



COLLEGE PLACE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

• MAY 2019

communique

See You Later, Not Goodbye

Greetings from the Superintendent's Office



This will be my last note to you as your College Place School District Superintendent. Beginning July, first I will be the superintendent of Ephrata School District in north central Washington.

During my 18 years serving College Place Public Schools as your superintendent much has changed ... and yet not so much:

- We went from being K-8 to K-12.
- We went from 776 FTE kids to 1420 FTE kids.
- We went from less than 100 staff members to over 200.
- We went from some old facilities to brand new facilities.
- CPPS has, and continues to focus on kids and their learning—I hope this focus never changes.
- CPPS has, and continues to employ the very best professionals to work all with kids in our care.
- CPPS has, and continues to be fiscally responsible with the public's dollar.
- I'd like to say a special thank you to all the excellent school board members that I've had the privilege to work with. CPPS has, and continues to have one of the best school boards in the state!

A few "Tim-isms" that I would like to leave you with:

- "We focus on kids and their learning here—it's what it's all about."
- "If kids didn't need learning, then we wouldn't have our work."
- "People are more important than the work."
- "Character is more important than skills."
- "At times I think 'common sense' is dead, and 'personal responsibility' is on life support. Our kids need both."

Thank you for giving me this wonderful opportunity. Thank you for being so gracious to my family over the years.

With much love and appreciation,

Tim, Sheilah, and the girls



College Place High School Partners with Amazon for Computer Science Courses

College Place High School has been selected as an Amazon Future Engineer (AFE) school - a partnership between Amazon and Edhesive to improve access to computer science education in communities currently underrepresented in the technology field. This is all thanks to Mr. Matthew Hunter, the Computer Science teacher at CPHS who reached out to Amazon in the fall to see if the school would qualify for the AFE program. Hunter stated "My main reason for doing this was seeing the amazing work my female students were doing in my classroom. I wanted to offer them and all students even more opportunities in the STEM field."

According to the Bureau of Labor statistics, by 2020 there will be 1.4 million computer-science-related jobs available and only 400,000 computer science graduates with the skills to apply for those jobs. Many students eager to fill that gap and obtain a high paying job in technology do not have access to computer science in their high schools. Often schools want to offer these courses to their students but do not have access to curriculum and/or teacher support materials.

Amazon and Edhesive are partnering to address this gap by sponsoring teachers and administrators who demonstrate this need and are committed to bringing computer science to their school with access

to content such as: Computer Science, AP Computer Science Principles, or AP Computer Science A courses. This content also includes college credits earned at high school, access to support forums for both students and educators new to learning or teaching computer science, and access to college scholarships and internships at Amazon. You can learn more at <https://www.amazonfutureengineer.com/>

2019-20 School Year Calendar

The College Place Public School Board adopted the 2019-2020 school year calendar at the January School Board Meeting. You can download the calendar on the district website at cpsps.org/School-year-calendar.

The Value of Keeping Promises

WSU GEAR UP hosted Alex Sheen on January 30, 2019 to deliver a 1-hour keynote speech to all Sager and CPHS students about the importance of honoring promises.

Sheen told emotional and inspiring stories that have been shared with him through his "because I said I would" campaign. He spoke about his personal experience in leading the social movement behind because I said I would. Sheen's story focused on building a culture of accountability, increasing goal attainment rates, and creating a sense of purpose.

The keynote ended with every student receiving 10 Promise Cards at College Place High School and John Sager Middle School.

because
I said
I would.

Cathy McMorris Rodgers Visits College Place Public Schools



On April 23, 2019, representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers and her team visited College Place Public Schools.

Her visit started with a meeting with Superintendent Payne and part of his executive team. McMorris Rodgers then met with Sager Middle School and College Place High School students for a Q&A session. Students and staff then gave McMorris Rodgers a tour of the high school and middle school and ended the tour in the culinary arts classroom where the culinary students made boxed lunches for the team to take on the road! McMorris said in a press release, "Thanks to College Place High School for letting me visit today to tour and answer questions from students. It's always exciting to hear what's on the minds of our young people and see the great programs local schools are offering!"



CPHS Cooks

The CPHS Culinary team competed at the FCCLA State Conference and Star Events in March.

The CPHS team of Jackson Smith, Devin Newman, and Braden Hill competed in a challenge where they had to prepare and plate four recipes in a 60-minute period.

The judges rated cooking techniques, organization, safety and sanitation, personal appearance, plate appearance and overall appeal and taste of food.

The team received a silver medal and placed second out of 11 teams from around the state. They had many positive comments from chef judges!

