Check Out the Gar-Pal School Website Daily

- Headlines of upcoming events, accomplishments, and info
- News bulletin
- Calendar of events
- Lunch menu
- Contact info
- Accelerated Reading (AR)
- Skyward Family Access for grades and lunch account balance

www.garpal.net

Garfield and Palouse Schools now have eFunds available for parent use. To sign up and start using, please download the eFunds for Schools file and log in to your account using Skyward Family Access.

Call the school if you need assistance:
Garfield School (509) 635-1331
Palouse School (509) 878-1921
From the Desk of the Principal

As we approach the end of the first semester in the high school, and are starting the second trimester in the elementary, please continue to visit your son/daughter’s teacher(s) on the progress in the classroom. You can also check student progress through Skyward, or many of the high school teachers are using Google classroom. You can ask to be added to the class or have your son/daughter demonstrate for you.

A big thanks goes out to Mr. Zook and Mrs. Hemphill for all their efforts with the Elementary and Secondary concerts. Our students once again did a fantastic job and had wonderful performances. All of the teachers, students and volunteers involved deserve a big thanks for all their hard work.

As we get ready to start the second semester (January 19th), you are welcome to visit with Ms. Mylett on your student’s schedules and their progression. Additionally, the second semester signals the beginning of testing and SBAC. Tests are given in May, with MAPs assessments taking place prior to break. If you have questions about the tests, or how teachers are helping to prepare students, please contact and/or come in and visit.

One of our studies this year has been the work around Trauma Informed Schools. Written by Jim Sporleder and Heather Forbes, this is a book that addresses many of the challenges faced by teachers and students in today’s classroom, and a comprehensive guide to implementing strategies for addressing these issues. The companion text, Help for Billy, is the focus of a book study by staff. If you would like to borrow a copy or visit, please stop by.

As this year draws to a close, it is a good opportunity to look back and reflect on how thankful I am to work with such a caring staff and community. We truly have a wonderful community, staff and students. Thank you to everyone who continues to work with and support our school and students. I would like to wish all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Mike Jones
Principal

Mary Hewes Retiring After 28 Years

The Palouse School District would like to thank Mary Hewes for her 28+ years of service. Mary currently works in the preschool and in the elementary classrooms. She started her career in the kitchen and has continued to work with our students in a variety of capacities. We have been very fortunate to have her in our building and the impact she has had on the students is immeasurable. Thank you Mary for all your hard work and dedication to our community, staff and students.

Kindness for Kids

Donations are currently being accepted for our Kindness for Kids fund. Money donated to this fund is used to help support students in need with miscellaneous expenses associated with school and school activities. Thank you to everyone who has donated and your continued support of students at Palouse Schools. Please contact the school for more information and how to donate.

New updated climbing ropes on playground for student safety.
OUR MISSION is to provide educational programs of the highest quality for all students in order to prepare them for their future.

Palouse School Funding & Levy
School funding was modified during the 2017 legislative session and alters the funding Palouse SD will receive. The new law limits the amount of dollars local voters can authorize for the General Fund, so that levy will drop significantly. Chart #1 below indicates the levy amounts that local voters approved 3 years ago and we are currently collecting. Chart #2 indicates the new levy amounts which the School Board approved on December 11th and will be requesting for the next 2 years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chart # 1 - Current Levy Amounts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GENERAL FUND</td>
<td>CAPITAL PROJECTS</td>
<td>TOTAL LOCAL LEVY AMOUNTS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$470,000</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
<td>$670,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$490,000</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
<td>$690,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$510,000</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
<td>$710,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chart # 2 - New Board Adopted Levy Amounts</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GENERAL FUND</td>
<td>CAPITAL PROJECTS</td>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>$270,000*</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td>$570,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>$270,000*</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td>$570,000</td>
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* As you can see, the new law seriously reduces the amount of our local General Fund levy authority that voters can approve. Fortunately, we will not lose this entire amount as the state has adjusted funding and will be providing additional dollars under the new formula; although not enough to bring Palouse back to our current 2017-2018 funding level until 2020. After it is all said and done, Palouse should receive about $120,000 less funding the first year and about $10,000 less the 2nd year as compared to our current 2017-2018 year funding level.

