

Equity and Dual Programs Department



Fall Newsletter 2022

A message from the Director of Equity and Dual

As we move into the fall, and as students are engaged in their classrooms, supported by dedicated staff, we recognize Hispanic Heritage Month. However, we know that celebrating the contributions, the stories and the individuals who are part of this community are not just significant during this month. Rather, our students, teachers, para educators, administrators, volunteers and families are deeply rooted in the richness of our Hispanic, Latinx, and Latino-identified communities, here in Walla Walla and around the world, every day, every month and every year. How fortunate we are to be able to honor our families with connections with Mexico, Central and South America, Spain AND the Caribbean here in Walla Walla through all seasons.

Thank you Walla Walla, for the richness you bring to our school communities.

-Dr. Julie Perrón

NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Hispanic Heritage Month is an official national celebration that honors the history and cultural influence of past generations who came from Spain, Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean.

When is Hispanic Heritage Month Celebrated?

Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated from September 15 to October 15.

What is the difference between Hispanic and Latino?

While many people use Latino and Hispanic interchangeably these two words mean different things.

Latino is used when referring to someone who comes from Latin America, or is a descendant from any Latin American country. A Hispanic person is someone who comes from, or is a descendant of a Spanish-speaking country. A person can be both Hispanic and Latino, but not all Latinos are Hispanic. For example, Brazilians are Latinos, but their native language is not Spanish.

Similarly, Spaniards are considered Hispanic, but not Latinos, since they are part of Europe.

For more information on Hispanic Heritage Month:
<https://nationaltoday.com/hispanic-heritage-month/>

Bilingual

Because I speak Spanish
I can listen to my grandmother's stories
And say **familia, madre, amor**
Because I speak English
I can learn from my teacher
And say **I love school.**
Because I am bilingual
I can read **libros** and **books**,
I have **amigos** and **friends**,
enjoy **canciones** and **songs**,
juegos and **games**
and have twice as much fun.
And someday,
Because I speak two languages.
I will be able to do twice as much
to help twice as many people
And be twice as good in what I do.

Todo es canción

~Alma Flor Ada~



Resources:

Take a tour of the Pyramids without leaving home, No passport required!
<https://www.youvisit.com/tour/panoramas/teotihuacan?id=36551>
<https://nationaltoday.com/hispanic-heritage-month/>
<https://www.census.gov/newsroom/stories/hispanic-heritage-month.html>
<https://americanhistory.si.edu/topics/latino-history/pages/hispanic-heritage-month-2022>
<https://www.twinkl.com/event/hispanic-heritage-month-usa-2022>



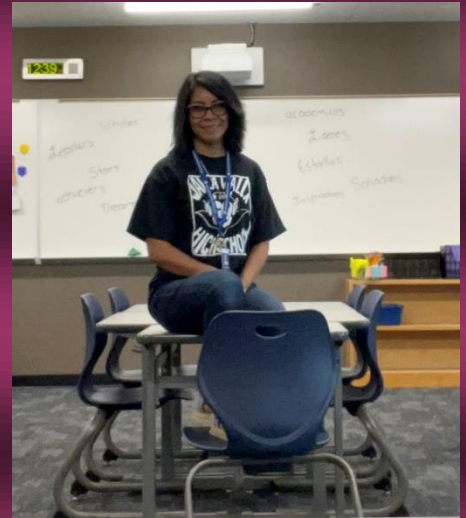
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>>STAFF SPOTLIGHT<<

I was born in Acapulco, Guerrero, Mexico. I came to the United States at the age of 7 and attended Milton-Freewater Elementary School. I went on to attend Sager Middle School and graduated from Walla Walla High School in 2002. I attended Walla Walla Community College and got my Associate's degree from Columbia Basin College. In May 2022 I completed my Bachelors degree in Education with an Endorsement in ELD/ELL at Heritage University. I have been working with the Walla Walla School District for the past 2 years as a Bilingual Para Educator. I recently accepted a position as an ELD Teacher at the Walla Walla High School. One of my goals is to be an advocate for all students and to work with families to help them achieve their students' overall academic goals. I believe teachers play a huge role in a student's lives. I know I wouldn't be the person I am today without the guidance and mentoring from those individuals. I want to be that someone that students can count on to help them achieve their goals. "Si yo pude tu también puedes" Don't stop dreaming!

-Leidy Martinez
Wahi ELD Teacher



Criminal Justice Program at SEATech

Building belonging is a process that requires a commitment to relationships, leaning in to listen and respecting each other's stories. Stepping in to SEATech teacher, Todd Smith's Criminal Justice classroom, one can easily feel the belonging that he creates with students. Todd comes from a rich and experienced background spanning more than two decades, and has served as an MP (with an impressive list of assignments) as well as holding several roles with the College Place Police Department. While he brings credibility and expertise into the Criminal Justice program, he also brings belonging.

Mr. Smith has multiple goals for his students. He shares, "I want for them have a customer service-oriented view of the profession and to understand that we deal with and are responsible for human beings. Not a business of commodities or assets, but real people from every different walk of life. People who have stories, good, bad, and neither, but still important stories. People who need our help in small and big ways every day. As a Career and Technical Education program, I want to assist students in being productive and essential members of a team when they leave here to start their careers. And lastly, I hope to impart good, sound, and responsible judgment in students, so they become active citizens in their communities."

Students in this program do indeed belong. According to 2nd year student, Victor Salazar, "I think having the opportunity being in this class really teaches you a lot of things".

Mr. Smith adds, "We celebrate our differences and rather than guessing or wondering who people different from us might be, we sit at the table, face to face and communicate who we are, and listen to others so that we can gain a deeper understanding of those different than us."

Mr. Smith and students, we look forward to your accomplishments this year and in future years as you develop those skills, attitudes and beliefs that make true belonging possible.