District Honors Doug Case

Doug Case joined the College Place School Board in December of 2009 and shortly after became Chairman of the Board until the annual reorganization of the school board on January 22, 2019.

Doug was key in the passing of several local school levies over the years as well as, the groundbreaking 2012 School Bond passing to build College Place High School, replace Davis Elementary School and remodel John Sager Middle School.



Doug was active in attending professional development workshops and training through Washington State School Directors Association. Doug was also very involved in many legislative activities with Superintendent Payne.

Doug has been a tireless advocate for College Place Public Schools over the years. His four children have all attended College Place Public Schools. His wife Ginger, continues to be involved in training new teachers in our district. Their family commitment and involvement have made our District what it is today.

We are very grateful and we would like to thank Doug for all of the hard work and loyalty he has dedicated to our school District as Board Chairman. Doug continues to serve as a School Board Member for College Place Public Schools.

Adopt-A-Student Program Helps Kids in Need

This year College Place Public Schools partnered with United Way of Walla Walla Valley to launch a program called Adopt a Hawk and Adopt a Raider.

These programs provide students in our district access to items, which they might not be able to afford. Items such as band rentals, trip expenses for co-curricular activities, athletics, vocational or class fees, and much more. Generous individuals, employees and corporate gifts fund the United Way Adopt-a-Student Program. The goal of the program aims to bridge this gap and promote student engagement! To date the program has assisted 15 students with \$592.00 of funding.

Anyone can donate to the Adopt a Student Program today at www.unitedwayww.org

College Place High School Hires New Principal



College Place Public Schools has hired Robert Aguilar as the next College Place High School Principal.

College Place Public Schools conducted an extensive search and a very transparent interview process that included feedback from all stakeholders. There was a key interview team, student led tours and interviews, staff lunches with the candidates, a meet and greet with the CPHS Parent Advisory Group, the Superintendent Advisory Team and the School Board members followed by a community forum for parents, students, staff and the community.

Superintendent Payne stated "I was very impressed with the process and received overwhelmingly positive feedback from multiple references for Mr. Aguilar. Robert has a lot of energy for what we are doing here at College Place High School and we look forward to having him be part of our team."

Mr. Aguilar graduated from Walla Walla High School in 2001. He attended the University of Washington and graduated in 2003 with a Bachelor of Arts in History. Mr. Aguilar then completed his Master's in Education from the University of Washington and went onto receive his Administrative Credentials from the University of Washington.

Mr. Aguilar is currently a Vice Principal at Heatherwood Middle School with the Everett School District. Prior to that he was a Vice Principal and Athletic Director at Cascade High School in Everett. Mr. Aguilar also worked for the Lake Washington School District, where he taught US and World History and was the Drama Elective teacher at Redmond Junior High School.

Mr. Aguilar's wife Jessica, also has ties to the area as she attended Whitman College and graduated in 2005. They have two sons, Alexander 4 and William 2, and a daughter Steph born in May. In his spare time, Mr. Aguilar enjoys CrossFit, or playing with his kids at a local park.

Mr. Aguilar states, "I am very excited to be returning to the Walla Walla Valley and look forward to serving the community of College Place, working with our students, staff, and families to prepare our kids to thrive in a 21st century global economy and contribute to their communities with character and integrity."

Mr. Aguilar will begin his contract with College Place Public Schools on July 1, 2019. Mr. Kasenga will continue to act as the interim principal at CPHS until the end of the school year.

Crisis Team at CPPS

College Place Public Schools recently formed a Crisis Team to tackle many of the social emotional needs that arise in our schools on a daily basis. Staff from each school and the District Office are members of this critical team. The goal is to support students and staff in times of crisis and distress and to provide



additional support for school counselors.

Part of becoming a team member, began with a training called Youth Mental Health First

Aid. The course teaches school staff, how to help adolescent students who may be experiencing a mental health issue, addiction challenges, or who may be in crisis. The course introduced common mental health challenges for youth, reviewed typical adolescent development, and taught our team a 5-step action plan for how to help young people in both crisis and non-crisis situations. College Place Public Schools send 13 staff members to this training so that we could expand our district's capacity in all buildings to focus on kids and their learning.

