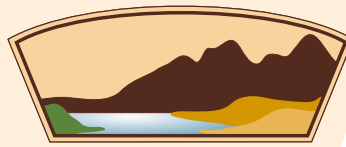


Community Connections

JUNE 2019



Facilitating the transition to independent living

The Washougal Adult Transition Program (WATP) places students at its center, meeting their specific needs and providing learning opportunities for a successful future. WATP provides life and job skills training to help students, ages 18-21 with special needs, transition from school to independent living through community involvement and internships to prepare for competitive employment.

The list of skills taught through the program is long and includes everything from grocery shopping to hygiene and resume writing to using public transportation. Teachers also help students develop positive character traits such as punctuality, preparedness and taking initiative. WATP is a part of WSD's Federal Special Education requirement.

An important component of the curriculum involves internships at local businesses and organizations.

Currently WATP students work as interns at Westlie Ford, Meals on Wheels at



Above: Nova Delp (left) works as an intern in the Express Lube of Westlie Ford one day a week.
Below Left: Gloria Piele buses tables for Meals on Wheels at the Washougal Senior Center.

the Washougal Senior Center, Best Western, Columbia Ridge Assisted Living, and Nuestra Mesa.

Mario Abukhader, Westlie Ford Fixed Operations Director, approaches these students the same as any other employee. Student Nova Delp works one day a week in the Express Lube area, and fellow student Andrew Valenzuela works in the detail shop.

"They are as capable as other new employees," Abukhader noted. "Like anyone they need an opportunity, training and some guidance. Not limitations."

Delp is grateful for the experience he has gained in his nine months at Westlie and he enjoys the hands on and physical work at the lube rack. His responsibilities include tire rotation and tire mounting and balancing, oil changes, battery tests and checking tire pressure and tread depths. To provide a bit of extra oversight and encouragement, a

"They are as capable as other new employees. Like anyone they need an opportunity, training and some guidance. Not limitations."

- Mario Abukhader, Westlie Ford

WATP staff member is stationed with each student intern at their work sites.

"Through the volunteer work and internships, our students are also building community relationships and networking outside of school," explained Jessica Nickels, WATP teacher.

"This is very valuable to them once they have moved on from the school environment."



Enjoy your summer reading! School resumes August 27.

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Washougal Community,

Where has year one gone? I am constantly asking myself that question as we prepare to graduate our seniors and end a very successful school year for the Washougal School District. As I reflect upon the first year as your superintendent, I am, once again, convinced that I have joined one of the best school districts in the state of Washington. Over the past year, I learned about the tremendous community support that underscores our success. From not being able to find a seat at the winter concerts or home football games, to full-house attendance at our band/choir/drama performances, to record attendance at the recent STRIDE for Education fun run...people in this community care greatly about our schools and are personally and financially invested in our success.

I learned that we have excellent students who show grit, determination, creativity, and kindness. I learned that we have an excellent staff who approach the work of educating our children with commitment, determination, excitement and service. I learned that our parents are engaged and passionate about the success of their children. I learned that, together, we could weather the storm of difficult contract negotiations, hold to our commitments to each other during a challenging budget season, win a 2A state Basketball championship, achieve state and national recognition for our work, and...laugh about meeting on a regular basis in the produce aisle of the Washougal Safeway!

When we moved here last summer, I made a commitment to be an active member of our community and to start to build strong relationships. Everywhere I have gone this year, I have heard a shared optimism and excitement about the direction we are headed. The Washougal community holds a collective belief that our school district is rising to be a top performer in the state. As I look to the beginning of year two as your superintendent, I want you to know that I am passionate about knowing, nurturing and challenging ALL of our students to rise. Our future is bright!

Sincerely,

Dr. Mary Templeton



Hansen named Asst. Superintendent

Washougal High School Principal Aaron Hansen has been named WSD Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Student Services, replacing Marian Young, who is retiring.

