

Supplement to the Whitman County Gazette

Aug. 26, 2021

## Letter to Parents: Colfax School District



Welcome to the 2021-22 Bulldog School Year! Even though students and staff are required to wear masks at this time, which is not what we were expecting or wanting to happen, we are very excited to have our

students back for the start of this school year!

We have completed all of our hiring for this school year and we are excited to have new faces in the Bulldog Family! Mr. Bo Claassen with be our new 4th grade teacher,

Ms. Sarah Buchan will teach Kindergarten, Mrs. Katelyn Whanneli will be teaching part time in the fifth grade, Ms. Alexi Fuller is our new JES counselor, Mr. Grant Martin-

son is our new Jr/HS Math teacher and Ms. Tani Duncan will be our new K-12 Choir teacher

Colfax Superintendent Jerry Pugh

the year.

starting later in September. Thank you to Mr. Cary Cammack who will return to teach choir for the month of September and help with this transition! I have listed below a few activities

that you might be interested in for the start of

For more information regarding school activities and after school events please go to our school webpage https:// www.csd300.org.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding. We are committed to working hard to make this school year a great year for each of our students.

> Sincerely, Jerry Pugh

#### Colfax School District #300 \* 2021—2022 School Calendar

August 23.. August 24 -

August 26.

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SIGNIFICANT DATES	6
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New Staff Orientation Day	20
– 25Professional Development	27
for Teachers	
All Staff Meeting Day	M

August 30First Day of School
September 6No School, Labor Day September 1012:30 Dismissal for Fair
November 1 First Quarter Ends

12:30 Dismissal for Report Card Preparation

November	11IVO	School, veterans day	
November	17 - 19	12:30 Dismissal for	
		Fall Conferences	
November	24	12:30 Dismissal	
November	25 - 26No School	ol. Thanksgiving Break	

December 20 – December	31No School,
	Christmas Break

January 17No School, I	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 21	First Semester Ends
12:30 Dismissal fo	r Report Card Preparation

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	12:30	Dismissal	for	Report	Card	Prepar	ation	
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February 21No School, President's D	ay
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March 3 – 4	No School, Mid-Winter Break
	(snow make-up days if necessary)
March 24	Student Led Conferences, gr 7-12

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K-6
7-12
K-6

April 1	12:30 Dismissal for
	Report Card Preparation
April 4 – 8	No School, Spring Break

April 4 – 8	No	Sch	00l,	Sprii	ng	Brea	K
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June 4	High School Graduation
June 9	Last Day of School
	School Dismissed at 10 a.m.

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#### LEGEND No School First and Last Day of School 12:30 Dismissal

	Wednesday 2:25 Dismissal
M	No School for Grades 7-12

12:30 Dismissal for K-6 ■ District Staff Days

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#### Jr/Sr High School Activities

31/31 111611 301	1001 Activities
August 23rd:	August 26th:
First day of High School Volleyball practice	Jr/Sr High School Open House
First day of Jr/Sr High School Cross Country	A-K (6:00-6:30)
practice	L-Z (6:30-7:00)
August 27th:	August 30th:
H.S. Football Jamboree @ Ritzville (1:00)	First day of Junior High Football practice
	First day of Junior High Girls Basketball practice
September 2nd:	September 3rd:
Cross Country @ Northwest Christian (Time TBA)	Football vs Davenport (7:00)
September 4th:	September 7th:
Cross Country @ Northwest Christian (Time TBA)	Volleyball vs Lind-Ritzville (5:00)

#### **JES School Activities**

August 26th: Open House @ 5:30-6:30	August 30th: First Day of School (1st through
(Last Name A-K @ 5:30, L-Z @ 6:00)	6th)
Sept. 1st - 3rd: 6th Grade Camp	Sept 2nd: First Day for Kindergarten
Sept. 6th: Labor Day - No School	Sept. 10th: Early Release - County Fair
Sept 29th: Picture Day	-
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## Letter to Parents: Colton High School Wildcats

Dear Colton Wildcat Families:

We have missed our Wildcat students all summer and look forward to seeing them back in our classrooms on Monday, August 30th. Things have been hopping around the school campus and the State.

Our floors are waxed. Our classrooms are set up for students. The concrete is poured on our new entryway in front of the school. Books have arrived and teachers are busily putting last-minute touches on classrooms. Our school is thankful to have had a full year of in-person instruction for every student last year. We look forward to another year as successful as the last.

Although we recognize the inconve-

nience of masks being required of everyone entering the school and vaccines being required of all the adults working or volunteering in the school, we appreciate the opportunity to do all we can to keep our students safe. As we learn more about vaccine requirements

for adults, we will be sure to

forward this information to

those affected.

If you have concerns about these mandates, only two offices in Washington State have the authority to alter them - The Governor's Office and the Department of Health. Colton School District employees and the Colton School District Board of Directors have no authority to act outside of these laws or any others. It is the start of a new school year so our entire focus is on providing a safe, welcoming

place of learning for our Colton Wildcats. We are so excited for a new year of learning! Our back-to-school night

will take place Thursday, August 26th, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Because of continued public-health guidelines, this event will be scaled down from how it has occurred in the past. We do, however, hope you'll pick up an ice cream sandwich from Mr. Casey or

Mr. Clark before you head home. You should expect more details about this event early next week.

