

Community *Connections*

JUNE 2020



Bus drivers help us stay in touch with our students

Rain couldn't spoil community parade to celebrate WHS Class of 2020



Friends, families and community members turned out en masse on June 5 to cheer on graduates as they paraded through Washougal.



A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Washougal Community,

As we start the summer, it's amazing to look at how much we have accomplished working together through the COVID crisis. Teachers, students, parents, families, principals, and our community have risen to the challenge of keeping students intellectually engaged and moving forward.



Before the pandemic, much of what we are doing would have been unthinkable! Teachers are leading instruction by navigating virtual platforms and innovating with technology, while consistently making progress and overcoming challenges. None of this would be possible without the heroic efforts of our teachers, parents committed to helping their children succeed, and students who are watching the adults reinvent school overnight. Our students are learning new things without as much time with their teacher and all of us are growing in our ability to persevere, innovate, create.

As we aspire to see our school district Rise, we must also invest in the challenging conversations that we are having as a nation around race and equity. By so doing, we will successfully move toward equity in opportunity and in outcome. The 2019-2025 Strategic Plan clearly articulates the WSD commitment to disrupting systems that perpetuate institutional biases and support educational justice. I know that I can't truly understand what it is like to live, work, and lead as a person of color in our society, but I am committed to listening to people of color, learning from their experiences, and steering our district on a path that eliminates the opportunity and achievement gap.

And finally, many of you are asking what the fall will look like. Although we hope for a normal schedule, we will be ready for contingencies that may include a hybrid model where students split time learning at home and at school. No decision has been made yet, but our plans include everything from instructional design, busing, protective equipment, food safety, sanitization, and scheduling. Most importantly, these scenarios will envision ways for our students to return to our schools, safely.

Great things are happening in the Washougal School District, and I am excited to be part of it. We share a goal of seeing Washougal rise to be one of the top performing districts in the state. I am confident we are on a positive trajectory toward this exciting goal. Together, we can capitalize on these challenges and opportunities and see Washougal Rise!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Templeton".

Dr. Mary Templeton



Dana Morris delivers a library book to parent Jen Patrick

Bus drivers help connect students to learning resources

Washougal school bus driver, Dana Morris, rides in the front row of Bus 57 with Nancy McGuire in the driver's seat for a typical Monday route. The bus moves along with eerie silence and empty seats, its only cargo is a box of manila envelopes and orange bags of educational materials for delivery. The role of Washougal school buses and their drivers may have changed dramatically since the school closure in mid-March, but their main function, to connect students with their education, remains the same.

Although many teachers and students can use online resources to connect and provide instruction and learning, this does not work for all families or lessons. "We have some families that do not have access to Wi-Fi, and during the Stay at Home order are not able to drive to find a connection," said Les Brown, Director of Communication and Technology. "We are working to meet the varying needs of all our students and making sure that Internet access is not a barrier to student participation. The district is also providing drive-up Wi-Fi at school sites, exploring service at meal distribution sites, and procuring hotspots to serve families who have no other options."

The buses are also being used to deliver boxed meals. Prepared and assembled by food service employees, boxes include an entire week's worth of food supplies. Approximately 6,000 meals each week are being delivered since the program started in early April.

Often, items are sent in both directions. As families and students collect information sent from their teachers, they bring completed work and even library books to be returned to the schools and teachers. Online check out of school library books began in early April and more and more families are using the service.

"The kids really love that we are out here making deliveries in our buses and they love getting the chance to see us," Morris said. "I think they miss the continuity of it all. Going out to meet the bus feels a little like the way things used to be for them." 🍃

Summer Meal Service

Free Youth Meals (ages 1-18) June 22-26, July 6-Aug 14, Mon-Fri from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Hathaway. Weekly food pickup on Friday from 10-11 at Gause for youth who cannot attend each day. No service week of July 4.

Unite! Washougal is providing adult meals at same time. Equal opportunity provider.



We're proud of our Class of 2020!

Although the year took an unexpected turn due to COVID-19, the Class of 2020 still earned many impressive awards and scholarships totaling \$1,742,911. Congratulations!

