

August 2023

Dear Blue Devil Families,

We hope you are enjoying summer. We are eagerly waiting for your students to arrive on campus as we are now less than a month away for the start of the 2023-2024 school year. Classes begin on Tuesday, August 29th. We look forward to having you at Wa-Hi this fall and all our staff will be supporting you to have a successful school year.

Here are some updates for the 2023-24 school year:

- **Daily Schedules** - We've updated our schedule to offer our *Blue Devil Advisory* every Wednesday. Our *Blue Devil Advisory Period* allows students to meet with their advisory teacher to receive school-wide information, SEL instruction, goal-setting, and much more. This time is also used to help students work on School Links and their High School & Beyond Plan which is a graduation requirement.

Wa-Hi Regular Schedule Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri			Wa-Hi Early Release Schedule Wed		
Period	Start Time	End Time	Period	Start Time	End Time
0	7:51	8:44	0	7:50	8:28
1	8:50	9:44	1	8:50	9:27
2	9:50	10:43	2	9:33	10:10
3	10:49	11:42	Blue Devil Advisory	10:16	10:46
1st Lunch	11:48	12:18	3	10:52	11:29
4A	11:48	12:41	1st Lunch	11:36	12:06
4B	12:24	1:17	4A	11:36	12:13
2nd Lunch	12:47	1:17	4B	12:12	12:49
5	1:23	2:16	2nd Lunch	12:19	12:49
6	2:22	3:15	5	12:55	1:32
			6	1:38	2:15

- **Administrator Assignments:** This year we welcome a new Assistant Principal as Mr. Ahrens has moved into a new role in the district. Our building administrators are each assigned a grade-level that they will oversee. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact your student's grade level administrator. We are here to help.
  - **Grade 12** - John Schumacher
  - **Grade 11** - Claudia Salazar
  - **Grade 10** - Carina Stillman
  - **Grade 9** - Susan James
- **Counseling Assignments:** We are excited to welcome two new counselors to Wa-Hi this year. We've updated the alpha range for each counselor, so some students will have a new counselor this school year, and we are committed to making sure that every student receives the support and assistance they need this school year.
 

<u>Student Last Name</u>	<u>Counselor</u>	<u>Student Last Name</u>	<u>Counselor</u>
<b>A-C</b>	Marilyn Melgoza <a href="mailto:mmelgoza@wwps.org">mmelgoza@wwps.org</a>	<b>Me-R</b>	Jake Croft <a href="mailto:jcroft@wwps.org">jcroft@wwps.org</a>
<b>D-Ha</b>	Angie Gardea <a href="mailto:agardea@wwps.org">agardea@wwps.org</a>	<b>S-Z</b>	Shari Widmer <a href="mailto:swidmer@wwps.org">swidmer@wwps.org</a>
<b>He-Mc</b>	Becky Jo Gifford <a href="mailto:bgifford@wwps.org">bgifford@wwps.org</a>		

- **School Supplies:** Most school and classroom supplies will continue to be provided for all Walla Walla Public Schools students and families throughout the 2023-24 school year, including composition notebooks and course specific items. High school students are asked to bring a limited set of individual supplies with them to campus, including a 3-ring binder with loose paper, writing utensils (pencils/pens) and a backpack. If you need help with school supplies, please contact Magali Hernandez at [mhernandez@wwps.org](mailto:mhernandez@wwps.org).
- **School Pictures:** School pictures are scheduled for Friday, September 8. Picture packets will be given to students the first week of school and information about picture packages can be found online at [wahi.link/schoolpics](http://wahi.link/schoolpics).

