

Our Path to First Choice No.2
2018/19

Everyone,

Last week was a bit short due to winter. This week, so far, so good. Enjoy it!

Our Path Topic

It's that time again to focus on some of the things going on at the District level.

- Exploring a possible partnership with Keystone Health for a school-based health center for students. At this time, Fairview Ave ES will be the first location if this can be achieved. It is still in the works.
- WASD is also working toward establishing a Family Center at Fairview Avenue ES. With a 66% Free & Reduced Lunch rate, Fairview makes the most sense. We are working with First Start Partnerships (Head Start) and others to develop the concept. The purpose is to provide a better connection to county services, and more direction for helping parents help their children to be more successful.
- The WASD School Board approved a quality behavioral program for the elementary schools for next year. It is a program that can service both regular education and special education students. This is part of WASD's plan to address part of the behavior challenges found at the elementary level. It is a costly endeavor, but the plan is to start exploring ways to help the middle school behavioral challenges.
- WASD is exploring the concept of a professionally operated, high quality childcare or a preschool (not determined, yet) program for district staff. It is a concept that must be self-supporting. We plan to use the survey data to help determine the need and the direction of the program. At this time, we are only exploring ages 3-5 due to expense of birth to age two. Nevertheless, we will continue to look at that possibility. The age's 3-5 program is a place to start. Stay tuned for more information.
- The First Choice vision is continuing to develop. The high school is developing a Pathway program that may meet the end of the vision or outcome. However, that is only part of it. Elementary and middle school have vital roles in a student's success in reaching his/her First Choice. The high school is also exploring programs for students to earn certification in childcare and Junior ROTC. Although a long way from these becoming a reality, these programs are in the pipeline for exploring.
- Two strategic objectives are improving student attendance and staff attendance. Systems, processes and incentives are being reviewed and developed with the goal of improving attendance.
- Another strategic objective is to improve district communication. This year's communication survey will be deployed soon to gather data and feedback for improving communication internally and externally.
- The district has applied for numerous grants this year for acquiring social workers, behavior specialists and therapists. The purpose is to acquire experts to help students with the various challenges they possess.

There are many, many more initiatives and projects, but these are to name a few.

Board Information and Policy Updates

- Next School Board Meetings—March 12, 2019
 - March 26th's meeting will be held at the high school auditorium to recognize our winter athletes and other students.

You may check out District policies by going to this site: <https://www.boarddocs.com/pa/wayn/Board.nsf/Public>

A Challenge for You

What are work systems?

Snow Make-Up Day

The make-up for Monday, February 11th is Tuesday, April 23rd.

The make-ups for Tuesday, February 12th and Wednesday, February 20th will be added onto the end of the year. We will be putting together a plan for those days. However, if more snow days occur, we will need to add additional days to the end. How we change those days need to be board approved. We may not have a final calendar approved until after the threat of snow days until we know how many rescheduled days we need.

Piece of the Puzzle

Tom Hoffman is our Piece of the Puzzle for this week. After a successful first annual "Career Expo" at the high school, many of the career presenters (mostly alumni) commented or sent notes to express their thoughts of the success of the program. They felt it was well organized and very beneficial to the students. One presenter commented, "It was such an awesome day. Tommy put A LOT of work into the day arranging for all the outside presenters and organizing all the students to their correct future field of choice. It was a chore just for parking alone for all the presenters and vo-tech students attending school for the day. He did a fabulous job coordinating EVERYTHING that went into the day. I heard several positive comments coming from the presenters. I hope this day continues and grows for our students at WASHS!" In addition, Tom put together a varsity basketball team that made us all proud to be part of WASHS. Thanks for going the extra mile and being a piece of the puzzle, Tom! Congratulations!!

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Dollars & Sense

- Attached is the month of March's copy of Dollars & Sense. Again, this communication came out of the results of the "Are We Making Progress?" survey sent out last year. You will see that survey come to you at the end of this year, too.

Events

- March Musical Pajama Game—
Tickets for this year's **All-School Production of The Pajama Game** at WASHS-- Adults are \$10 and children under 12 are \$6. Payment can be made using cash, check, or credit card. Ticket sales will be online and begin February 15th. (Note: All ages are welcome at this performance,

but due to the nature of some of the show's comedy, it is recommended for middle school-aged children and older.)

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***Challenge Answer (Important to Know)**

Work systems are how an organization's work is accomplished, consisting of the internal work processes and external resources, you need to develop and produce program and services, deliver them to your students and other customers, and succeed in your market. Work systems involve your workforce, your key suppliers and partners, your contractors, your collaborators, and other components of the supply chain needed to produce and deliver your programs and services and to carry out your business and support processes.

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Final Thoughts

- *What you get by achieving your goals is not as important as what you become by achieving your goals.*—Henry Davis Thoreau
- *He who is not courageous enough to take risks will accomplish nothing in life.*—Muhammad Ali
- *Stay focused, go after your dreams and keep moving toward your goals.*—LL Cool J
- *If you want to achieve your goals, help others achieve their goals.*—Zig Ziglar
- *To achieve your dreams, work is required. Suffering is optional.*—Jack Canfield
- *There will be obstacles. There will be doubters. There will be mistakes. But with hard work, there are no limits.*—Michael Phelps

Enjoy the rest of your week!

Tod