Kolton Andrews

Boise State Western Undergraduate Scholarship, \$51,464 and Boise State Dean's Scholarship

Brevan Bea

CWU Football Scholarship, \$2,500; CWU Trustee Award, \$2,000; National Football Foundation Back of the Year Scholarship, \$3,500; Rotary Club of Camas Washougal Scholarship, \$3,000

Lilyanna Carranza

Voice of Democracy Scholarship, \$500;

Logan Coffman

WSU Voiland College of Chemical Engineering Scholarship, \$10,000; Distinguished University Achievement Award, \$8,000; Washougal PSE Len Bottemiller Scholarship, \$500; Vancouver Emblem Club Scholarship, \$1,000; Skamania County Democrats Scholarship, \$1,000; WHS Alumni Scholarship, \$2,000

Dylan Davis

Camas-Washougal Rotary Trades Scholarship, \$1,000

Cody DeLoach

Cascadia Tech Academy Foundation General Advisory Scholarship, \$1,000

Julia Dobles

Washington Opportunity Scholarship

Gracie Dolan

Clark College Athletic Scholarship, \$1,788

Aleksi Donahue

Big Bend Community College Wrestling Scholarship \$1,540

Bailee Forsberg

WSU Achievement Award \$4,000

Brianna Gonser

Rotary Club of Camas Washougal Scholarship \$2,000

Kylie Habkirk

EWU Dean's Scholarship \$2,500

Emily Hearn

CWU President's Scholarship \$5,000

Thomas Hein

WHS Booster Scholarship, \$500; Camas Washougal Rotary Sophomore Student of the Year, \$500; Veterans of Foreign Wars Voice of Democracy Essay Contest, \$1,725; WSU Regents Scholarship, \$16,000; WSU Voiland College of Engineering & Architecture Dean's Scholarship, \$16,000; WSU Visitation Scholarship, \$1,000; Navy ROTC Scholarship, \$180,000

Rebecca Hodges

Seattle Pacific University Visitation Scholarship, \$500; Seattle Pacific University Dean's Scholarship, \$88,000; Seattle Pacific University Early Success Award, \$8,000; Seattle Pacific University Advantage Award, \$4,000

Grace Jacobsen

Camas Washougal Business Alliance Scholarship, \$500; Camas Washougal Chamber of Commerce, \$1,000; WHS Boosters Scholarship, \$500; Washougal Association of Educators Scholarship, \$1,500; WSU Regents Scholarship, \$16,000; Robert J Handy Memorial Scholarship, \$3,600; Vancouver Methodist Scholarship, \$1,200

Ashlyn James

Veteran's of Foreign Wars Essay Contest, \$500

Conrad (Stephen) Jones

Appointment to the US Naval Academy, \$250,000

Payton Lindell

CWU Soccer Scholarship, \$16,000

Thomas Liston

National Football Foundation Scholarship, \$1,500;

Rachel Lyall

Washougal Association of Educators Scholarship, \$1,500

Judson Mansfield

Eastern Oregon University Foundation Scholarship \$4,000; Eastern Oregon University Scholar Award, \$4,000; Eastern Oregon University Athletic Award, \$6,000; Washington State Council of Firefighters Benevolent Fund \$800; WHS Alumni Scholarship, \$2,000

Serena Morrill

WWU Honors Scholarship, \$1,000

Spencer Perkins

Oregon National Guard Scholarship, \$1,500; Thomas E Ricks Academic Scholarship, \$2,150

Nolan Purkerson

Army ROTC Scholarship, \$103,420; Montana State Academic Scholarship \$8,000

Talia Robb

CWU President's Scholarship \$5,000; Washougal PSE Len Bottemiller Scholarship, \$500

Kira Schoenborn

Western Oregon University Oscar Gleason Presidential Scholarship, \$8,000; Western Oregon University Campus Tour Scholarship, \$1,000; Camas Washougal Business Alliance Scholarship, \$1,000

