

# 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.*

**Brighten the Light!**

Friday, April 19, 2019

## **Accreditation**

Wahkiakum High School is an accredited institution and to maintain that status, we have to do an extensive review with AdvancEd every five years, which will be occurring this May. We need your feedback! Please take a minute and complete the survey <https://eprovesurveys.advanc-ed.org/surveys/#/action/106102/30969>. This link is also available on our website. Students will be taking a similar survey next week. As a staff, we will evaluate this data and celebrate successes and set goals for continuous improvement. Thank you for your ongoing support and for your willingness to give us feedback. Your opinions and thoughts matter to us.

## **Progress Reports**

With Mule Success, peer tutors, after school support and in-class personalized instruction, students are succeeding at WHS! Please take the time to talk with your student about his/her grades and celebrate success, as it opens doors to the future. If your child is struggling, I encourage you to set aside some time to come and meet with us so we can work together to develop a plan. Student success is our number one priority and we are proud of our students and all they are accomplishing. Please remember quarter grades are not final and credit is not issued until the end of the semester. Third quarter grade reports, owed detention time, excessive absences and fines if applicable are included in this mailing.

## **After School Support**

Our library is open school every day after school for students who need extra support or just a quiet place to study! Students are invited to join Ms. Peterson or Mrs. Niemeyer for an after school snack and then work to improve their grades and study skills. Several teachers and peer tutors are available to help students. There is a focus on organization, Math and English skills. If you have questions or would like your student to attend, let us know! All students with low/failing grades at the quarter should plan to attend.

## **Awards & Student Portfolios**

Each quarter we honor students for their effort, attendance and academic achievements at our awards assemblies. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter assembly occurred earlier this week, and we are proud to say that several of our students made honor roll, meaning they had a 3.25 GPA or above. Students are encouraged to place these awards in their portfolios. In preparation for graduation, our senior class will turn in their portfolios on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Each student at WHS is asked to keep a portfolio and the required items that go into the portfolio are assigned and created during advisory on Fridays. Our portfolio checklist along with additional information about high school graduation requirements can be found on our website. <http://www.wahksd.k12.wa.us> Ask your student to share his/her portfolio with you! ☺

### **Attendance is Important**

Attending school regularly and learning to be on time to all classes is critical to future success. At WHS, students can be tardy to class twice each quarter without a consequence, then every additional tardy is a thirty minute detention. When students are late, they miss important instructional time and often earn lower grades. Washington State has determined that if students miss more than 10% or 18 days in a school year, they are considered **chronically absent**. (This is just two days a month.) Chronically absent students are more likely to fall behind in reading and math and less likely to graduate from high school. If your child has excessive absences or owes detention time for being late, a report is attached. All detention time must be served the week it is issued unless other arrangements have been made. Thank-you for your help and for making school a priority!

### **Smarter Balanced Assessments**

For the class of 2019, Washington State requires students to pass the Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBA) in English and SBA in Math. We are proud to say **ALL** of our seniors have or will meet this requirement! This spring all 10<sup>th</sup> and some 11<sup>th</sup> graders will participate in the SBA. In addition, all juniors will take the new Science SBA. There are two parts to all three of these tests. Testing will occur the last two weeks of May and the first two weeks of June. Please mark your calendars and ensure your student is here, well-rested and eats breakfast. Thank-you for your support. Please see OSPI at <http://www.k12.wa.us/resources/default.aspx#2> for more information.

### **Senior Awards Assembly & Graduation**

This year's seniors have been working all year to plan their senior week, awards assembly and graduation. Graduation will be June 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00. We will also honor seniors at our Senior Scholarship and Awards Assembly on Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:30. We invite the community to join us in celebrating our seniors and all their amazing accomplishments. This was a change we made a few years ago. Previously, these awards were given during graduation. We invite you to join us for **both** celebrations. Congratulations to the Class of 2019!

### **Next Year's Schedule**

During advisory, students will begin making class selections for next year. Please take some time to talk to your child about their classes, goals and graduation requirements. If you have questions about classes, please contact Marc Niemeyer at [mniemeyer@wahksd.k12.wa.us](mailto:mniemeyer@wahksd.k12.wa.us).

### **Summer School**

If your child has credits to make up from first semester or previous years, please consider summer school. We offer a variety of online options and want to ensure all students are earning the necessary credits to graduate. Credit recovery classes cost \$200 per semester, but many scholarships are available. Please call the office or Mr. Niemeyer for more information or to sign up.

### **Skyward**

All students have a Skyward account to easily access their grades and assignments. We also give out parent accounts. If you do not have one, please call the office to set one up. Skyward also has a downloadable app to make checking grades, attendance and lunch count balances easy! When looking at grades, you can click on the actual term grade and a list of assignments will come up. This is the best way to understand a student's grade and to check for missing assignments. Students are required to bring home a progress report midway through each quarter. If you are surprised by your child's grades on the enclosed progress report, please take a minute to look at Skyward. Coming to school and turning in all work is key to success. The Wahkiakum Skyward link can also be found on our website under Family Access. ***Please also take time to make sure your email address is on file in Skyward to ensure you aren't missing any important information.***

### Leadership Opportunities

ASB Officer Elections/Campaign week will begin soon. All interested students are encouraged to sign up in the office to run. We have an ASB President, Vice President, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Public Relations, Community Liaison and Secretary. Officers are expected to be a part of our early morning leadership class which meets on Tuesdays and Fridays at 7:15. All students are welcome and encouraged to join Leadership Class!

### Thank-You

Thank-you for supporting us as we strive to create a safe, caring environment that allows your child to be the best he/she can be. Please know we are here to help and want to see your child succeed!

## **Important Dates**



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### **Exciting Upcoming Events!**

May 7<sup>th</sup> - Sophomore College Visit to Lower Columbia College

May 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> ~ Advanced Placement Testing

May 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> ~ Science Assessment for Juniors

May 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> ~ Drama Club's Spring Production

May 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> ~ Senior Presentations

May 24<sup>th</sup> & May 27<sup>th</sup> ~ No School

May 28<sup>th</sup> - May 30<sup>th</sup> ~ English Smarter Balanced Assessment

June 3<sup>rd</sup> - June 6<sup>th</sup> ~ Math Smarter Balanced Assessment

June 5<sup>th</sup> ~ National Honor Society Induction, 7:00 pm, HS Library

June 6<sup>th</sup> ~ 7:00, Spring Band Concert

June 10<sup>th</sup> ~ WHS Field Day

June 12<sup>th</sup> ~ 7:00, Baccalaureate at The Bridge Church

June 13<sup>th</sup> ~ Senior Awards Assembly, 1:30 pm

June 14<sup>th</sup> ~ Last Day of School - 11:30 Dismissal

June 14<sup>th</sup> ~ Class of 2019 Graduation, 7:00 pm

*Thank-you for giving us the opportunity to work with your child.*

*Please contact us if you have any questions.*

*Stephanie Leitz*

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