

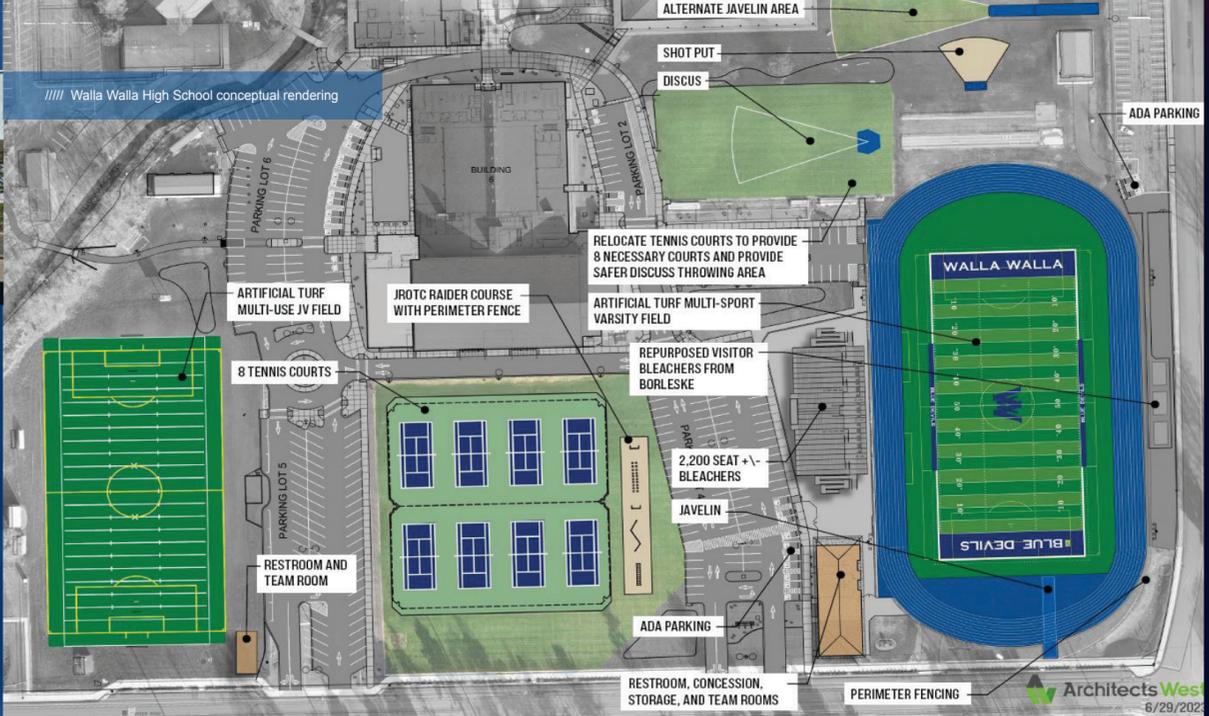


“TIME HAS COME TO TRANSITION AWAY FROM BORLESKE STADIUM”

While Borleske has served the district’s needs for nearly a century (1926), the committee found it is long overdue to transition away from the facility in order to address a much needed multi-sport/multi-use facility approach where football, soccer, track, marching band and other youth/community activities can access and participate year-round on an artificial turf field in order to maximize utilization and participation. The use of Borleske costs the district \$100,000 annually in fees and associated costs for just five varsity football games per year.

COMMITTEE FINDINGS:

- As baseball site improvements continue to be made, it becomes more problematic and prohibitive to convert the baseball stadium into a temporary football field.
- The locker rooms were condemned nearly 50 years ago so football teams are forced to change in buses, batting cages and a small offsite community meeting room.
- The field is not accessible for practice/other activities because it would damage the grass for baseball.
- The spectator experience has become compromised as required baseball safety enhancements are made.
- Spectator restrooms, concessions and ADA access is limited.