Austin Seekins

Camas-Washougal Rotary Trades Scholarship, \$1,000

Gus Shelley

University of Portland Howard C Vollum Scholarship, \$96,000; University of Portland Anchor Award, \$2,000; University of Portland Grant, \$8,770

Abraham Stoddard

High School STEM Scholarship for Aspiring Commercial Drone Pilots, \$450

Emma Spaeth

Boise State University Howard C Vollum Scholarship, \$96,000; Boise State University Anchor Award, \$2,000; University of Portland Grant, \$8,770

Audrey Thompson

Boise State University Western Undergraduate Scholarship, \$51,464; Camas Washougal Business Alliance Scholarship; \$500, Ward Hoxsie-John Sinden Masonic Lodge Scholarship, \$2,500

Kaylee Timmons

WSU Academic Scholarship, \$3,000

Elaina Tauialo

EWU Dean's Scholarship, \$3,000; PSU Scholarship, \$8,000

Jessica Troyer

Seattle University Academic Award, \$18,200

Emily Van Orden

University of Portland President's Scholarship, \$104,000

Dylan Varner

College Bound Scholarship

William Weihl

Army ROTC Scholarship to Tulane University, \$236,000

Paytyn Williams

Central Christian College Athletic Scholarship, \$100,000

Ryan Worral

FIRST Robotics Scholarship, \$6,000

Aria Yang

Ron Phillips Memorial Science Scholarship, \$2,500; Ward Hoxsie-John Sinden Memorial Scholarship, \$2,500

Thank you, 2020 retirees!

PAM AUSMAN

Special Education Teacher, JMS
29 years in education

Favorite WSD memory: "Being part of the negotiation team that settled the agreement for the 2018-20 contract."

Retirement plans: "I hope to be able to travel after things settle down a bit and spend more time with my grown children who live in Seattle and Eugene."



KATHY BRASHERS

PE Teacher, JMS
23 years of service

Favorite WSD memory: "It was great being part of the JMS staff that experienced and explored Camp Cispus with the 6th graders. I delighted in my time as a track and volleyball coach for the district. It was a hoot working with the Middle School wrestling coaches one year. Of course, the Stride makes me smile too. It is amazing to have students whose PARENTS I had in class so many years ago."

Retirement plans: "I will run a lot, read a ton of books, hike new trails and see our ten grandkids more often. My (already retired) husband is waiting for me to be available for adventurous RV camping trips around the country...with the dogs, bikes and kayaks in tow."



NINA BROWN

Playground Assistant, Columbia River Gorge
2 years of service

SANDI CHRISTENSEN

Principal, CCMS
28 years in education

Favorite WSD memory: "6th grade Outdoor School at Cispus. The week-long, overnight camping experience every September provided an incredible bonding experience for staff and students. Along with learning about animals and the outdoors, I remember wearing a different crazy hat every day, trading beads, and ending every day with songs and stories at the campfire."

Retirement plans: "Spending time with my new Basset Hound puppies."



DEBORAH CISNEY

Early Learning teacher, SPACE program, Hathaway
14 years of service

Favorite WSD memory: "Seeing the kids so excited about the first day of school. We had kids start in kindergarten and attend through fifth grade and now are high school grads! I will treasure the visits from former SPACE kids who would come back to say hi."

Retirement plans: "Our house was finished at the end of February so we made the move within two weeks of the stay at home order. Lucky us! I have a tentative plan to visit Amish country, Pennsylvania in October—my happy place!"

DEBBIE CURTIN

Registrar, WHS
28 years of service

Favorite WSD memory: "The incredible forever friends I have made, from WSD families to coworkers."

Retirement plans: "I plan to enjoy time with my hubby, 'my best friend' of 45 years, watch my three grandgirls grow, stay healthy and spend time with my family and friends."



KATHY DOUGLAS EVANS

Community Education Technician
32 years of service

Favorite WSD memory: "Working with the kids in the afterschool programs. I also loved working with the Community Education Instructors. Some of them were with me for many years. They are all so talented, and Washougal was blessed to have them."