Our kids are going to love their teachers this year. We have several returning faces and a few new ones

Our kids are going to love their teachers this year. We have several returning faces and a few new ones as well. Ms. Grote is our transitional kindergarten teacher. Mrs. Druffel is our 4th/5th-grade teacher. Mr. Haven is our middle and high-school science teacher. Mr. Rockenbach is our school

counselor. We have a new music teacher as well whom I will introduce next week. Every teacher I have spoken with this summer shared their excitement for another great year with their students. We are a special community.

Parents, you kept us in school all last year. We are so thankful for your diligence in making school a reality for our Wildcats from age three to eighteen. Our community came together for our kids, largely because you made that happen. Colton School thanks you!

Give me a call at school at 229-3385 or shoot me an email at pclark@colton. k12.wa.us if something is on your mind. I might not have the answer you want to hear but we are part of a great community and a big part of that is listening to each other. Thank you for continuing to allow Colton School to be a part of your child's educational journey.

Respectfully,
Paul Clark
S u p e r i n t e n d e n t /
High School Principal

## Colton School District 2021-2022 Calendar

			Aug	ust:	2021					8	Septe	mbe	r 202	1		
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Prof Develop Day	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	]	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	]
30-First Day	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	]	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	]
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28		19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
2-SD	29	30	31						26	27	28	29	30			21-SD
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	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		21	22	23	24	25	26	27	(11:30 Dismissal)
20-SD	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		28	29	30					25-26 Thanksgiving
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	Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa		Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	1-New Years Day
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20-31 Christmas Break	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	1	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	26-End of Semester
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21-President Day	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	30-End of Quarter
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4-Graduation	Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	1	Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	1
9-Half Day				1	2	3	4	1						1	2	Start/End School-180
(11:30 Dismissal)	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Observed Holidays
10-Last Day of School	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	1	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Christmas/Spring Break
(11:30 Dismissal)	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	1	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Snow Days
8-SD	26	27	28	29	30			1	24	25	26	27	28	29	_	Half Dave

## Dear Colton K-8 Wildcats

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year at Colton School! We are so happy to have you join our Wildcat family this year!

This is going to be a great year! Our staff have been working hard to prepare for the new school year with your child. We remain focused on providing a positive environment where students can grow academically, socially, and emotionally. By working together with you we can help your child to have a great year and to be successful. You are your child's first and most influential teacher. You can contribute to the success of each child by:

- Encouraging best efforts and high-quality work.
- Communicating regularly with your child's teachers. Know what is expected in the classroom. Speak with us if you have any questions or concerns.
  - Insisting on good attendance.
- Providing a quiet time and place at home for study and homework.
  - Helping your child to take

- responsibility for her/his learning and conduct.
  - Modeling life-long learning.

We have made several changes from last year. Please be sure to look through the handbook and the information sent home by your child's teacher. We hope these documents will help you to prepare for school and that the handbook will serve as a resource during the school year. Please take the time to read the handbook thoroughly and discuss the information with your child. It is important that we follow the school procedures in order to keep everyone safe and help ensure that we can continue to provide the best in-person education that we can.

Please note that everyone is required to wear a mask while in school unless directed by a teacher or staff member.

Among the changes for the 2021-2022 school year are:

- Daily health attestations are not required
  - continued on page 4

## Dear Garfield/Palouse School District Vikings

We hope this letter finds you able to relax and enjoy the last few weeks of summer. The purpose of this communication is to provide information concerning certain educational issues/legislation as we enter the 2021-2022 school year.

1. 4-12 Sexual Educa-

A. The sexual education materials currently taught by our school nurse, in the Garfield and Palouse School Districts are available for your review at any time. Each year before the material is taught, parents are notified and given the opportunity to exempt their child from

continued from page 3

the instruction if they so choose. This will not change.

2. K-3 Sexual Education

A. There is no sexual education taught to students in grades K-3. Social and Emotional Learning (SEL), is the new and only requirement. This requirement is not scheduled to take effect until the 2022-2023 school year. Social and Emotional Learning is a process of building awareness and skills in managing emotions, setting goals, establishing relationships, and making responsible decisions that support success in school and in life.

> We have used the Second Step Program in Gar-Pal for years and will continue to do so. This curriculum meets the state requirements and is taught by our counselors.

Nothing will change. As always, this curriculum is available for your re-

3. Senate Bill 5044

A. Senate Bill 5044 mandates that starting in 2021-2022, school districts in the state of Washington, every other year, provide staff, ad-

ministration, and school boards with training regarding equity for all students. CRT (Critical Race Theory), is not referenced in the bill nor is it mandated to be taught at any grade level. The Garfield and Palouse School Districts will not be teaching Critical Race Theory. We will continue to teach the curriculum that has been approved by our local school boards.

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4. Extracurricular and Co-curricular Activities

A. As for extracurricular and co-curricular activities, we will update you when the WIAA/ DOH releases their guidance, but for now will treat these activities as an extension of the classroom and therefore when outside masks will not be required.