After subtracting our General Fund levy reduction, adding in the new state funding and adjusting for our 3-year average cost of inflation (utilizing current salary levels, enrollment etc.) Chart #3 indicates our projected budget shortfalls the next 2 years in the General Fund.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Chart # 3</th>
<th>2018-19</th>
<th>2019-20</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Revenue loss over 2017-18</td>
<td>($120,000)</td>
<td>($10,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yearly inflation increase</td>
<td>($125,000)</td>
<td>($125,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL Shortfall</td>
<td>($245,000)</td>
<td>($135,000)</td>
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WHY the increase in the Capital Levy?
Although the new school funding law restricts what local voters can approve for the General Fund (old M & O Levy) it still allows some flexibility with the Capital levy. So the Board is asking voters for approval of $300,000 for the Capital levy the next 2 years, up from the current $200,000 level.

By increasing the Capital Projects levy we hope to make up some of the loss we expect in the General Fund by coding some of our current cost to the Capital Levy Fund as allowed by law. These costs would mainly be technology and general repair/maintenance cost we have traditionally paid out of the General Fund. We would continue to utilize approximately $200,000 per year for facility improvements as we have the last 3 years. (restroom & locker room remodels, walls, lighting, heating upgrades, gym floor, gym ceiling insulation, carpet, rewire building for technology, electrical upgrades, outside upgrades, new greenhouse, weight room remodel etc.).

This direction (decreased General Levy & increased Capital levy) will essentially allow us a frozen budget the next 2 years. We are confident we can make this frozen budget work and absorb the yearly inflation cost without making major adjustments that negatively affect the academic opportunities we provide our students. Please note that even with the increased Capital Levy amount (Chart #2) we will still be asking voters for less total levy dollars than the last 3 years.
Please remember: no need to call ahead for early release when you will be coming to the office to pick up your student. When you arrive at the office we will call the student out of class. This allows for less disruption of class and reduces the amount of student wait time in the office.
On November 20th, the Comparative World Religions class took a field trip to Spokane, Washington, to visit the Spokane Buddhist Temple. Students met for 90 minutes with Sensei Paul Vielle, who provided the students with an hour lecture on Buddhist belief and philosophy, as well as some biographical information on Siddhartha Gautama, The Buddha. The last half hour was left for students to ask questions they had about the Buddhist traditions and beliefs. A short visit was also made to the Mormon Temple in the Spokane Valley. While students are not allowed in the temple itself, they walked the grounds around the temple. It is one of only 81 temples in the United States, and 151 worldwide. Washington State is home to three Mormon temples. Students attending the field trip were: Jackie Young, Lizzie Stout, and Lauren Welch and students were accompanied by instructor Scott Thompson.

On November 14, students from Garfield–Palouse High School attended a Literature to Life presentation of Ray Bradbury’s Fahrenheit 451. In order to prepare for the event, Mr. Jones was kind enough to find some funds for students to get a copy of Fahrenheit 451 and read it before attending the performance, which made the experience that much more enriching. Literature to Life is a unique drama company that creates one-person dramatic performances for many famous novels, and then sends their shows out across the nation. While many students had reservations about a one-person performance, they all were pleasantly surprised at how good it was. Adapted verbatim from the classic dystopian novel, this solo performance presents a frightening vision of a world awash in information but rejecting critical thought. In this future society, firemen don’t put out fires; they start them in order to burn books. Returning from work one night, fireman Guy Montag meets his new neighbor, a teenage girl whose free-thinking ideals and liberating spirit cause him to question his life and his own perceived happiness. Fahrenheit 451 offers a sobering look at our modern world, and hope for a better future. Students who attended the event were: Seth Thompson, Daniel Orfe, Kris Murphy, Emmy Gregg, Emily Bagott, Travis Knauff, Taylor Jones, Eddie O’Neill, Jackie Young, Lizzie Stout, Evan Weagraff, Isaac Bailey, Austin Jones, Brooke Bankus, Christian Burt and were accompanied by instructors Scott Thompson, Noel Akin, Matt Zook, and principal Mike Jones. A special thanks to our bus driver Jason Jahn who also attended the performance.

If your child has any kind of rash, is actively vomiting and/or has a fever of around 100 to 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher then they need to stay home for at least 24 hours after detecting symptoms.

Thanks,
Chenelle Patrick, RN, Palouse School Nurse
Do you know about the Accelerated Reading Program?

Accelerated Reading (AR) Program is a computer program that helps teachers and librarians manage and monitor children’s independent reading practice. A child picks a book at his own reading level and reads it at his own pace. When finished your child takes a short quiz on the computer. (Passing the quiz is a helpful indicator that your child understood what was read.) Teachers help determine your child’s reading level either with testing or their professional judgment based on their knowledge of your child. When children are reading books at an appropriate level, the books may be a bit challenging but not frustrating and they are able to understand and remember what they read.

