



# Washington Elementary

## September 2019



1401 Washington Street, Wenatchee, WA 98801 509.662.5504  
<http://www.wenatcheeschools.org/wa/>

### From the Principal's Desk

Dear Washington Families:

It is my privilege, on behalf of the talented and dedicated staff at Washington Elementary School, to welcome you and your family to the 2019-2020 school year. We are a learning community that ensures high levels of learning for each student.

With this commitment to providing a quality educational experience for each student, we look forward to working as a team with parents. Together we can develop an educational environment that nurtures each of our children while working to ensure success at high levels. I urge you to become involved in the school and its activities so together we can demonstrate to our children the importance and significance of a successful school experience.

I am honored to share with you the new additions to the Washington Elementary Team. Please join me in welcoming the following Washington Eagles:

Julie Tiedeman	Kindergarten
Rachel Searles	First Grade
Andie Gebbers	Second Grade
Chelsea DeRuwe	Art
Chester Ferrell	Art
Katie Smeltzer	Resource Room
Jennifer Card	Communication Room
Kari Hertzog	Physical Education
Marie Smith	SPED Para Educator
Natalie Sparks	SPED Para Educator
Fabiola Fraga	SPED Para Educator
Katie Touch	Speech Language Pathologist

Schools that have proven to be most effective in helping students achieve at high levels have strong relationships between home and school. We absolutely love it when parents volunteer in the

classroom, on field trips and attend student performances.

The staff and I are extremely proud of our school, our students and our community. Thank you for your commitment to working together for the benefit of children. Please do not hesitate to contact me with your questions – together we will do great things for our children!

In partnership,  
 Keith Collins  
 Principal

### Dates To Remember

August 30	No School
September 2	No School – Labor Day
September 10	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Parent Night 6:00pm
September 11	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Night 6:00pm
September 12	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Night 6:00pm
September 12	PTSA Meeting 6:00pm
September 17	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Parent Night 6:00pm
September 19	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Parent Night 6:00pm
September 25	Kinder Parent Night 6:00pm

### Attendance Reminder

Please call the Washington School office when students are absent (662-5504). To help ensure the safety of all our students, parents need to call any time their child is home ill or not in school. You may leave a message if calling before 7:30 a.m. A call before 8:30 a.m. will save time for both the school and home. We will consider a student unexcused unless we receive a call from you.



## PTSA Podium

Welcome to the new school year! We hope you had a fantastic summer.

Your PTSA is a collaborative of Parents, Teachers and Students whose goals include:

Providing enriching activities for the entire student body of Washington Elementary School.

Informing parents about and involve them in their child's education.

Advocating for effective policies.

We have some great activities lined up for the year including fun Assemblies, Missoula Children's Theater, Family Craft Nights and more! These and other activities are provided by the PTSA via our annual fundraising activities. This year's fundraising activities are a Read-A-Thon (October) and a Jog-A-Thon (April).

The first PTSA meeting of the year is on Thursday, September 12 at 6:00 at the school. Our General Membership meeting will be in October. We would love to see you at a meeting soon to learn about what we're up to and how to get involved.

Please feel free to contact us anytime at [wapta@gmail.com](mailto:wapta@gmail.com) or [jackie.endsley@gmail.com](mailto:jackie.endsley@gmail.com).

## Counselors Corner



Back to school time is here! This exciting time of year is full of changes; new classrooms, new teachers, new pencils...etc. As fun and thrilling as starting school is, it can be a stressful time for both kids and their families.

Transitioning back to school is a challenging task for many of our kids. Summer tends to be a very unstructured time for many children. Bed time, wake up time, meal & snack times are all pretty flexible which leads kids to just going with the flow. School is just the opposite. There's a very specific schedule and a lot of expectations. This takes a huge amount of energy and engagement. That can be a tough transition if you've had the summer off living on your own schedule.

Being tired makes school even more challenging. Tired kids are more irritated, sensitive, and have difficulty focusing. In order to help students be

prepared for school they need to start getting to bed early enough so they can get 10 or more hours of sleep. Does your child spring out of bed in the morning or do they need more time to wake up slowly? Do they need their own alarm or does a parent waking up work best? These are a few things to consider when setting the wake up time so mornings run smoothly.

Arriving to school late is stressful for everyone. Teachers start teaching as the bell rings, students coming in late miss the teacher's welcome and first set of directions. Plan ahead so your child has plenty of time to get out the door on time. If you drive your child, make sure you consider all the other school traffic and allow to drop off in the designated areas.

For my family there are just too many of us to have much go wrong before it's chaos in the morning. We have to have a lot ready the night before. Backpacks, outfits and shoes need to be laid out and ready to go. If we're really on our game, we have lunches packed the night before. Determining if it's easiest to have children bathe or shower in the morning or the night before also helps. Preparation the night before gives us a little more cushion in the morning and takes away most of the nonstop reminders and countdown to departure to school.

The goal is to work towards a routine that gives your family the smoothest mornings possible. Decrease everyone's stress by getting enough sleep, being organized the night before, and leaving for school on time.

Aaron MacKenzie  
Counselor

## **NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT WENATCHEE PUBLIC SCHOOL**

The Wenatchee School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

Title IX Coordinator, Section 504 Mark Helm, Assistant Superintendent Civil Rights Compliance and ADA Coordinators Mark Helm, Assistant Superintendent (for students) [helm.m@wenatecheschools.org](mailto:helm.m@wenatecheschools.org)  
Kelly Lopez, Executive Director of Human Resources (for staff) [lopez.k@wenatecheschools.org](mailto:lopez.k@wenatecheschools.org). 235 Sunset Ave, Wenatchee WA, 98801 (509-663-8161)