Thank you for your understanding and support during these difficult and often emotional times. We are honored to serve the communities of Garfield and Palouse. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

> Sincerely, Zane Wells Superintendent, Garfield

Mike Jones Superintendent, Palouse

Early Release Times

4 Garfield Elementary: Noon

Gar-Pal High School: 12:05 p.m.

Palouse Elementary: 12:20 p.m.

Garfield School: 10:00 a.m.

Palouse School: 10:30 a.m.

NS: No School Day All Schools

June 10: Last Day of School Release Times

9 10 11 Gar-Pal Middle School: Noon

### Dear Colton K-8 Wilcats cont

Students will be assigned lockers to keep their jack-

Students will not be sharing school supplies again this year. Each student should have her/his complete set of supplies. As each teacher has his/ her own teaching routine and may require different types of supplies, we suggest students bring

their own pencil and paper for the first few days of school. Each teacher provides a supply list. Supply lists can be found on the school webpage at www.colton.k12.wa.us. If the Bus Program.

We are looking forward to working with you to help all of our students reach their po-

Best wishes for a fantastic school year!

#### you need assistance with school supplies, please Go Wildcats! feel free to contact the Mr. Casey district staff for informa-Principal tion regarding the Stuff PALOUSE FAMILY FOODS Family Foods 878-2012 Palouse, WA 99161 **Full Service Grocery Store** Monday - Saturday 7 AM - 7 PM Sunday 8 AM - 6 PM Check out our weekly specials! www.familyfoodsstores.com/palouse

#### Garfield-Palouse Schools 2021 -- 2022 School Calendar 2021 2022 **Important Dates** August February S M T W T F S S M T W T F S August 30... .Teacher In-Service Day 1 2 3 4 5 August 31... .Teacher In-Service Day 9 10 11 12 13 14 16 17 18 19 20 21 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 September 1.......First Day for Students K-12 13 14 15 A 17 18 19 September 6......LABOR DAY (No School) 8 20 NS 22 23 24 25 26 September 10..... 23 24 25 26 27 28 .Early Release: WC Fair 27 28 September 20.....First Day of Preschool .. Early Release: Curriculum Day S M T W T F S October 27..... .Early Release: Curriculum Day 8 9 10 11 12 November 24,25,26......THANKSGIVING BREAK 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 13 | 14 | 15 | A | 17 | NS | 19 | December 22 -- Jan 4......WINTER BREAK 19 **20** 21 22 23 24 25 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 January 17...... ......MLK Day (No School) 26 27 28 A 30 27 28 29 30 31 February 16......Early Release: Curriculum Day S M T W T F S S M T W T F S February 21......PRESIDENTS DAY (No School) | 1 2 | March 16......Early Release: Curriculum Day | 3 | NS | NS | NS | NS | NS | S | 9 | March 18......Snow Make-up Day (If needed) 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | April 4-8..... .....SPRING BREAK 25 26 A 28 29 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 May 18......Early Release: Curriculum Day May 19.... ....Last Day of Pre-School May 30.....MEMORIAL DAY (No School) S M T W T F S S M T W T F S June 4 ......High School Graduation 7 June 10..... ....Last Day of School 8 9 10 NS 12 13 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 NS NS NS 27 15 16 17 A 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 NS 31

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## Letter to Parents: St. John/Endicott School District

Hello families of St. John-Endicott Students!

I hope this message finds you enjoying the warm days of summer.

It has been a busy summer of information gathering as schools around the state make plans to return to full in-person learning P-12. This letter is shared to provide you with information regarding the opening of our schools.

#### 1. Masks and COVID Protocols:

On Wednesday, July 28th, Governor Inslee announced that masks will be required to be worn in all Washington public schools; by all students, staff and visitors regardless of vaccination status. Following this announcement the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

(OSPI) Chris Reykdal also shared information with state superintendents and school directors. The most current Department of Health (DOH) guidelines are posted on our website.

As Whitman County Superintendents, we strongly believe that this should be a local decision made by our communities. While many were hoping and planning on a less restrictive return this fall, the Governor's office, the Department of Health, Labor and Industries, and OSPI have made it clear that ignoring this mandate is not an option for us as a district. The consequences to districts, boards, administration and staff are real and severe if the mandate is not followed. St. John-Endicott schools will be following the mandate of masks in school and thank you for your continued support.

Having said this, l do know that there is a strong grassroots effort to create change to the governor's mandate. I

will continue to follow this work and keep you posted on any changes to our current guidelines for opening.

The good news from these abovementioned agencies is that we will NO longer have to do daily temperature checks or attestation sign offs upon entry to the school sites. Also, distancing has been returned to three feet where possible with a focus on setting up for in-person teaching as normal as

Finally, students will NOT be wearing masks during physical activities in PE class, recess or during any class activity held outdoors. Guidance for extra curricular sports has not been released upon the sending of this email. Once WIAA releases this information it will be forwarded to all families.