This new position expands beyond the current role of Human Resources Director to include oversight of the district's nursing services, K-12 counseling program, and 504 compliance process. He will serve as the district's Equity Officer and will supervise the Human Resources Department staff and meet regularly with labor association leadership to keep communication channels open. He will also supervise recruiting, hiring, and evaluating staff to ensure teacher excellence in every Washougal classroom.

Hansen has been the WHS Principal since 2011, and previously served as an associate principal and athletic director. Prior to those positions, he was a Math coach, providing instructional leadership for teachers in grades 6-12. He began his teaching experiences with Washougal at the former Excelsior High School, where he was a Math and Science teacher providing alternative learning experiences and customized learning opportunities for students. Prior to joining the Washougal School District he was a Math and Science teacher at Rogers High School in Spokane for eight years.

"Aaron brings valuable experience supervising and evaluating a diverse teaching and support staff to this role, as well as experience working through complex challenges with students and families at the high school level," said Dr. Mary Templeton, WSD Superintendent. 🌱



Gomez-Clark hired as WHS Principal

Sheree Gomez-Clark has been hired as the new Principal of Washougal High School, replacing Aaron Hansen July 1.

Gomez-Clark was hired in Washougal as an associate principal at WHS in July 2015. Prior to that, she completed her administrative internship at Jason Lee Middle School in the Vancouver School District. She also worked at Skyview High School in Vancouver from 2004-2013, first as a paraeducator and then as a special education teacher after completing her degree program. Clark is a National Board Certified teacher and is working on her doctoral degree in Educational Leadership from City University.

As part of the selection process, WSD Superintendent Mary Templeton solicited feedback from WHS staff members on skills and characteristics they felt would help their new leader be successful. "Members of the interview panel feel that Sheree's experience as the AVID District Director and member of the district MTSS team are critical to supporting these initiatives at WHS," Templeton said. "We know Sheree will be an outstanding fit in her new role."

Gomez-Clark has a graduate certificate in restorative practice and is a trainer for the International Institute for Restorative Practice. This experience brings a wealth of information around practices that help hold students accountable in meaningful ways without excluding them from the learning environment. A focus of her current work has been developing teacher leaders to facilitate adult learning. She is a participant in Leadership Clark County's Leadership Development Program for 2019, fostering connections with other community leaders. 🌱



WSD programs, staff receive awards

2018-19 SUPERINTENDENTS TO WATCH

National Schools Public Relations Association

Dr. Mary Templeton, WSD Superintendent

Dr. Templeton was recently selected as one of only 14 in the nation for this award, which recognizes district leaders with less than five years of experience as a superintendent who exemplify dynamic, fast-paced leadership with strong communication skills.

"I couldn't be more pleased with the transformational leadership, community engagement, and relationship building Mary is engaged in," said Cory Chase WSD Board President, in a letter of recommendation supporting Templeton's nomination. He went on to cite her connections in the community and schools, the work she is leading on a new strategic plan, and her communications efforts during and at the conclusion of the bargaining with the local teacher union.

Dr. Mary Templeton joined the Washougal School District in July 2018 and immediately dove in to get to know the staff, students and community. She has been highly visible in all district schools with weekly classroom visits and attendance at school programs.



2019 WHOLE CHILD AWARD

Washington State Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development

Jemtegaard Middle School

The Whole Child Award acknowledges and honors a school that has made significant contributions to student learning by creating a school culture with programs that exemplify two or more of the five tenets of The Whole Child Initiative: Healthy, Safe, Engaged, Supported, and Challenged. "Our staff can think of no bigger honor than to be recognized for striving to meet the many needs of our kids," said JMS Principal David Cooke. "It takes a lot of work, but the results are worth it."

"I'm proud of the hard work of the Jemtegaard school staff and community," said Superintendent Dr. Mary Templeton. "They have embarked on a journey to shift the culture of the school, focusing on identifying ways students may fall through the cracks, and ways they can provide resources to keep students engaged in learning, encourage safe choices, and provide students with problem solving skills to succeed in the classroom and beyond."



2019 WASHOUGAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Camas-Washougal Chamber

Tami Grant, WHS ASL Instructor

Tami Grant, a teacher in the Washougal School District since 2006, teaches American Sign Language as part of the Career and Technical Education (CTE) team at Washougal High School.