*Here are some key dates for the start of the upcoming school year:*

- **Communication:** ParentSquare will be the main platform for which we send out communication to families and students. Please be sure that your account is active and up-to-date. Here is a link to the [ParentSquare](https://www.parentsquare.com) website.
- **Fall Sports:** Football practice begins on Wednesday, August 16. All other fall sports practices will begin on Monday, August 21.
- **Wednesday, August 23:** **Freshman Orientation** - 9:00am - 12:00pm. Get a head start on learning all about Wa-Hi! All incoming freshmen are highly encouraged to attend. More information will be going out to freshmen and their families.
- **Tuesday August 29:** First day of classes for all students.
- **August 10: Class schedules will be available to view on Skyward.**  
Students, if you have questions about your schedule after receiving or viewing it, you should complete the google [Schedule Change Request Form](#) at [wahi.link/schedule](http://wahi.link/schedule) A few of you may also have “holes” in your schedule if a particular class request was not able to be filled- please use the [Schedule Change Request Form](#) in these cases, too.
- **Monday, August 14: Student and Family demographics information can be updated online via Skyward:**  
Student back-to-school information will now be updated online through Family Access in Skyward at [wahi.link/skyward](http://wahi.link/skyward). No more paper updates of student demographic information will be required (though the Health Center Student Registration forms do still need to be printed, signed, and returned). If you need assistance accessing Skyward, please contact our main office at 527-3020 and we will help you get your Family Access account set up. Please make sure the following information is correct and updated:
  - Current Residence and mailing address
  - Current phone numbers (cell and work)
  - Current email address
  - Emergency contact information

*All of our Back-to-School documents & forms are online [wahi.link/backtoschool](http://wahi.link/backtoschool) and in the main office (hard copy).*

- **Fall Sports Registration is now open.** Students are encouraged to participate in one of our fall sports. Our fall athletic season practices begin in August this year- football on August 18 and the other sports (girls soccer, girls swim & dive, girls slow-pitch softball, boys and girls cross country, girls volleyball) practices start on August 22. Register online using FamilyID [wahi.link/familyid](http://wahi.link/familyid). Information regarding sports, schedules, and more can be found at [wahi.link/athletics](http://wahi.link/athletics).

- **Thursday, September 7:** Open House from 5:30 - 7:10p. This is a great opportunity for families to meet their student's teachers, and walk their schedule.

We look forward to another great school year at Wa-Hi! Go Blue Devils!

John Schumacher, Wa-Hi Principal

## Schedule Change Instructions

**Schedule changes** can be made prior to school starting or within the first 10 days of the semester for the 2023-2024 school year. **Class schedules are available to view on Skyward starting August 10.**

**1. August 10 - 31: Complete the [Schedule Change Request Form](https://bit.ly/wahischedulechange) bit.ly/wahischedulechange if you need a schedule change.**

- i. A hole in your schedule (missing a period)
- iii. Missing a core subject
- ii. Missing a graduation requirement/college entrance requirement
- iv. Enrolled in less than 6 classes

**2. August 29 - through September 13: in Counselor's Office: [Book an appointment with your counselor](#) or call Melanie Grey at 526-8607(or stop in before/after school or at lunch to set up an appointment to meet with a counselor on one of the following dates: August 29-September 13.**

Note: There will be NO schedule changes after September 13, unless recommended by a teacher or counselor.

Please remember, we **do NOT** make schedule changes for the following reasons:

- a. Student would prefer a different teacher
- b. Student would prefer a different lunch
- c. Student would prefer a class with a friend
- d. Students would prefer classes in a different order.

## Into the Blue

We are very excited to bring back Into the Blue, an overnight camp experience, for all 9th grade students. We're so excited to welcome you to Wa-Hi!

Freshmen will attend in three groups, with each group staying one night at Camp Wooten in the Blue Mountains of Columbia County September 12, 13, or 14. Each group will leave Wa-Hi at 9:30 am, arriving at camp around noon. Groups will return to Wa-Hi the following afternoon at around 2:30. Students are excused from assignments; attendance will not be impacted for those participating in this school-related activity. **Please be on the lookout for Registration Information in Parent Square. Registrations are due by August 18, 2023.**