#### 2. Critical Race Theory (CRT)

We will NOT be teaching Critical Race Theory at any age level. We are under NO state or OSPI guidelines to do this type of teaching. Furthermore, our focus will remain on what's best for ALL our students.

The only state legislative guideline that we are to follow; states that all district staff are provided training which focuses on instructional strategies that support all students in being successful, as well as being sure that we are meeting the needs of all our student learners (being inclusive of all).

3. Sexual Health Education

Sexual Health Education will NOT be

taught without a proper process involving parents and community. We will continue to represent the values of our St. John and Endicott communities. Also, there is an "opt out" process with this type of curriculum, so no family has to be involved at any point.

We will continue to do what we already are doing, AIDS/HIV (middle/ high), and puberty education in grade 5. These things are currently done by Nurse Cindy. We also use PBIS and Character Strong to support all student needs.

It is my hope that we will continue to stay strong together. Much of what we hear has become a way to divide people. We are stronger together and it is more important than ever that we work together to provide the best opportunities for all our P-12 students. We greatly appreciate the support of our St. John and Endicott communities.

Please don't hesitate to contact me regarding this letter.

Respectfully, Suzanne Schmick Superintendent sschmick@sjeschools.org 509-648-3336 ext. 132 (St. John) 509-657-3523 ext. 104 (Endicott)

#### ST. JOHN-ENDICOTT COOPERATIVE SCHOOLS 301 W. Nob Hill

St. John, WA 99171 (509) 648-3336

2021-2022 District Calendar

Endicott, WA 99125 (509) 657-3523

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	M	Tu	W	Th	F	3	Early Release P-T
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	8	9	10	11	12	1	Conferences (PS-12)
	15	16	17	18	19	11 24	No School Veterans Day
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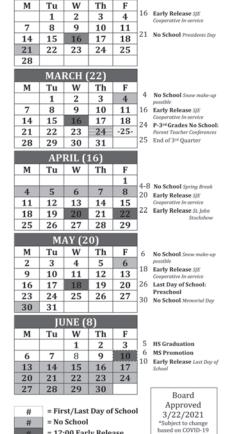
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= 12:00 Early Release

= No School for specific grade

= End of Quarter

Washington State Governor's actions



St. John Hardware & Implement is a full service dealer for new and used Case IH and New Holland tractors, farm equipment and skid loaders.

From CaseIH STX 4WD tractors to New Holland TC compact tractors; from CaseIH Axial Flow Combines and heads to New Holland having equipment, we have the equipment you are looking for.

We look forward to serving your agricultural needs in the future!

## Letter to Parents: Oakesdale School District

Hello to the Oakesdale School District Families!

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! We are excited to welcome back all of our students, from 3-year-old preschool to seniors on August 30,2021, at 8 a.m. On that day, bring your school supplies, your masks (the school will have some too), and be ready to start a great school year. Please visit our website at www.gonighthawks.net for the following information:

The 2021-2022 school year calendar with all the breaks, etc. listed

- 2021-2022 School Supply List
- Links to Skyward and Final

Forms for school and athletic registra-

September Lunch Menu

Oakesdale has a lot of staff in new positions this year. Here are the chang-

- Mrs. Jana Eads is the preschool teacher and librarian
- Mrs. Darcie VanDyke will be a paraprofessional in the Primary
- Mrs. Heidi Henning is the 3rd grade teacher
- Mrs. Amy Warwick is the 4/5 grade teacher and the 11/12 English teacher
- Mrs. Cheri Renstrom will be the paraprofessional in the 4/5 classroom
- Mrs. Fleming and Mrs. Harp will be teaching the middle school Life Skills class
  - Ms. Brandy Montgomery will

19 days

22 days

Presidents' Day-No

Mid-Winter Break

Early Release

Memorial's Day-No

30-31 Early Release

School

be a special services paraprofessional

- Mrs. Kim Smith is the new cook
- Mrs. Nicole Christman will oversee the online World History class and a few other online courses

The August HawkTawk included a directory of staff and their contact information. Accidentally left off that list is Mrs. Annette Cox, acox@gonighthawks. net, special services paraprofessional. If you did not see the printed directory, or prefer

the online version, visit, the school we bsite at www.gonighthawks.net and find the Staff Directory under District information.

Oakesdale is not offering a full online program this year; while students in grades 8-12 will likely take an online class at school as part of their school day, no student will be able to take all their classes online. Families wishing

for their children to have an all online/ homeschool program will need to find a program of their own and withdraw

from Oakesdale.

The Oakesdale School District has a strong presence on social media. Search for us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Many announcements and events are posted and publicized there; and many activities and individual classrooms have a social media presence as well. #Nighthawkproud

Parents of preschool students, ages 3 and 4, will receive a letter after registration is complete with a few other details related to preschool. There won't be anything else for any other grades. We look forward to seeing everyone on August 30th!