Her experience as a teacher, as well as in private industry working with the deaf community, helps her teach cultural competence as well as language skills to her students, ensuring they recognize the rich and unique experience that people with different abilities have. She works to create a classroom environment that embraces elements of deaf culture and to help students see the value in recognizing and celebrating our differences, and parlays these into respect for all learners regardless of their culture and background.

Tami is an active supporter of school events and initiatives, volunteering for leadership positions in her school to implement AVID strategies, as the ASL club advisor, class advisor, and on the school's culture and climate team.



District reviews school safety procedures

Last fall, Washougal School District staff began a year-long process to review school safety procedures which involved connecting with local law enforcement and first responders, discussions with school staff, trainings for staff and administrators, and meeting with parents and families. The Washougal community is among the safest in the state, and our schools are a reflection of that.

The review focused on four strength areas that ensure student and staff safety. The review found that the district is investing in social-emotional wellness, with mental health services, screening tools, positive behavior interventions, partnerships with community service providers, and character building to avoid behavioral challenges. Staff are trained at each site on emergency protocols, responding to health concerns, and safety standards, with monthly drills for different situations. School facilities have single entry points, video surveillance, and the district has partnered with law enforcement to have an active presence and relationship with students and staff. The district has enhanced parent and family communications by adding text messaging as an option for emergency notices, and providing proactive communications about safety concerns.

"After completing this work, I am very reassured that students in our district have a safe place to learn, that staff are doing the necessary work to continue that safe environment, and that local law enforcement and first responders are at the ready should we need them," said Superintendent Dr. Mary Templeton.

One outcome of the district partnership with local law enforcement is the designation of the Port of Camas-Washougal as the reunification site in the event of a major school evacuation. The district will continue to invest in safety training and social-emotional wellness to ensure Washougal remains a safe place for all learners. 🌱

Retirees share memories and plans for their next adventures

JOCELYN ALDRIDGE

Teacher
Cape Horn-Skye Elementary
42 years in education

Favorite Washougal memory:

"My favorite memories are by far the children. Nothing beats the look on their faces when they experience success. It warms my heart."

Retirement plans: "My husband and I have a travel trailer and plan to hit the road in it. Just can take our time seeing the sights, visiting friends and relatives that we haven't seen for a while."



GUY HAVENS

Custodian
Hathaway Elementary
32 years of service

Favorite Washougal memory:

"When faced with an opportunity to change jobs for a higher salary, my dad gave me the advice to go where I would be the most happy. I knew right where I belonged and I stayed at Hathaway."



RONNA JOHNSON

Paraeducator
Cape Horn-Skye Elementary
23 years of service

Favorite Washougal memory:

"After a few years of subbing I was hired as a Pottery and Woodshop Aide at Jemtegaard for six years. The kids who went through these classes were often brimming over with talent, we had so much fun helping them express their creativity through their projects. Having kids who struggled academically tell you that these classes helped motivate them to come to school and keep trying was always the greatest reward."

Retirement plans: "I mostly want to spend time relaxing with my husband Dave and our family, gardening, working on long-awaited projects, writing, getting back into pottery and other crafts, traveling in our trailer, and seeing Norway, among many other far-flung destinations! The number one goal is, however, to just savor the reality of being retired and do my best to be grateful for each beautiful day of life."



NIELS JORGENSEN

Athletic fields/grounds Maintenance
7 years of service



MARY LAFRANCE (not pictured)

ASB Technician
Washougal High School
26 years of service

KAM LAWRENCE

Teacher
Canyon Creek Middle School
41 years in education

Favorite Washougal memory:

"While I have great take-aways from my students every day, I think that my favorite teaching memories are the small notes, emails and letters that I receive from former students and their parents. When someone takes the time to write to me it truly touches my heart."

Retirement plans: "When I am retired I plan on helping out in my grandchildren's classrooms, do lots of yard work, and take time to hike."