Every book that has a reading practice quiz is given a point value. AR points are computed based on the difficulty of the book and the length of the book. Garfield and Palouse Schools have access to over 160,000 AR quizzes. If your child is reading a book from your home library it is very likely that book has an AR quiz. You can check to see if a book has a quiz using the AR Book Finder link. You can access this link on the Gar-Pal website by clicking on Library under the Services dropdown list, or via Library/Search Resources listed on the right hand side of the home page. On the Libraries Welcome webpage you can scroll down and the link to the AR Book Finder is on the left. Simply type in the title of the book and it will let you know if there is an AR quiz for that book.

Parents can access their student’s AR progress from home via the Gar-Pal website. On the homepage under Site Shortcuts, click on the AR Login for the School District your student attends, and enter your parent login information. Contact your student’s teacher if you need help accessing.

Have you changed your phone number or email address? Notify Debbie Anderson at danderson@garpal.net or 509-878-1921.

BINGO FOR BOOKS!

Save the Date!
Fun for the whole family!
Thursday, January 11th
Sponsored by the Library and Title 1 Program.
Watch for more information!

Learning Kindness

During the month of December, Preschoolers have been learning about how to spread kindness. We have learned what kindness looks like, how to show it, and how it makes us feel. Each week, we have done a random act of kindness. This includes, making and giving ornaments to the office staff for the Christmas tree, making cards to show gratitude for our lunchroom staff and making a special gift and card for our very own Mrs. Hewes who will be retiring this month. Preschoolers are hoping their random acts of kindness will put a smile on faces and show what this season is truly about, kindness and giving!

PALOUSE BOOK FAIR 2017 A SUCCESS!!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the community for coming and supporting our fair. Total sales for the fair were $2208.00. We receive 40% of the sales in books and merchandise for our school library, The Pride Program, books for the teacher’s classrooms, and the Title 1 Reading Program.

We would also like to thank our volunteers who came to help out: Alexa Beckett, Pru Beyer, Tracy Lee Sievers, and Tonya Knauff so that we can stay open later in the daytime and evening. We very much appreciate this help.
On December 8th, the high school spent the day enjoying a theater production at the University of Idaho’s Hartung Theater. The University of Idaho theater department was gracious enough to invite our entire student body to the performance.

A musical based on the short story by Dylan Thomas | Directed by Ricky J. Martinez | Musical Director Jesse Hampsch

Portraying a nostalgic and simpler time, “A Child’s Christmas in Wales” is one of Thomas’s most popular works. Celebrate the holidays with the University of Idaho’s debut of the big, beautiful musical, “A Child’s Christmas in Wales”, Dec. 1-10 at the Hartung Theater. Featuring more than 20 students from Theatre Arts and the Lionel Hampton School of Music, “A Child’s Christmas in Wales” is a warm and bittersweet remembrance of the simple things in life, capturing the magic of the holidays through the eyes of a child.

Our students are extremely lucky to live near two major universities that provide such enriching opportunities. It was a great day spent sharing theater arts with our students.

The Palouse Elementary ASB held a can drive to make a tree of cans for the local foodbank. They collected over a hundred cans to donate and had fun doing it and stacking the can for the tree. Liam Cook, ASB Secretary
**Counselor’s Corner**

**DOES YOUR CLUB/ORGANIZATION WANT TO OFFER A NEW SCHOLARSHIP TO GRADUATING SENIORS?**
If you’ve attended a graduation ceremony at Garfield-Palouse High School you know that our community provides a tremendous amount of support to our graduates in the form of scholarships to help students pay for college/post-secondary costs. Clubs and organizations that have been offering scholarships will be contacted in February to begin the process for this year. If you are interested in offering a NEW scholarship or know anyone who is interested in doing so, please contact Mrs. Mylett ASAP to discuss establishing a new scholarship to present at graduation.

**HIGH SCHOOL NEWS:**

**PSAT scores have been available online to students since December 11.** Students who took the PSAT in October should have received an email from the College Board with information regarding how to access their scores online. If you haven’t received this email, please contact Mrs. Mylett for your access code to retrieve your scores. Don’t merely look at your scores. There are a number of resources available to you through this website including free test preparation, question and answer explanations from the PSAT and additional skills and improvement suggestions specifically for you. Test booklets have been returned to students.