Sincerely, Dr. Jake Dingman Superintendent of Schools

**Northwest** 

Growers

Grain

#### Oakesdale School District | 2021-2022 CALENDAR

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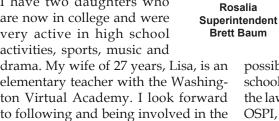
Walla Walla: 509 - 525 - 6510 St. John: 509 - 648 - 3316 Dayton Office: 509 - 382 - 2571

## Letter to Parents: Rosalia School District

Dear Rosalia School District Parents and Community Members,

August is here and I hope everyone has been enjoying their summer before we start back to school on September 1st. There have been a number of staffing changes here at Rosalia since the end of the last school year. My Name is Brett Baum and I am the new superintendent for the Rosalia School District. So who is Brett Baum? Well I've been an educator for 33 years. 12 years as a teacher where I also coached several sports and was

athletic director for 7 years. The last 21 years I have served as a school administrator in the Liberty and Okanogan school districts. I grew up here in the Palouse, attending school at Steptoe and Colfax. I attended college at EWU. I have two daughters who



we were in Okanogan and at Liberty. Registration for fall classes has begun. Returning studentslfamilies may login to their Skyward account now in

Rosalia community and activities just as

order to register. If you don't have a Skyward login, have forgotten your login or are new to the district, please give the office a call at 509-523-3061. The office will be open from 8:30-4:00 Monday-Friday. Listed below are a few more

- changes from last year. Hilory Brown is moving from Kindergarten to be our new intervention teaching specialist.
- Paige Howard is moving from 1st grade to be our PE teacher.

New teachers to our district for the upcoming year include:

Ethan Silvieus - Kindergarten teacher.

Annie Tonkinson - Art

Brianna Bell - 1st grade

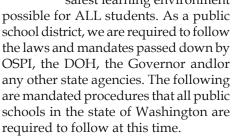
Cassie Russell - HS ELA and ball)

We want to welcome and congratulate our new staff members to the Rosalia School District.

The maintenance and custodial crew have been busy this summer. The elementary hall and entryway have been repainted and look great! All of the carpets have been deep cleaned and they are now working on the tile floors, cleaning, stripping, waxing and buffing. Thank you to our summer crew

> who have been doing such a great job!

> With the return to school on September 1st quckly coming up, I would like to take a moment to outline the current safety protocols for students, staff and visitors for the new school year. The Rosalia School District will continue to provide the safest learning environment



During school or anytime students are present, all people, students,

staff and guests, MUST wear a mask covering the nose and mouth while inside regardless of vaccine status.

- No Masks are required for outside activities such as recess, athletics or other activities.
- Spacing of students should be at least 3 feet when possible.
- Adults need to keep a 6 foot distance from other adults and students as much as possible.

Indoor athletic guidance has changed this year as well:

- No masking for outdoor activities/sports
- No masking for indoor lowcontact sports while playing. (Volley-

- No masking for indoor highcontact athletes who are fully vaccinated or who participate in screening
- All must wear masks while indoor when not participating.
- ALL spectators MUST wear masks regardless of vaccination status for indoor

activities.

Band and Choir will be able to playlsing but must meet special masking requirements. Spacing of at least 3' allowed.

If additional changes are made to the COVID safety requirements, we will be sure to share those out with our parents, staff and community.

Another topic that has been discussed recently has to do with Senate Bill 5044 and Critical Race Theory (CRT.) The law as passed requires all school staff to receive training in the areas of Cultural Competency, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. CRT is not

a part of the staff training and is not planned to be a part of staff training or student curriculum in the Rosalia School District.

The Rosalia School District has been a leader in their focus on supporting students learning and student safety as well as supporting staff in their work. I am super excited to be a part of the Rosalia Team and to work with everyone involved throughout the school and across the district. As a community team we will strive to provide the best possible, safest learning environment for ALL of our students.

If you have any questions or concerns that you wish to share, please do not hesitate to contact me by email or by phone. (509-523-306.1)

Respectfully, Brett Baum, Superintendent Rosalia School District

For Rosalia Calendar see page 8



We offer specialized rehabilitation services, including Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy, as well as, 24-hour skilled nursing.

Medicare, Medicaid, cash and most HMO's and long-term care insurance are all accepted!



1150 W Fairview St, Colfax, WA • (509) 397-4603

## How school shopping has changed in the pandemic era

Back-to-school shopping sales have long been indicators that the summer vacation season is coming to a close. Students and their parents may visit area stores or browse online looking for items to make the coming school year a success. Those lists have looked similar for decades, but shopping for school supplies in the pandemic era may prove to be a unique experience.

Though hundreds of millions of adults and adolescents have now been vaccinated against COVID-19, there figures to be some lingering effects of the pandemic during the upcoming school year. That could affect which school supplies families buy in the weeks to come. Here's a look at some of the latest trends.

A shift from physical stores: According to data from IBM's U.S. Retail Index, the pandemic has accelerated a shift away from physical stores to digital shopping by about five years. It's likely that school shoppers will turn to the internet for their supplies, which means local brick and mortar shops should increase their web presence and digital shopping capabilities to reach online shoppers. This includes omnichannel fulfillment, such as buy online and pickup in store (BOPIS)

Reassessment of what's essential: The pandemic may have changed which items consumers consider essential. For example, clothing became less significant as a greater number of students were enrolled in virtual learning. Backto-school shoppers may purchase less clothing and focus more on tech items, among others.