KATHY PETERSON (not pictured)

Paraeducator
Hathaway Elementary
4 years of service

MARGIE SHOEMAKER

Custodian
Canyon Creek Middle School
28 years in education

Favorite Washougal memory:

"My years at CHS when it was a site based school. We embarked on new territory, and it was amazing! Every staff person had a buy in to that school, and we made it work. It lasted for six wonderful years. You couldn't find a closer staff family. I still keep in touch with most of them today."

Retirement plans: "Becoming a first time grandma! I'll be babysitting my grandson and making some great new memories with him. Getting more sewing time with my quilt gals, and loving not getting up to a 3:30 alarm clock! Mini trips with the hubby, and I also plan on doing some subbing."



KAREN WYSASKE

Teacher
Washougal High School
38 years in education

Favorite Washougal memory:

"My favorite memory is all the friendships; thanks to all the wonderful people who make Washougal, Washougal."



MARIAN YOUNG

HR Director
District Office
39 years in education

Favorite Washougal memory:

"Getting to work alongside so many smart, creative and dedicated people. My most humbling day was receiving all the lovely messages from our amazing staff when I announced my retirement."

Retirement plans: "In retirement, I plan to continue my lifelong love of learning and extend it into some new areas, particularly, world language, music and art. I also plan to spend lots of time with my family and friends."



Youth Arts Month a great success

The first annual Washougal Youth Arts Month (WYAM) held in March was a wonderful success as it shined a spotlight on student art.

"The arts are an important element of our students' education in Washougal," said Mary Templeton, WSD Superintendent. Research indicates that high-quality art educational opportunities can improve critical-thinking skills and even help to foster important values such as empathy and acceptance.

Young artists took part in a variety of art classes, projects and performances all month long. The culminating event was the four-day WYAM Gallery held in downtown Washougal. "We estimate nearly 1,000 parents, students and patrons visited the gallery to enjoy student creations made in Washougal school art and Washougal High School CTE classes, such as woodshop, metal shop and digital photography," said Chuck Carpenter, event co-chair and Washougal Arts and Culture Alliance volunteer. "It was very meaningful for these



Families enjoy student artwork on display at the WYAM gallery in downtown Washougal during Youth Arts Month in March.

students to see their work on display and appreciated by the community."

Washougal School District began offering fine art classes taught by art teachers to all elementary students this school year. "The level of creativity shown by our youth was impressive!" said Alice Yang, Cape Horn-Skye Elementary Art Teacher.

Washougal Youth Arts Month was made possible through partnerships with area artists and many local organizations.

WYAM will return in March 2020! 🌱



Money Matters: Budget Development Continues

District Finance Director Kristine Grindy joined Superintendent Mary Templeton in a series of site visits to update patrons and staff about the district's budget development process. Patrons and staff were provided information about the budget outlook, cost saving measures being implemented, and additional pressures that create challenges in bringing costs into alignment with revenue. The district is aligning each dollar spent to intentionally support our vision of knowing, nurturing, and challenging students to rise.

Student enrollment is one of the only drivers of school district funding, and our district has experienced an unanticipated drop in enrollment over the past year, decreasing our funding from the state. This, along with anticipated costs associated with the implementation of a

new, state-mandated health care system beginning on January 1, 2020, will require the use of reserve funds to support current programs. Superintendent Mary Templeton has worked with district leadership to implement a series of budget efficiencies that will bring costs into alignment with revenue over the next four years. District leadership will be looking for more efficient ways to continue providing excellent education and services to our students. During this period of "belt tightening" and close examination of the budget, the district will rely on reserve funds to mitigate the impact of these cuts, and to ensure that all permanent district staff have jobs in the 2019-2020 school year. District staff are creating a budget based on a conservative enrollment forecast and staffing model.

The school board has approved a four-year budget plan that will reduce fund balance to about 10 percent, which is the average for districts around the state. Additional information about the district's budget, including an infographic showing revenues, expenditures, and important information for patrons, can be found on the WSD website. The school board will review the proposed budget in June, and formally adopt the budget in August 2019.