**College bound juniors should be looking at spring dates to take the SAT and/or ACT.** You must register yourself to take one or both of these exams. Students can access registration information at sat.org/register and actstudent.org. Registration information and practice booklets are available on Mrs. Mylett's office window. Students who were eligible for PSAT fee waivers are also eligible for SAT/ACT fee waivers. See Mrs. Mylett for fee waiver forms. Students with disabilities should also see Mrs. Mylett to apply for testing accommodations to take these exams. Additionally, students who are interested in applying to very competitive colleges should consider taking SATII subject tests.

**Attention Seniors!** If you haven’t completed your FAFSA yet, you should do so ASAP. Continue to look for and apply for scholarships throughout the year. Be mindful of admission application deadlines and be sure to complete applications early or on time! The Katrina Thompson scholarship application information has been emailed to students and parents and distributed to students at school during advisory. The deadline for this application is February 1. See Mrs. Mylett if you need help with anything!

**FFA News**

The Garfield-Palouse FFA soils team competed in the state soils competition held Wednesday, November 1st. Gar-Pal team took 7th place! Seth Thompson took 10th overall as an individual!

In November we had 3 students (Dawson Dugger, Tristan West, and Ty West) travel to Moses lake to compete in the FFA state tractor driving competition. This event includes a knowledge test, a team identification portion (pictured below), and backing a trailer through a course with speed and no driving errors. Our team of sophomores placed 8th in the state (40 teams competed) and Ty West was the 7th high individual.
VIKotics are prepping for the new season that starts in January! They
attended an off season event in Spokane and they did something new
and unheard of - they competed with 3 different robots! Most schools
and teams bring one robot, a few bring 2 to an off season exhibition,
but the VIKotics were ambitious and wanted to test a new drive train
so last minute they literally built a third robot to compete! Many good
lessons were learned for the three drive teams, and the “alpha team”
which was our previous competition robot, lost in the semifinals. We
are very excited for the new members and the group of mentors who
are committing to the season. Stay tuned to learn about the new game
“Power Up” that will be released on January 6th.

VIKotics robotic members had a great fundraiser of selling Christmas Trees donated by Bruce Nelson of Silver Creek Farms. In 2015 they sold 32 trees, 2016 sold 43 trees, this year 95 TREES! Thank you very much for your support! All proceeds go to subsidize the travel costs for the students who attend the robotic competitions.

Mr. Sawyer has plans with his robotics, mechanics, and CAD
classes to purchase a CNC router. Our school is a recent recipient of a Dr. Cornelius Hagan Foundation grant for $8000. This money will be used to purchase the CNC table, router, software and computer to run the equipment. The following is part of the submitted grant application:

I want to go beyond the manual skills of operating a vertical mill
and metal lathe by teaching students the industry standards of
using CNC or computer numerical control of machine automation.
With the purchase of a CNC router, our students in conjunction with
the Hagan Robotic lab from 2015
will be able to take raw materials and design parts digitally, then
produce them physically to create solutions. The state of Washington,
which holds major industries such as Amazon, Microsoft and Boeing,
is the second highest state for importing skilled laborers from other
states. I want to help fill that gap. Many students in my classes are
non-traditional and may not be bound for a 4-year university after
graduation. I want to best equip all students for a future that has
employability and sustainability. Through the purchase of a CNC
router, we will be able to help students “Do rather than See” with
hands on, critical thinking opportunities that are needed within
industry this very day.
Successful Fall Seasons
Come to a Close

On November 21st the fall sports awards dessert was held at the high school to celebrate the close of three successful seasons.

The Cross Country team held its first awards night in school history to celebrate the beginning of the new program, and to recognize the nine athletes who took part. Anais Mills qualified for the state tournament in just the first year which was quite an accomplishment.

Coaches Chris Cook and Corey Laughary were present to hand out awards and talk about their season.

Coach Brad Rader handed out awards to the volleyball team who finished with a record of 7-9. The Lady Vikings made a good showing at the district tournament held in Walla Walla, but lost out in the game that decided the #3 seed to state.

Coach Willy Woltering handed out football awards to 23 athletes, which is an encouraging number compared to last year. Coach Woltering and his staff again led the Vikings back to the state playoffs where they fell to Odessa 60-14 in the state quarterfinals.

Congratulations to all coaches and players for your efforts and accomplishments!

* Girls JV games are 2 quarters.

(Be sure to check the website Daily Bulletin often for game time changes.)