Traditional supplies become less necessary: In 2020, Deloitte forecasted that a shift in preferences and intentions would result in parents buying fewer traditional supplies, such as notebooks and office supplies, as they chose to invest in digital resources to supplement children's education. That shift likely will continue into this school year.

Support for local retailers: Community spirit grew in the early days of the pandemic and continues now. Many people prefer to shop in locally owned stores. Eighty percent of customers surveyed feel more or as connected to their communities, according to the business industry consultant company Accenture.

Customers are trying new brands and products: Shoppers are trying new products out of curiosity as well as necessity. Back-to-school shopping

may include novel brands and other items that may not have been readily purchased in years past.

Back-to-school shopping may continue to look a bit different than in previous years, spawning trends that may ultimately become the new normal.



#### 2021/22 Academic Calendar-Rosalia Schools

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February 2022

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2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter ends-Jan 21 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter ends- Mar 25 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter ends- Jun 10	46 days 43 days 49 days	Aug 30-31
10 Professional Developm		

dnesdays 13th (if needed) Snow Make-up Days-February 18<sup>th</sup>/June

42 days

1/2 Days End of Term

Sep 1, 2021 Sep 6	First Day of School Labor Day	Nov 25-26 Dec 18-Jan 2	Thanksgiving Break Christmas Break	Dec 31, 2021 Jan 17, 2022	New Year's Eve Martin Luther King Day	Feb 18-21 May 30	Winter Break Memorial Day
Nov 11	Veterans Day	Dec 25	Christmas Day	Jan 21	End of 1st Semester	June 10	Last Day of School
1107 11	votorana Day	DCC 20	Onnsullas Day	Janzi	End of 1- Semester	June 11	Graduation

# Tekoa School District gets new superintendent

Tekoa

Superintendent

John Cordell

TEKOA – The Tekoa School Board selected John Cordell as its new superintendent March 30, 2021.

John Cordell was the principal of St. Maries High School in St. Maries, Idaho. He worked for

the school for 22 years. He worked as a teacher and later as a principal at the Wahluke High School from 1989 to 1998.

Off campus, Cordell served as a member of the Benewah County Community Center, a presenter at the Inland Northwest Partners annual conference, and the St. Maries

AAU basketball coach.

"We know this new position will come as a shock to some and questions from many more. Be assured the board has not entered into this contract without the best interest of the district in mind," Tekoa School board chair Robert Wilkins stated on social media.

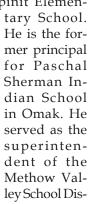
The board offered tours and interviewed three candidates before

offering the position to Cordell.

Candidate Joe Beckford is the superintendent of Aleutian Regional School District in Anchorage. He was a member of the clinical faculty at the University of Alaska,

> and the former principal of Assumption School in Spokane.

Candidate
R a y m o n d
Leaver is an
instructional
coach for Wellpinit Elementary School.
He is the former principal
for Paschal
Sherman In-



trict in Winthrop, and as a teacher in Othello.

After considering all tuhree, the school board chose Cordell.

"Due to the ever changing landscape of COVID-19, the declining enrollment and state funding, the board felt this decision would make steps in helping to ensure financial stability for the district in the future," Wilkins stated.

#### TEKOA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 265 2021-2022 SCHOOL CALENDAR

PRESCHOOL DAYS = 113

K-12 DAYS = 180

Adopted April 21, 2021

February

9 Early Release

9-10 No Preschool -Conf.

21 President's Day

22-23 Mid winter break

17 Days (P-11)

Aug-21										
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August
16-17 Registration noon-8pm
25-27 Staff PD
31 School Starts

1 Day

September	March
6 Labor Day	23 Early Release
10 Early Release	
10 Kindergarten Conferences	
13 Preschool Starts	
15 Early Release Day	
21 Days (P-11)	23 Days (P-18)

ctober	April
B Early Release	1 End of Qtr. 3
	4-8 Spring Break
	13 Early Release
	21-22 Conferences
	No preschool

1 Days (P-15)	16 Days (P-10

November
5 End of Qtr. 1
9-10 Conferences,
No preschool
11 Veterans Day
24 Early Release
25-26 Thanksgiving Br
10 D (D 10)

11 Veterans Day
24 Early Release
25-26 Thanksgiving Break
19 Days (P-13)
December
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December
15 GS Winter Program
17 Early Release
20 Winter Break Begins
13 Days (P-10)

J	anuary
3	Back from Break
3	Preschool Back
1	2 Early Release
1	7 Martin Luther King Day
2	1 End of Qtr. 2/Sem. 1
	20 Days (P-15)

J	uly	
4	Independence	Day

8 Days

17 Preschool Last Day

21 Days (P-10)

10 Last Day of School

10 End of Qtr. 4/Sem. 2

18 Early Release

30 Memorial Day

June

4 Graduation

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NO SCHOOL EARLY RELEASE DAYS REGISTRATION SCHOOL BEGINS END OF GRADING PERIOD (Note: high school early release 15 minutes after posted time.)

