

Wahkiakum High School



Home of the Mules

Today's decisions create tomorrow's successes!

Students will graduate from Wahkiakum High School with the tools and skills necessary to persevere in their pursuit for a successful life. Knowledge is Power!

Wednesday, June 16, 2016

Thank-you

Thank-you for giving us the opportunity to work with your child this year. Each quarter throughout the year, we celebrate successes at our awards assemblies. I continually remind students that to achieve success, students should attend school, complete all their assignments and get involved. When students follow through with these three things, I can almost always guarantee success. Last week, we had our first WHS scholarship and senior awards assembly – *Honoring Excellence with the Class of 2016*. This assembly took place Thursday afternoon before graduation and was for both students and families. Our seniors each came to the podium holding a banner and shared their future plans. Students were then honored for their high school accomplishments. They were recognized for academic excellence, scholarships, athletics, club involvement and volunteer hours. Our students earned thousands of dollars in scholarship money thanks to our generous community! The fire department came to honor two of our students who are volunteer fire fighters, each staff member selected a student that excelled in their content area and honor cords were awarded to students graduating with a cumulative GPA of 3.25 and above. Students in the audience were asked to reflect on their goals and dreams, and to think about how they hope to be honored as seniors. Thank-you for encouraging your children to dream, to think about their future and most importantly to value education. It is the key to a successful future.

Credit Recovery

Next year's 11th and 12th grade students are required to pass 22 credits of course work to receive a diploma and 9th and 10th graders must pass 24. Each semester class is worth half of a credit and to receive credit students must earn a grade of a D or above. Your child should have six credits for each year he or she has attended high school. If students do not pass a class, they need to make up the half credit. Summer school begins July 6th and is online. If your child needs to make up credits, please contact the office by June 24th to register and develop a plan for success. More information about graduation requirements can be found on our website at <http://www.wahksd.k12.wa.us/whsbeyond.shtml>. We want all our students to succeed, and we are here to provide support and encouragement.

Mule Success

Earlier this spring, we gave out a student survey to assess our Mule Success time. Students are overwhelmingly in support of this class; over 90% voted to keep the class for the 2016-17 schedule. The students reported that 84% spend their time completing homework, 30% use the time to get organized, 27% receive peer tutoring and 26% seek support from teachers. 54% prefer to have this time in the morning rather than the afternoon. Because of the positive support from both students and staff, we will continue to provide this time. It is important to realize that Mule Success is a class that is counted for credit and teachers take attendance and collect assignments related to college and career success and graduation requirements such as the senior portfolio and project. Each year is worth .25 credits, increasing our total credit offerings over four years to 25 credits. Mule Success is an elective credit that counts toward graduation! Please encourage your child to take advantage of this time and participate fully.

Next Year's Schedule

In August your student's schedule for next year will be available on Skyward and a hard copy will be mailed to you with a list of important dates and events. All schedule changes will need to be completed by August

24th. Students were given the opportunity to select classes during Mule Success, Advisory and/or during meetings with Mr. Niemeyer. If you have questions, please contact him at mniemeyer@wahksd.k12.wa.us.

Next Year's Course Offerings

We are excited to continue offering several advanced courses for next year including 9/10 Honors English, AP Literature and Language, which will be worth 5 college credits from LCC and College Pre-Calculus and College Trigonometry, which are worth 5 college credits each from Central Washington University. If students take full advantage of College in the High School during their 11th and 12th grade years, they could graduate with 30 college credits! We offer a variety of lab sciences, including Chemistry, Physical Science Honors Biology, Biology, Natural Resources, Environmental Science and Robotics. In addition, we will offer Bridge to College English and Math which are state sponsored classes that provide students with the skills and support needed to leave WHS ready for college. Students who pass Bridge classes with an A or B will automatically be able to enroll in college level math and English without taking placement tests. We are also offering Microsoft Certification through the Microsoft IT Academy which is a college and career ready education program designed to provide students with the 21st century technology skills needed to be competitive in today's workplace. In addition to our College in the High School Program, college credit is also offered at WHS for tech prep classes in our CTE program.

New Staff

We are excited to welcome Jasmin to our staff. She is an ESA certified mental health counselor that was hired through a partnership between our district and Wahkiakum Health and Human Services. She will be on campus at all times and will help ensure that students have access to mental health support if needed.

1:1 Chromebooks

Our 1:1 Chromebook Pilot Program was a success and increased student engagement in school work, broke down barriers and allowed all students access to the technology they needed to support their education. We are excited to continue this program next year. Several students have checked Chromebooks out for the summer to successfully complete their summer homework. If your child is in a class that does not require this, please encourage them to continue reading, writing and applying their math skills to everyday life, as it is critical to academic success and encourages life-long learning.

Accreditation

Wahkiakum HS is an accredited high school striving to continually improve to ensure students receive a quality education. This spring we reported our progress to [Advanced-Ed](#), the outside agency responsible for granting accreditations. They approved our plan and continue to support us as an agency engaging in continuous improvement, ongoing self-reflection and internal and external reviews.

Thank-you for sharing your children with us! We are honored to be a part of their lives and looking forward to the 2016-17 school year! Please contact me anytime if you have questions or concerns.

Go MULES!

Stephanie Leitz

WHS Principal

Important Dates

Summer School Starts July 6th

Football Starts August 17th

Volleyball and Cross Country Start August 22nd

Link Leader Training ~ August 22nd & 23rd, 12:00-4:00

Freshman Orientation ~ August 25th, 9:00-12:00

Last Day for Schedule Changes ~ August 24th

Online Applications are due August 22nd

First Day of School ~ Monday, August 29th

9:30, Late Start Every Thursday beginning September 1st