The challenges are not unique to Washougal, and district leaders are hopeful that the state will continue to review school funding and make further adjustments to fully fund special education, student safety, and supports for student mental health services. 🌱

2018-19 District

PURCHASED SERVICES
12%

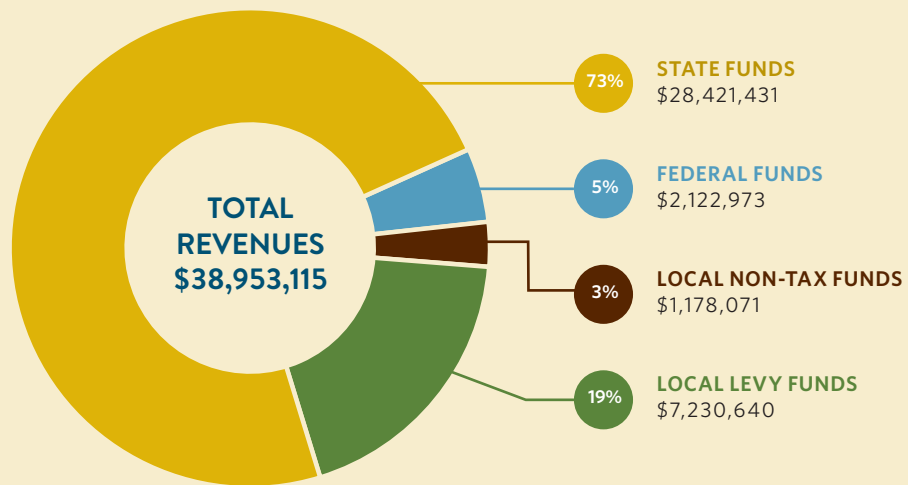
SUPPLIES
5%

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

**SALARIES
& BENEFITS**
82%

2017-18 REVENUES & EXPENDITURES

Our fiscal year begins September 1 and ends August 31.



State

Per pupil funding, State Levy Assistance, Transportation funds

Federal

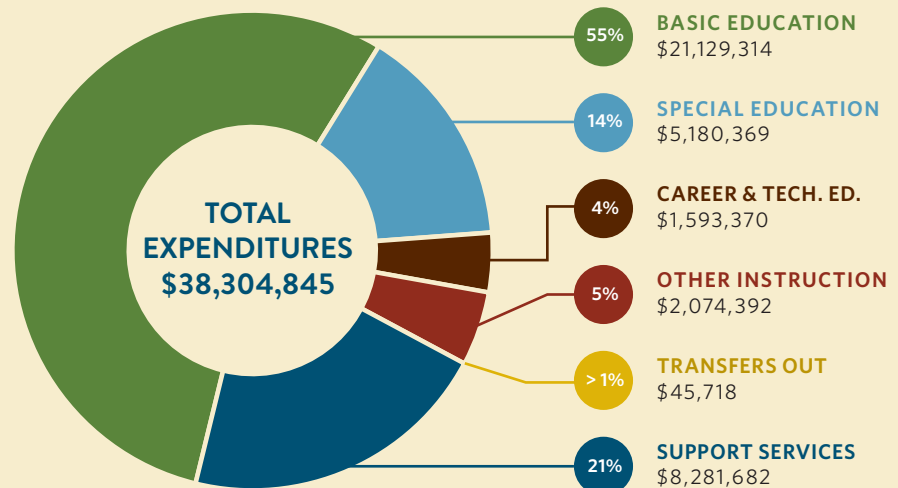
Special Education, Career & Technical Education, Title I, Title II, USDA Commodities

Local Non-Tax

Facility rentals, community education, donations, grants, library fines, e-rate funds, non-high collection, meal payments

Local Levies

Maintenance & Operations Levy



Basic Education

Covers most salaries & benefits, materials and professional development

Special Education

Used for educating students with special needs

Career & Technical Ed.

Middle and high school work- and college-readiness courses

Other Instruction

Title I, Learning Assistance, bilingual programs and Highly Capable program spending

Transfers Out

Support for one-time, long-range capital facilities planning

Support Services

Purchased services and other operational expenses

Financial Report

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS & OPERATIONS LEVY

Washougal received over \$7.2 million in local operations levy dollars in 2017-18, plus another \$900,000 in Local Effort Assistance* from the state.