## Struggling Students: When it's time to call in a tutor

Busy schedules, hybrid learning and demanding coursework have affected students' academic performance over the last year-plus. The months since a pandemic was declared in March of 2020 have been unlike any other, and confronting the academic challenges of the pandemic may have adversely affected some students' grades.

A recent report from the Fairfax County Public Schools Office of Research and Strategic Improvement in Virginia found

the number of middle and high school students with two or more failing marks increased by 83 percent in the first quarter of the 2020-2021 school year compared to the year prior. But students' grades may slide or they may find certain school work overly challenging even in normal years. Since many parents have not seen a periodic table or had to solve high school math problems in decades, tutors may be just what students need to regain their academic footing.

Failing grades are not necessarily the most notable indicator that students can benefit from the services of a tutor. The Princeton Review says 25 percent of high school students say homework is their biggest source of stress, and homework progress can help parents determine if it's time to call in a tutor. Students who find their homework is taking too long, particularly double or triple the amount of time it once required, may need some extra help. Here are some additional indicators that

a tutor may be needed.

Declining test scores: Some students are simply poor test takers, but a gradual or sudden decline in test scores may indicate students are having trouble mastering material. Teachers can pinpoint if certain concepts are overly challenging to students and notify parents if there are any problem areas.

Poor time management or focus: Students who are struggling may have their attention drift or they put off doing tasks because they don't grasp the assignments.

Lack of homework help at home: Parents may have prior commitments during the times of day when their children are doing homework.

Even when parents are home, they may discover that the concepts covered in school are not being taught in the ways parents learned them and they may have difficulty assisting their children. Tutors can step in and help students when parents cannot.

Learning disorder: Certain students learn differently from others due to a diagnosed or undiagnosed learning disorder. A child who is struggling with reading, phonics, spelling, and writing may have dyslexia, according to the tutoring experts at Dyslexia Practitioner NJ. Tutors who specialize in learning disorders can assess and address learning conflicts and tailor

instructions in ways that can help students overcome those challenges. Students shut down

or say they hate school: Disinterest in school or expressions of hating going to school may be indicative of academic struggles in the classroom, says the Princeton Review. Some students get so frustrated they simply give up. Tutors can solve learning puzzles and help get students back on track and reignite their interest in school.

Tutors can be valuable resources for students who need some one-onone attention to master general learning concepts or reinforce skills for key tests or projects.

2021-2022 LACROSSE SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR															
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NOVEMBER 2021 (19) 2 End of 1st Term				2 End of 1st Term			MAY	2022	(19)	)					
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S	11 Veterans Day	S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	,	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
7	8	9		11	_	13	17 Noon Release—	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	4 Teacher In-Service
14				18	19	20	Conferences	15	16		18	19	20	21	5-6 Snow Make-up
21	22	23		25			24 Noon Release—	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	Days
28	29	30	24	23	20	"	Thanksgiving Break	19	30		25	20	2,	20	30 Memorial day
20	29	30					25-26 Thanksgiving Brk.	19	30	1 21					
	DE	CEM	BER 2	2021	(15)			JUNE 2022 (7)							
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S		S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S	8 8th Grade Promotion
			1	2	3	4	8 Teacher In-Service				1	2	3	4	8 Last Day of Preschool
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	22-31 Christmas Break	5	6	7	8 '	3	10	11	9 Last Day of School—
12	13	14	15	_ 16	17	18	22-31 Chilistinas Break	10	13	14	15	16	17	18	Early Release 10 AM
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		19	20	21	22	23	24	25	9 End of 2nd Semester
26	_	28						26	27	28	29	30			
20	~ /														11 Graduation
JANUARY 2022 (19)				Z	Fir	rst/L	ast D	av o	f Sch	nool					
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S	3 Christmas Break	First/Last Day of School Noon Release							
						1	4 Return to school	1 PM Release Teacher In-Service							
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	12 Teacher In-Service	Holiday—No School							
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	17 MLK Day	Snow Make-up Day							
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	,	End of Quarter/Term							
11 -0		25	20	0.7	20		20 End 1st Semester		■ En	d of	Qua	rter/	rerr	n	

End of Quarter/Term School Board meeting

Final approved: 3/16/21

26 Teacher In-Service



Todd King, CPA Brian Madison, CPA Chris Jenness, CPA

James Leffel, CPA Brenik Iverson, CPA

Ryan Janke, CPA

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283-4366	422-	9907	284-2600						

## Lind/Ritzville Prepares for Back to School Rush

The Lind/Ritzville School District will welcome students back very soon. Grades 1 through 12 can expect to be back in class starting August 30th, while kindergarten students will start on September 2nd. Students and parents can expect this school year to hold a few changes, such as the switch to a trimester term system. The district will be fully open for in person learning, but they also have plans in place for students that want to utilize distance learning. Students will also be able to utilize a hybrid model of classes if they need those accommodations. The district will also change the weekly schedule. Rather than having a late-start day on Monday, schools will implement an early-release day on Fridays.

