



# MARY WALKER

## SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 207

### TEAM SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

Inland Empire Football Officials Association presented this impressive trophy and prestigious award to the Mary Walker High School football team for the 2012 season. Congratulations, players!



### FFA WINNER

Mikala Presho outshines almost everyone and takes 2nd Place, for Job Interview, at the 2013 FFA District V show/meet.

### INDUSTRY SUPPORT

A special "Thank You!" goes out to Northwest Steel Fab, Inc. Northwest Steel currently employs three Mary Walker High School graduates that went through the vocational classes taught by Mr. Howard and Mr. Gines.

### DID YOU KNOW ...

#### Our Music program is expanding?

Mary Walker School District will expand it's Music program to include Beginning and Intermediate Band during the 2013-2014 school year. Stay "tuned" for Advanced Band!



### OUR CHILDREN ...

... doing what we all wish we could do ... enjoying ourselves while learning!

### DID YOU KNOW ... Our PTO was recently re-established?

For more information, please contact Penny Petrina (509-258-4727).

# M & O LEVY CONTINUATION ~ FACTS & FIGURES

## Why does the district need a levy?

As state and federal support for school operations continues to shrink, and as costs for providing essential services and programs continue to rise, the importance of local support becomes even greater. Currently, state funding meets only 66% of our district's budget, federal funding meets 15% of the budget levy and levy equalization meets 12% of the budget, and local/other meets 7%. Without levy funding, our district would fall far short of the funding needed to maintain our current programs.

## Where does the levy money go?

Levy funds help pay for some of the fundamental tools of our strong educational program. These items include staffing, teaching supplies, textbooks, technology and extra-curricular programs. Levy funds also help cover the costs of increased utilities, fuel, food services and maintenance.

## What is the difference between a Bond and a Levy?

An M&O Levy is necessary to fill the gap between State funds and what it actually costs to provide a quality education program. School bonds are strictly used for modernizing facilities, building new schools, buying property for future District use and any other major facility or equipment upgrades related to facility improvement. A simple way to remember the difference is:

LEVIES = Funds for Learning      BONDS = Funds for Buildings

## Is there a tax break for senior citizens or disabled citizens?

Yes, senior citizens may qualify for tax exemptions from levies and bond taxes based on household income. Exemptions may also be granted for disabled individuals. For more information, contact the Stevens County Assessor's Office (509-684-6161).

## How can I get voter registration information?

Contact the Stevens County Assessors Office for more information. They can be reached via the internet ([www.co.stevens.wa.us/assessor](http://www.co.stevens.wa.us/assessor)), by e-mail ([elections@co.stevens.wa.us](mailto:elections@co.stevens.wa.us)), by phone (509-684-6161), or in person (Stevens County Courthouse, Municipal Building, 215 S. Oak Street, Colville). February 4, 2013, is the deadline for in-person registration at the Stevens County Courthouse for the February Special Election.

### DID YOU KNOW ... Donations can be material ?

We can and do encourage you to support our children, staff and community by considering a tax-deductible\* donation to Mary Walker School District.



\* Tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

## What happens if a levy doesn't pass?

Because the district cannot function at acceptable levels only on funding provided by the state and federal government, a second levy would have to be offered later in that year. In the meantime, we could run the risk of losing additional levy equalization money from the state. Even more importantly would be the need to discontinue some of our district's most successful programs and activities.

## Why is passing the levy important if I don't have kids in school?

A community's school benefits more than just the students who attend them and the parents who send them here. Strong schools create environments for young people to learn and grow, and to become valuable contributing members of their community throughout their lives. Investing in the future of children through support of our school creates lasting rewards for the entire community. Whether you have children in classes or not, you and the entire community benefit from a strong school system. An investment in the children of today molds the workers, citizens and leaders of tomorrow and is an investment that is important to everyone.

## What is Levy Equalization?

Levy equalization is a method used by our state to provide equity between school districts located in property rich areas and districts located in property low areas. The state's budget office interpretation is “Since some school districts have lower property values than other local school district levy rates vary. The lower the property values, the higher the levy rates tend to be. The state ‘equalizes’ local funds by providing matching state funds for school districts with higher than average levy rates.” If the levy passes, Mary Walker School District receives about \$417,814 in levy equalization, about 7% of the annual operating budget—if the levy doesn't pass, we receive \$0. Local taxpayers fund the remaining 4% (about \$225,000), for a total levy contribution of \$642,814 to the district's operating budget.

### DID YOU KNOW ... There's a voter ballot return deadline?

Ballots will be mailed to the Stevens County general public on January 23, 2013. All voter ballots must be postmarked / mailed by February 12, 2013.



## COMPARISON OF LEVY AMOUNTS AND RATES

Previous Levy Continuation for Maintenance & Operations		
Year	Estimated Rate/\$1000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2011	\$1.68	\$225,000
2012	\$1.68	\$225,000
2013	\$1.68	\$225,000

Proposed Levy Continuation for Maintenance & Operations		
Year	Estimated Rate/\$1000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2014	\$1.40	\$225,000
2015	\$1.40	\$225,000
2016	\$1.40	\$225,000
2017	\$1.40	\$225,000

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### January 2013

24\* ~ Student College & Career Counseling

### February 2013

4 ~ In-Person Voter Registration Deadline  
(Stevens County Courthouse, Colville)  
12 ~ Ballot Deadline (Stevens County Special Election)  
12 ~ PTO Meeting (3:30pm; K8 Library)  
15 ~ Snow Day Make-Up (Early Release)  
18 ~ President's Day (No School)  
18 ~ School Board Meeting (6:30pm; HS Library)

### March 2013

15 ~ In-Service / PREP Day (No School)  
27, 28, 29 ~ Conferences (Early Release)

\*With Jerry Dyar, every Thursday (4:00-8:00pm) in the High School Library.

## ALUMNI UPDATE ... Cameron Christensen

Air Force Reserve  
Airman, Cameron  
Christensen, recently  
graduated from basic  
military training  
at Lackland Air  
Force Base (San  
Antonio, TX).

A 2010  
graduate of Mary  
Walker High  
School, Cameron  
completed an 8-  
week program that  
included training in Air  
Force core values, physical  
fitness and basic warfare  
principles and skills.



## DID YOU KNOW ...

### The School Calendar has changed?



Classes WILL be held Friday, February 15th, as  
a Snow Day make-up; this will be a half-day.

MARY WALKER SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 207  
P.O. Box 159 ~ 500 N. 4th Street  
Springdale, WA 99173-0159

*Kevin Jacka, Superintendent*  
(509) 258-4534

*Matthew Cobb, Principal (6th to 12th)*  
(509) 258-4533

*Scott Schell, Principal (Pre-K to 5th)*  
& *Special Services Director*  
(509) 258-7357

*Jaime Palmer, Director*  
MWPPP & DEC-MWPPP  
(509) 258-7342

*John Axtell, Volunteer Director*  
*Springdale Academy*  
(509) 937-2224



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