

# 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!***

Thursday, June 20, 2019

## **Thank you!**

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to work with your child this year; it was an honor. Our theme this year was *Brighten the Light*, and as I reflect on student accomplishments and the graduating class of 2019, I can't help but think about all the ways our graduates "brightened the light" of others through their kindness, mentoring, hard work and perseverance. At WHS, we strive to honor student strengths, meet students where they are and help build strong skills that will ensure they have a successful future. Each quarter throughout the year, we celebrate successes at our award assemblies. I continually remind students that to achieve success, students should attend school, complete all their assignments and be involved. When students follow through with these three things, I can almost always guarantee success. Last week, we had our WHS scholarship and senior awards assembly – *Honoring Excellence with the Class of 2019*. Our seniors each came to the podium holding a banner and shared their future plans with family and friends. Students were then honored for their high school accomplishments. They were recognized for academic excellence, athletics, club involvement, community involvement and volunteer hours. Honor cords were awarded to students graduating with a cumulative GPA of 3.25 and above and multiple scholarships were awarded. High school students attended this assembly, and hopefully took a minute to reflect on their future and what they hope to accomplish. Thank you for encouraging your children to dream big, to think about their future and most importantly to value education. It is the key to a successful future.

## **Credit Recovery**

Students are required to pass 24 credits of course work to receive a diploma. Each semester class is worth half of a credit and to receive credit students must earn a grade of a D or above. Your student should earn 6.5 credits for each year he or she has attends high school. If students do not pass a class, they need to make up the half credit. If your child needs to make up credits, please contact the office this week to register and develop a plan for success. (360.795.3271) 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**

Each year, we ask students for feedback on Mule Success time, which is thirty minute period between second and third periods that provides students with both enrichment and intervention opportunities. Students are encouraged to use the time to organize their notebooks, make up missing assignments, receive tutoring support, work on leadership projects and/or just take a few minutes to regroup and prepare for the rest of the day. Students are overwhelmingly in support of this class, feeling like it helps them be more successful students. ***It is important to realize that Mule Success is a class that is counted for credit and factored into GPAs.*** Teachers take attendance and collect assignments related to college and career success and graduation requirements such as the High School and Beyond Plan and Senior Portfolios. Each year is worth .5 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**

Next year's schedule is available on Skyward and a hard copy is included with this letter. If your child does not have a schedule for next year, please call the office to make a scheduling appointment by the end of June. If you see a mistake and/or your child wants to change classes, all changes will need to be completed by August 29<sup>th</sup>. Students were given the opportunity to select classes during Mule Success, Advisory and/or by meetings with Mr. Niemeyer. If you have questions or your child wants to change classes, please contact him at [mniemeyer@wahksd.k12.wa.us](mailto:mniemeyer@wahksd.k12.wa.us)

### **College Credits are Offered at WHS**

At Wahkiakum High School, students can stay on campus and earn college credits through both Central Washington University and Lower Columbia College. Taking these classes on our campus instead of through Running Start is 100% free and allows students to take advantage of earning college credits while remaining a part of our high school culture. Taking advanced and honors courses at WHS is a student's choice. Options for advanced courses include 9/10 Honors English, AP Literature/English 101, AP Language/English 221 and Statistics which will each be worth 5 college credits from LCC and College Pre-Calculus and College Trigonometry, which are also each worth 5 college credits each from Central Washington University. If students take full advantage of College in the High School during their 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade years, they could graduate with 25-40 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 such as Ag Mechanics in our CTE program.

### **1:1 Chromebooks**

We plan to continue offering our 1:1 Chromebook Program next year. We feel it was a success and increased student engagement in school work and allowed all students access to the technology they needed to support their education. Please take a minute and talk to your child about the importance of Chromebook care – keeping the device clean, in its provided case and carefully handling it ensures it will last longer than all four years of high school! We also encourage you to purchase insurance. 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. Advanced-Ed, the outside agency responsible for granting accreditations visited our campus this year and gave us an excellent review. Thank you for supporting our school and students. We are lucky to live in such a caring and giving community.

Thank-you for sharing your children with us! We are honored to be a part of their lives and looking forward to the 2019-20 school year! Please contact me anytime if you have questions or concerns.

Go MULES!

*Stephanie Leitz*  
sleitz@wahksd.k12.wa.us  
WHS Principal

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## Important Dates for 2019-20

HS Summer School is Monday-Thursday from 9:00-12:00

Football Starts August 21<sup>st</sup>

Volleyball and Cross Country Start August 26<sup>th</sup>

Link Leader Training ~ August 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>, 12:00-4:00

Freshman/New Student Orientation ~ August 29<sup>th</sup>, 9:00

Last Day for Schedule Changes ~ August 29<sup>th</sup>

Online Applications are Due ~ August 29<sup>th</sup>

**First Day of School ~ Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>**

9:30 Late Start Every Thursday beginning September 5<sup>th</sup>

### HS School Supply List

Organization is key to success! Please make sure your student comes to school on the first day with **a three ring binder, dividers, notebook paper, pencil pouch, pencils, pens, highlighters, colored pencils, a glue stick and scissors.**

If taking a PE class, students are required to have PE shoes, shorts and a t-shirt. Starting the school year off prepared pays off! Please contact the office if you need help obtaining supplies or are willing to donate supplies for those in need. All students will be given a planner the first week of school.