This funding supports...

10%

ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES

- School athletics
- Coaches
- Advisors
- Extra-curricular activities
- Performing arts
- Transportation

35%

STUDENT LEARNING & STAFFING

- Art
- Music
- Physical Education
- Advanced Placement
- Highly Capable program
- Professional development & training
- Substitute teachers
- Special Education support
- English Language Learner support

17%

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

- Librarians
- Secretaries
- Paraeducators
- Textbooks
- Curriculum

9%

HEALTH & SAFETY

- Security staff
- Counselors
- Nurses
- WHS School Resource Officer
- Family Resource Centers

29%

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

- Custodians
- Grounds & building maintenance
- Utilities
- Supplies & equipment
- Fuel
- Vehicles & maintenance

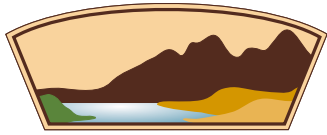
* Local effort assistance (LEA) is state money paid to eligible districts to match excess general fund levies. These payments help school districts with above-average tax rates due to low property valuations.

TECHNOLOGY LEVY

Our \$800,000 Technology Levy supports...

- The student 1:1 initiative
- Up-to-date computers and devices
- Classroom instructional technology
- Professional development and coaching
- Technology infrastructure
- Curriculum and software





www.washougal.k12.wa.us

WASHOUGAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

4855 Evergreen Way
Washougal, WA 98671

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Washougal, WA
Permit No. 14

Washougal School District Patron
Washougal, WA 98671

Enjoy your summer reading! School resumes August 27.

WASHOUGAL COMMUNITY EDUCATION & RECREATION *Summer Offerings*

Through Washougal Community Education & Recreation your child has the opportunity to have a "Summer Camp Experience."

SUMMER CAMPS

Brickzone:

Creative Camper	Aqua Adventure
Cooking	Edible Engineering
Concoctions	Silly Concoctions
Robotics Coding	LEGO Movie
Minecraft	Maker
LEGO Engineering	

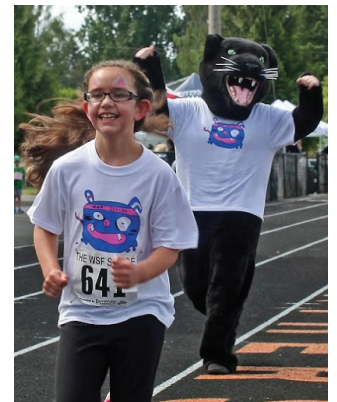
Athletic & Active:

Track	Skyhawk Sports
Tennis	Flag Football
Basketball	Tae Kwon Do
Volleyball	

Arts & Music:

Fused Glass	Art Exploration
Garden Art	Music
Kids & Canvas	

Camps are filling up fast! Visit our website www.washougal.k12.wa.us/wcer to view individual flyers, search by age, register and pay online.



WSF STRIDE event promotes fun & fitness

More than 700 students, families, and staff turned out for a community favorite event, the STRIDE, which promotes fun, fitness and friendly competition, and raised more than \$24,000 to support the Washougal Schools Foundation and Washougal classrooms.



Photos courtesy of Washougal Schools Foundation.

SUPERINTENDENT
Dr. Mary Templeton

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Cory Chase, President
Ron Dinuius, Vice President
Angela Hancock
Teresa Lees
Donna Sinclair

Upcoming Board Meetings

June 25, District Office

August 13, District Office

Meetings are held at 6:30 p.m.

All are invited!

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT: The Washougal 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, gender 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: Civil Rights Coordinator: Marian Young, 4855 Evergreen Way, Washougal WA 98671, (360) 954-3050; Title IX Officer: Marian Young, 4855 Evergreen Way, Washougal WA 98671, (360) 954-3050; Section 504 Coordinator: Allison Blakely, 4855 Evergreen Way, Washougal WA 98671, (360) 954-3020.