



Wahkiakum High School

Newsletter



Happy Summer!

Students will graduate from Wahkiakum High School with the tools and skills necessary to persevere in their pursuit of a successful life.

Thank you! - Thank you for giving us the opportunity to work with your student this year. Congratulations to the class of 2025! Graduation is a huge milestone for students and the start of a new and exciting opportunity. We wish our WHS Mules the best of luck as they begin this journey.

WA State School of Excellence & Accreditation - We are excited to announce that Wahkiakum High



School has been named by the WA State Board of Education and OSPI as one of the top 10% of schools in Washington for our high graduation rate and Excellent Achievement in English Language Arts. This award is a collaborative effort of our staff's dedication, students' hard work and the support of you, our families.

When students show up, try their best and advocate for their needs, they can do amazing things. We truly have so much to celebrate this year! Less students are failing classes, more students signed up for honors and advanced classes, more students are involved in extra curricular activities and our student's daily attendance has improved! In addition to receiving this award, we are also excited to announce that AESD, after a long application process, has granted us continued accreditation. We are an accredited institution, meaning we have met or exceeded all indicators of a successful school, and we strive to continually improve and grow to meet the needs of our students. Thank you for your continued support and for trusting us to educate your student!

Welcome Dr. Ralph Watkins! - After an extensive search, we are excited to welcome a new superintendent, Dr. Ralph Watkins, to Wahkiakum! He comes to us from Alaska and has experience with small rural schools. Dr. Watkins will start with the district on July 1st and looks forward to meeting all of you.

Credit Recovery - Students are required to pass 24 credits of coursework 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 7.5 credits a year if they pass all of their classes. If students do not pass a class, they need to make up the half-credit they failed. Please review the attached report card with your child and celebrate success! If he/she needs to make up credits, please email Tiffany Niemeyer at tniemeyer@wahksd.k12.wa.us to register for online summer school. More information about graduation requirements can be found on our website at <https://www.wahksd.k12.wa.us/>.



Fall Sports at WHS - Football practice begins with Midnight Madness on the evening of August 19th with practice at midnight on the 20th and all other sports (volleyball, cross country and cheer) will begin practice on Monday, August 25th. Students participating must have all paperwork completed (by athlete & guardian) on Final Forms and have a physical on file. The physical needs to be valid through the athletic season, so please be sure to check the expiration date! If you need help with Final Forms, please email Haannah Ohrberg hohrberg@wahksd.k12.wa.us.

Post-Secondary Options at WHS - At Wahkiakum High School, our goal is to provide students with the skills necessary to succeed in all post-secondary options. 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 remain a part of our high school culture. Taking advanced and honors courses at WHS is a student's choice. If students take full advantage of College in the High School during their 11th and 12th grade years, they could graduate with 25-40+ college credits! We also offer trade school credit through LCC for Ag Mechanics and Industrial Math, giving students a head start in LCC's welding program. In addition, we offer a variety of STEM classes through lab sciences, computer programming, engineering and Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes that prepare students for a variety of post-secondary options including the workforce, the trades, internships, apprenticeships, the military and college. Junior and senior year is for exploring career interests and trying new things!

School Supplies - Organization is key to success! These skills are learned and require practice. We will provide all students with a planner on the first day of school but all other supplies need to be purchased. ***Students should come to school on the first day with a three-ring binder, dividers, notebook paper, 2-3 composition books, a pencil pouch, pencils, pens, highlighters, note cards, colored pencils, glue sticks and scissors.*** If taking a PE class, students are required to have PE shoes, shorts/athletic pants and a t-shirt. Starting the school year prepared pays off! Please contact the office if you need help obtaining supplies. We also welcome donations to help others.

Enjoy the Summer - As a staff, we appreciate your continued support as we strive to provide your student with the best education possible. We are committed to creating a safe and caring environment that encourages all students to succeed. We value your input in this process - please reach out if you have suggestions! Remember to check our website, www.wahksd.k12.wa.us for updated and current information.

Go Mules!

Stephanie Leitz, Principal, WHS Office - 360.795.3271

Important Dates

August 20th - Football Begins (Final Forms Completed/Physical cannot expire during season)

August 21st - 9:00-12:00, New Student Orientation

August 21st - 12:30 - 2:00, Chromebook Distribution & Pictures for ALL Students

August 25th - Cross Country, Volleyball, Cheer Begin
(Final Forms Completed/Physical cannot expire during season)

August 26th - 1st Day of School

September 1st - Labor Day Holiday - No School