FIRE Team at Davis

At Davis, we say, "All Dragons Breathe Fire." And no one breathes more FIRE than our 5th grade FIRE Team Members! This team is made up of nearly 30 students who represent a diverse cross section of our student body. They are kids who have demonstrated incredible aptitude for leadership



Fire Team Members lead a community activity for peers creating crafty holiday cards in December 2018.

and have consistently been named Dependable Dragons among their teachers. Their purpose is to be the standard bearers of what it means to embody the ideals of Dragon FIRE: Friendliness, Integrity, Responsibility and Engagement. When called upon, they deliver lessons on character to Kindergarten and 1st Grade classes, represent the school in the community, and lead school-wide events designed to strengthen our Davis community. While our Dragon Fire program continues to develop and grow, these students stand as strong examples of College Place Public Schools' Five Pillars of Character (Leadership, Service, Team, Disciplined Life and Integrity) as well as incredible role models among their peers at school!



Sager's Hough Run Dedicated to Breast Cancer Champions

April 19 Sager Middle School students and staff pounded the streets for the second annual HOUGH RUN! The run is in dedication to Mr. Hough who passed away suddenly last year, students also honored breast cancer champions in our district and in our lives. It was a great day to remember our great teacher and friend John Hough.

Goodies with Grandparents

April 29 was the day all grandparents or special friends of Davis students were invited for some yummy treats and coffee before school. This annual event is an important part of Davis culture! We want to thank all of the grandparents and special friends who came out to celebrate this day with us!



College Place Public Schools Hires New Superintendent



The College Place School Board voted unanimously on Monday, May 6, 2019 to offer Mr. James (Jim) Fry the position of superintendent at College Place Public Schools. By approving his contract, Mr. Fry will begin his new position on July 1, 2019, taking the reins from Superintendent Payne who will be leaving the district after 18 years of service.

Mr. Fry currently serves as the Assistant Superintendent of Clarkston School District, where he began serving as the Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Executive Director in January 2012. Mr. Fry has served as a leader in every level of a school system from teacher to principal to district office administrator. He has both small and large school experience including areas of HR, teaching and learning, and bargaining.

In a statement from Mr. Fry, he said "I am extremely blessed and humbled to be coming to College Place as the Superintendent. My wife Angie, and our four boys are very

excited to call College Place home. My 22 years in education and educational leadership have prepared me for this step and I am grateful to the College Place School Board for entrusting me with this responsibility. It is one that I don't take for granted."

"I can't wait to get there and get to know the staff, students and community and become a part of the legacy that is College Place Public Schools. My philosophy is to love people and show growth. That is what I intend to do in College Place."

The CPPS Board Chairman stated "As a board of directors with diverse opinions and backgrounds, we all came to the same conclusion that Mr. Fry is the most experienced and prepared candidate to carry forward the excellent work our district is doing.

CPHS Graduation Key Dates and Details

As we prepare for our second graduation at College Place High School, we want to invite the community to attend graduation on June 8, 2019. Please find the details and dates below.

Baccalaureate

Monday, June 3, 2019

7:00 pm

University Church, College Place, WA.

Graduation Ceremony

Saturday, June 8, 2019

7:00 pm

CPHS Gymnasium



PROLoQuo2go @ CPPS



CPPS Special Education programs has been able to leverage donated monies along with district support to begin implementation of AAC (augmented and alternative communication)

devices in our life skills classroom. Our district was able to purchase thirty licenses for a program called ProLoQuo2Go. This program is loaded on an iPad and allows students who have limited verbal communication skills to expand their ability to interact with the world around them and strengthen their language skills through symbols, pictures and words. It also provides them with a voice to help express their needs, their wants and their personalities. District speech and language pathologists, special education teachers and general education teachers are receiving on-going professional development in how to use and implement this program with our students.



Junior Achievement Day at Sager Middle School

On March 22, all John Sager Middle School students participated in JA Day. All 356 students were immersed in a JA program for the entire day. This was a huge community



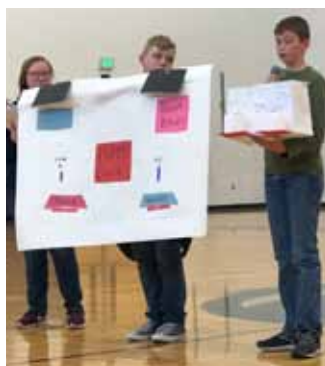
effort to put on and we want to thank JA Coordinator Nancy Brown and all of the community volunteers for their time and energy. Students learned the key fundamentals of Junior Achievement along with a specific program for each grade level.

JA is the nation's largest organization dedicated to giving young people the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic success, plan for their futures, and make smart academic and economic choices. JA's programs—in the core content areas of work readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy—ignite the spark in young people to experience and realize the opportunities and realities of work and life in the 21st century.