Retirement plans: "Relaxing; spending more time with my husband, family, furbabies, and friends. Lots of traveling - I love to explore; and going somewhere warm for a few months in the summer."



TRISH HAPPS

Custodian, JMS
23 years of service

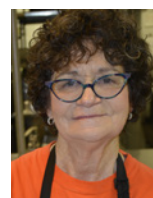
Favorite WSD memory: "It is hard to pick one. Every day there is always a good memory to put in the bank. Getting a good morning from a person that has never talked to me before, a smile when you know someone doesn't really want to smile, air hugs, being a 'safe' person in the eyes of the students and the big 'NO's!' when I told everybody that I had put in my papers for retirement."

Retirement plans: "Taking one day at a time and enjoying what I have been given. Clean my house. Who wants to clean when you spend all day cleaning? It is well lived in."



BO KEYSER

Server
13 years of service



DEBBIE KRAMER

2nd Grade Teacher, Hathaway
35 years in education

Favorite WSD memory: "I have enjoyed sharing books and discussions with students, seeing a student master a new math concept, and reading student writing. I have enjoyed seeing the student excitement around special events like field trips, science experiments, assemblies, concerts, and drama. Most of all, I will take with me fond memories of the relationships I have had with students, families, and staff over the years."

Retirement plans: "I am looking forward to reading, gardening, hiking, and volunteering in the community. I plan to travel in the future."



JENNIFER MERRYFIELD

Bus Driver/Courier
26 years of service

Favorite WSD memory: "It looked just like a Milk Dud to me!"

Retirement plans: "We have a place in Lake Havasu so we will spend six months out of the year there."



LINDA MILLER

Biology Teacher, WHS
28 years in education

Favorite WSD memory: "Having the privilege of teaching so many wonderful students over the years, including my own two daughters. Coaching girls basketball, Cross Country and Track. This school and community has been such a blessing to me and my family."

Retirement plans: "My husband and I are retiring together. We are looking forward to leisurely walks, traveling to places we've never been (Western National Parks, starting with Glacier), finding warm sunny places in the winter, and whatever else the Lord has planned for this next part of our lives."



BEVERLY ROBERTSON

Teacher, WHS
21 years in education

Favorite WSD memory: "The enthusiasm many students have for engaging in the learning process."

Retirement plans: "Boating, traveling, and volunteering."



JOE STEINBRENNER

Facilities Director
8 years of service

Favorite WSD memory: "The way the community supported the 2015 bond effort."

Retirement plans: "Complete the many home projects left simmering on the back burner."



BOO STEVENS

Systems Coordinator
20 years of service

Favorite WSD memory: "The great people I've worked with!"

Retirement plans: Traveling, hiking, biking, camping, dirt-bike riding, jet skiing, pickleball, crafting, gardening.



ELIZABETH STOCKTON

Paraeducator, WHS
6 years of service

Favorite WSD memory: "The teachers and staff I have worked with at the high school for the last 3 years. I consider many of them life-long friends."

Retirement plans: "I will be moving to my daughter's home in Spokane in late summer. We plan to buy a condo in the greater Tampa, Florida area and use it in the winter months. I will miss the Pacific ocean and the Columbia river very much, but I will



finally be able to see my family on a regular basis and watch the grandchildren and great grandchildren grow up."

MARY WALLACE

Paraeducator, Gause
33 years in education

SHARON WATTS

WHS Career Center Assistant
24 years of service

Favorite WSD memory: "The times spent working with the students. It is fun to see them grow and change as they move toward the next stage of their life. It is nice to feel you may have helped them in some way. Some of them come back to see you. Bonus!"

Retirement plans: "I am looking forward to spending more time with my husband and my family. I want to play golf, go to more games at WHS, and get back my hobbies. I also look forward to sleeping past 5:30 on weekdays!"



PHILICIA WEAVER

4th Grade Teacher, Hathaway
34 years in education

Favorite WSD memory: "I don't have just one favorite memory, but would say that seeing the growth in district support, population, building development, and technology over the years has been exciting to watch."

Retirement plans: "I look forward to traveling, spending more time on hobbies, and much more time with family."



