.
Career/Technical Education***	Alayna Brinton	Jerry Maher	Consists of different partners across the region. The committee provides overall direction and guidance to administrators and staff concerning CTE programs offered by WWPS	3 x per year (Oct. Jan. May)
Equity & Access Committee*	Kathy Mulkerin Elizabeth Alonso-Barrientos Lucy Anderton Abril Salazar	Julie Perron	Convenes to provide direction and planning for administration and School Board consideration	4 x per year
Graduates of Distinction Committee***	Ruth Ladderud	Mark Higgins	Identify the graduates of distinction for the school year. No set number, usually 3-4.	Ask Mark about the timeline - Spring
Parents in Action (Head Start)***	Ruth Ladderud	Michelle Carpenter ???	A board member needs to be appointed to attend.	Monthly or Quarterly?
Instructional Materials Committee*	Kathy Mulkerin Elizabeth Alonso-Barrientos	Casey Monahan	The IMC is formed to establish and monitor such procedures as may be necessary for the evaluation and recommendation of core materials used by the district in conformance to	1-2 adoptions per year. No adoptions in 25-26.

			stated criteria. The IMC will act upon requests for core material approval and will evaluate and act upon citizens' requests for reconsideration of core material;	
Legislative Representative***	Elizabeth Alonso-Barrientos			
Safe Schools***	Alayna Brinton	Mark Higgins	District and School Safe Schools Plan Components include: Area 1 -- Prevention/Intervention Area 2 -- All Hazards/Crisis Response Area 3 -- Post Crisis Recovery	Attend Annual Safety Summit in August. (2 hours)
School Health Advisory Committee*	Alayna Brinton Elizabeth Alonso-Barrientos	Brent Cummings	Convenes quarterly to complete the work necessary to provide input relating to current and proposed policies for administration for consideration.	Quarterly/1hr meetings
District Sustainability Committee*	Ruth Ladderud Derek Sarley Lucy Anderson	Robert Foster	Could be an ongoing charge based on the year/capacity/etc.	Monthly or 5 times a year....
Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA)***	Ruth Ladderud	Chris Ferenz	We clean up, refine and vote on proposed amendments to the WIAA from member schools.	In the past, this has been an as needed meeting.
Student Representative Orientation/Mentorship ***	Alayna Brinton Senior Student Board Representative			

*Type of Committee: *Administrative, **Board Sub-Committee, ***Other*

(Proposed) Revised: August 18, 2026



Board Meeting Schedule
September 2026 – August 2027
Walla Walla Public Schools Administration Building
Anne Golden Boardroom

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Meeting Type</u>
September 1, 2026	5:30 p.m.	Regular Study Meeting
September 15, 2026	5:30 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting
October 6, 2026	5:30 p.m.	Regular Study Meeting
October 20, 2026	5:30 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting
November 3, 2026	4:00 p.m.	Regular Study Meeting
November 17, 2026	5:30 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting
December 15, 2026	5:30 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting
January 19, 2027	5:30 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting
February 2, 2027	5:30 p.m.	Regular Study Meeting
February 16, 2027	5:30 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting
March 2, 2027	5:30 p.m.	Regular Study Meeting
March 16, 2027	5:30 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting
April 20, 2027	5:30 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting
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May 18, 2027	5:30 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting
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Walla Walla Public Schools

BOARD POLICY

Policy No. 1250

Page 1 of 1

STUDENTS ON GOVERNING BOARDS

The Walla Walla Public School Board recognizes the unique and valuable insight students possess on the direction of the district and decisions made on their behalf. In alignment with the district's beliefs, the Board is committed to maximizing student voice when possible. The school district will strive to annually seat two student representatives, one junior and one senior. Student representatives will communicate with other district students and receive their input and perspectives.

Student representatives on the board are expected to make every effort to attend all board meetings. The student members will contribute to board discussion by providing student insight and perspective, serve as a liaison for the associated student body, and report to students about the work of the board and district activities. Student representatives will have the opportunity to provide the board with an advisory vote on agenda items immediately before the board votes on selected items. Advisory votes will not pertain to any item discussed in executive or closed session. Student representative votes will not count toward the final numerical outcome of the vote, however they will be recorded in the meeting minutes. Student representatives will not attend executive sessions, make or second motions, ~~vote~~, or hold board offices.

Adopted: June 20, 2023

First Reading/Revision: August 18, 2026



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