Local business volunteers taught the following programs on this day:

- 6th Grade Global Marketplace
- 7th Grade Economics for Success
- 8th It's My Business

At the end of the end of the day the students gathered in the gym to celebrate, thank the volunteers, and one team from each 8th grade class "pitched" their business idea to the volunteers. The winning team Chameleon Kicks got a lunch pizza party with Mr. Kasenga.



CPPS Launches the A.B.L.E Program

Achieving, Believing, Lifelong Employment or A.B.L.E is a program designed for students 18-21 years of age with developmental disabilities. Students enrolled in this program

have an opportunity to continue their education by focusing on the areas of career and job training, transitional living, and exposure to lifelong leisure activities. More specifically, students develop job skills on campus and in community work sites with job coaching support, identify and participate in community activities, learn local transportation options, and acquire soft skills through classroom and community experiences.

This year, A.B.L.E has collaborated with the College Place High School campus cafeteria where students learn valuable work skills and everyday vocational routines of operating within a work schedule, handling teamwork dynamics, self-advocating, and communicating with co-workers and an employer. A.B.L.E will continue to develop outside partnerships in order to prepare students for employment in our community. If you are interested in working with our A.B.L.E students, please contact Donald Ponds at dponds@cpps.org.

Kindergarten Registration Open

It is now the time to get your child registered for Kindergarten! Please come to Davis Elementary School to begin the process. Students entering kindergarten must be five years old on or before August 31. For more information, please contact Davis Elementary at 509-525-5110.

Sager Student Wins Regional Showcase

Tiana Tran recently competed with 12 other WSU GEAR UP eight graders in our region and won first-place in the 2019 Career Showcase.

Each middle school selected a student to represent them at the April 26 event on the WSU Tri-Cities campus in Richland.

Tiana represented John Sager Middle school with poise, ambition and enthusiasm which won her first place in the regional competition.

As the first place winner, she received a Chromebook, TI inspire calculator, backpack and some cool WSU swag.

All Sager 8th graders participated in a GEAR UP Career project in English class that culminated to the top 10 career showcases. GEAR UP held a presentation at Sager that was open to families, staff and students along with judges. They chose Tiana as the top presenter for her presentation on becoming a family physician.





COLLEGE PLACE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Key Dates

*June 3 – Early Dismissal
Records*

June 8 – CPHS Graduation

June 11 – Sager 8th Grade Celebration

June 12 – Early Dismissal Last Day of School

August 15 – Registration Fair

August 22 – Back to School Celebration

August 26 – First Day of School



Hawks Debit Card Giving Back to Our Kids

Gesa Credit Union supports youth financial literacy through programs like Gesa in the High School and other targeted curriculum. This year, Gesa gave over \$500,000 to area schools through the branded debit card program.

For every swipe of your Hawks Debit Card, Gesa makes a donation of 5 cents to College Place Public Schools. To date, Gesa has given \$13,000 to College Place Public Schools to directly impact student learning. If you are a Gesa customer stop in the nearest Gesa branch and get a Hawks Branded Debit card. If you are not a Gesa member, become one today and support our students. We want to thank and recognize Gesa Credit Union for their generosity and support of our kids!

Got The CPPS App?

- Get emergency, school closure and delay notifications immediately
- Find your student's staff
- Get daily menus
- Access Skyward Family Access
- Add events directly to your calendar
- And more!



All with the CPPS App! Download it for FREE at the App Store or Google Play. Search for College Place Public School. Make sure to activate your notifications in the settings.



College Place Public Schools does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of race, religion, creed, color, national origin, honorably-discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained guide dog or service animal by a person with a disability, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Persons needing accommodation in the application process or need this announcement in an alternative format may contact the College Place Public Schools Administration Office. The following employee has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Civil Rights, Title IX and Section 504 Coordinator: Tim Payne, (509) 525-4827, tpayne@cpps.org, 1755 South College Avenue, College Place, Washington, 99324.

5 Pillars of Character

- Leadership Development
- Selflessness in Service of Others
- Team/Togetherness
- Disciplined Life
- Integrity

College Place Public Schools at a Glance

Vision Statement

Focusing on kids and their learning.

Mission Statement

As a College Place graduate, I will distinguish myself by communicating, leading, learning and serving with integrity. I am driven by a lifelong commitment of respect of others, the community, and myself.

College Place Public School District Guiding Principles

- All students have positive, personalized relationships where they feel connected, valued and inspired to learn and contribute.
- Responsive, learner-centered environments that engage and rigorously challenge each student.
- Students are connected to their community through real-life learning experiences, mentorships and adult advocacy.
- All students learn through relevant, project-based, and collaborative experiences.

Current Enrollment - 1420

Davis - 659 Sager - 353 CPHS - 408