Ron Dinius ends 15-year run as WSD board member

Ron Dinius will be stepping away from the Washougal School Board District #5 position after nearly 15 years of distinguished service.

"Ron has been such a tireless advocate for the Washougal School District and has always kept students at the heart of the decision-making process," said Mary Templeton, WSD superintendent. "His keen interest in the legislative aspect of leadership has been much appreciated and critical in helping our elected officials understand the support we need to see WSD rise."

In his June 7 resignation letter he explained the timing of his resignation was to facilitate the addition of a new board member over the summer. "We have a district that we can be proud of and I have the utmost confidence in each one of your abilities and wisdom in guiding the future of the district and better outcomes for our students," he said. 🌿





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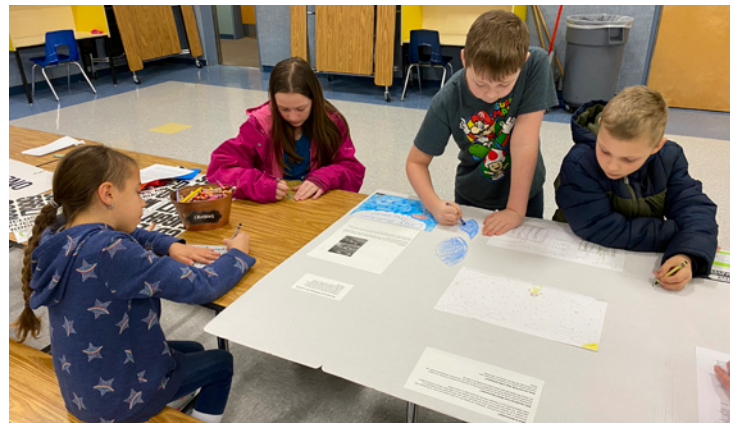
Gause Green Team creates healthier school environment

Gause Elementary is now certified as Silver in the Washington Green School program which works to create greener, healthier school environments. To reach silver distinction, schools had to be certified in two areas of conservation. For Gause, those areas are water and waste reduction.

The Gause Green Team is made up of 4th and 5th graders. Last year's project was focused on waste reduction, installing milk dispensers to reduce the amount of solid waste from milk cartons. Their latest project was to educate their peers about keeping contamination from going down storm drains.

The Gause Green Team's recent project was inspired by the new school parking lot, as well as the Steigerwald Floodplain Restoration Project. "We learned about what happens to water, and other things, that go down storm drains and how they could adversely affect wildlife, including salmon," explained Ellen Lancaster, Green Team Advisor and Gause custodian. "I shared with students some very interesting information on the importance of the Pacific Lamprey, an anadromous parasitic lamprey in our waters, and how what seems like just a little bit of contamination in a storm drain can add up to a big impact when you consider how many drains we have."

Just before the school closures on March 10, the Gause team was able to attend the Student Summit at Clark College and share what



Olive Krysak, Hope Brock, Kyson Zimmerly and Logan Peterson-Prichard put their environmental knowledge into their display for the student summit.

they had learned. "We presented our project and learned about other areas of environmental concern," Lancaster said. "Activities included measuring air quality around the college campus and learning about how compost happens by going through compost looking for decomposers." 🌱

I'm 5
It's time to register for kindergarten!

If your child will be 5 years of age by August 31, 2020, it's time to register for kindergarten. Visit our website for more info: www.washougal.k12.wa.us/new-student-registration



SUPERINTENDENT
Dr. Mary Templeton
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Cory Chase, President
Angela Hancock, Vice Pres.
Donna Sinclair, Legislative Rep.
Jim Cooper

Online Board Meetings

August 11 & 25

Meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Visit our website for information on how to participate.

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: Aaron Hansen, 4855 Evergreen Way, Washougal, WA 98671, (360) 954-3050; Title IX Officer: Gary McGarvie, 1201 39th St., Washougal, WA 98671, (360) 954-3104; Section 504 Coordinator: Aaron Hansen, 4855 Evergreen Way, Washougal, WA 98671, (360) 954-3050.