This year brings multiple changes in terms of staff as well. Lind Elementary welcomes a new principal, Sarah Dinkins. After high school Dinkins spent several years in the Navy. She then moved into education where she taught 2nd through 6th grade for 11 years. The newly appointed principal hopes to quickly connect with students and families. She also encourages families that may not be able to easily afford supplies to contact the school office or herself. She can be contacted directly at (509) 660-0111 or by email at sdinkins@ lrschools.org, and Dinkins can help direct students and families to the proper

Ritzville Grade School will have a handful of new faculty faces as well. Matthew Riddle will be the newest 4th grade teacher coming in with 2 years of experience. Riddle graduated from Eastern Washington university and hopes to eventually coach sports in the district. Taylor McFarland will be joining the school as an on site counselor 2 days a week. McFarland hopes to ease some of the pressures on students and families as she works to complete her internship through Whitworth University. Stephanie Stokoe signs on with Ritzville Grade School as part of the Title/LAP program and will also be helping with student supervision. Along with the new additions, RGS will be moving Mrs. Leffel into the Title/LAP program, and Mrs. Wellsandt to 2nd grade.

Lind/Ritzville Middle School also

welcomes a new principal, Chris Lupo. Lupo has an extensive education background having earned a Masters of Education from Whitworth University. He then spent many years teaching and coaching in the communities of Warden

and Moses Lake. Lupo went on to receive his principal certification from Washington State and is going into his 18th year as a principal.

Although there aren't any staff changes happening at Lind/Ritzville High School, quite a few

variations aim to bring more opportunities to attending students. Principal Kevin Terris explains the high school has implemented several new courses that will allow students to simultaneously earn college credits while they finish high school. Having partnered with Central Washington University, Eastern Washington University, and

Big Bend Community College, the high school will be offering these new classes as dual-credit courses for the 2021-2022 academic year.

English 201, Math 141, Math 142, Spanish 201, Agr 265 (Crop Production),

Agr 261 (Plant Science), Personal Finance

This adds to the already impressive list of collegiate level courses the school offers. Terris further explains, "We also are offering some new courses that are not CiHS: Directed Studies, Military

History, History through Sports, Career Choices, Photography II, and Lifetime Fitness. Our hope is that by exposing students to these opportunities, they will be prepared for whatever choice they make in their fifth year, when they are no longer under our roof, whether it be a four-year school, a two-year trade school, the military, or the workforce."

By adding these courses to a term of study, students can potentially earn up to 70 credits from any of the partnered Universities.

Students in the district that will be participating in extra-curricular activities will be required to purchase an ASB card which will grant them free admission to any Lind, Ritzville, and Sprague home athletic events, and giving a discount for any away events. ASB cards for high school students will be \$35 while middle schoolers will have to pay \$30. There is a sports fee of \$5 per sport as well. Athletic tickets are being sold and adult season passes can be bought for \$85, senior passes are \$55, K-8 prices are \$50, while the family pass is \$180.

Further information regarding the school district and activities this year can be found at www.lrschools.org. Anyone with questions can also call the school district office at (509)677-3499.

#### LIND-RITZVILLE COOPERATIVE SCHOOLS 2021-2022 SCHOOL CALENDAR





176 School Days

4 Teacher In Service Days

57 Days in First Trimester

59 Days in Second Trimester

**60 Days in Third Trimester** 

**4 Conference Days** 

## Sprague Schools Ready for the Return of Students

The Sprague School District anticipates another busy year academically in 2021-2022. Parents of any new elementary or high school students are welcome to register students at the schools on August 19, 2021, from 9 a.m. to noon, or by appointment if needed. The first day of school for the year will be August 26 for most district students, however 4 year old preschool students will start the following day.

The district has hired several new staff members this year, including teachers and office personnel. Chelsea Lehto is one of the new teachers for kindergarten, and Hannah Steinmetz will be the newest 2nd grade teacher. Lisa Schultz will be the new teacher for High School Special Education. The Sprague School District also has a new Secretary in Judy Boutain, while Josh Fritts will be working in Building Maintenance and Transportation. The district will also see a new nurse, Rhonda Cordell, and she will be helping care for the ill or injured students this year. Jimmy Yamamoto is the recent addition as Head Custodian for Sprague, helping to maintain the



school facilities.

Any high school students signing up to play sports will also need to pay the ASB dues of \$20 that includes one athletic fee. Athletic fees to play additional sports can be purchased for \$3 each. There will also be FFA fees of \$25 that will include a free shirt. The athletics department has a busy schedule early in the year, as high school football, volleyball, and

cross-country participants will meet August 17, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. in the Gilson Gym in Ritzville. Students are reguired to fill out and finish all applicable forms before the first day of practice for their respective sports. The first high school football practice of the year will meet on August 18, and will take the bus from Sprague to Ritzville at 8:15 a.m. The team will practice from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. High school volleyball and cross country members will practice for the first time on August 23, and will also take a bus to Ritzville at 8:15 a.m.

More information can be found at www. spraguelamont.com. Parents and students at Sprague Schools can call (509) 257-2511 for further information. Also, parents and students at Lamont can call (509) 257-2463 with any questions.





STUDENTS & STAFF

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