TWO OPTIONS OF IMPROVEMENT PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION:

OPTION 1 Comparable Plan

- Construct a multi-sport facility for football, soccer, track, PE and community use
- Install artificial turf and restroom/team room at the existing soccer field site to maximize field utilization and participation (JV field)
- Replace the failing 60-year-old original tennis courts at Wa-Hi
- Repair the 43-year-old Garrison MS tennis courts and resurface the 20-year-old track
- Install an all-weather track at Pioneer MS for athlete, school and community access
- Install low spill/low glare lighting on the varsity baseball and softball fields
- Construct a JROTC “Raider Obstacle Course” for student, first responder and community use

TOTAL COST	\$15,258,172
Local/State Grants and Value from the District’s 1/3 share of Borleske	\$950,000
6 yr Levy @ \$0.38	\$14,275,947
TOTAL REVENUE	\$15,225,947

OPTION 2 Comprehensive Plan

- Comprehensive Plan addresses all of the core components in the Comparable Plan, in addition to providing:*
- Adds 800 additional seating capacity to the multi-sport facility (from 2,200 to 3,000 seats on home side), a larger announcers/press box (12X50) vs (8x24) with elevator access and includes a permanent structure under bleachers for equipment storage, a sports med/trainer room & gear room
 - Installs low spill/low glare field lights on the JV multi-sport field
 - Replaces the 55-year-old west tennis courts at Garrison MS (Cobain Courts)

TOTAL COST	\$19,425,968
Local/State Grants and Value from the District’s 1/3 share of Borleske	\$950,000
6 yr Levy @ \$0.49	\$18,448,000
TOTAL REVENUE	\$19,398,000



“We kept every promise made when we asked voters to support the 2018 school bond measure. We assured taxpayers that our bond rate would not exceed \$1.23, prioritized improvements on classroom and other indoor spaces like sciences, arts, music, theater and career/technical education, and returned all unspent dollars back to taxpayers. We delivered on all accounts. Our bond rate has now fallen from \$1.23 to 91 cents and is projected to continue to fall. The committee recommends a short-term capital levy for improvements to our outdoor facilities not addressed by the bond.”

**LAWSON KNIGHT,
COMMITTEE MEMBER**

Regional Tax Rate Comparisons

Taxpayers are still projected to maintain one of the region’s lowest combined bond/capital levy rates

Projected 2025 Local Bond and Capital Levy Tax Rates



WHY DOESN'T THE DISTRICT USE THE FUNDS IT ALREADY HAS FOR THESE IMPROVEMENTS?

The committee learned the state’s funding formula doesn’t include funding for capital improvements like new schools and athletic facility construction. That’s why bonds and capital levies are necessary. Over the last 20 years, 11 bonds/levies have been approved by league schools addressing outdoor athletic upgrades. There have been none during that time in Walla Walla. Both committee recommendations would still result in one of the region’s lowest bond/levy tax rates.

Walla Walla Public Schools
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Walla Walla, WA 99362

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Further Information:
www.wwps.org/oaafc

Versión en español disponible
en el sitio web del distrito
www.wwps.org

Walla Walla Public Schools



Outdoor Athletic & Activity Facilities Committee Membership

- Don Davis (Chair)
Andy Coleman (Vice-Chair)
- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Doug Hayes | Mark Thompson |
| Scott Shields | Mike Monahan |
| Julio Tapia | Phil Shiveill |
| Stephanie Bowen | Scott Krivoshein |
| Lawson Knight | Stacy Bergevin |
| Dewight Hall | Tim Wooster |
| Denise Isenhower | Jaime Tiscareno |
| Kelly Belcher | Colby Burke |
| Robert King | |
- Dean Lodmell, Volunteer Consultant

DISTRICT SEEKS COMMUNITY INPUT ON OUTDOOR ATHLETIC & ACTIVITY FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS

This summer representatives from the 20-member independent Outdoor Athletic and Activity Facilities Committee wrapped up months of research and planning by recommending to the school board two options for addressing the district’s outdoor athletic and activity facilities needs. Both options meet the district’s charge of bringing Walla Walla Public Schools middle and high school outdoor athletic and activity facilities up to comparable league standards. Now the district is conducting stakeholder outreach, engagement and surveying to determine which recommendation, the Comparable Plan or Comprehensive Plan, best meets the community’s priorities for improvements. Visit the district website to take the brief survey at: www.wwps.org

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Construct an adequate multi-purpose facility that complements the current Klicker Track that can accommodate soccer, football, marching band, cheer/dance, lacrosse, PE, youth sports and year-round field utilization
- Consistent with all other schools in the league, install artificial turf playing surfaces to maximize field utilization, participation and post season play at Wa-Hi
- Replace the failing 60-year-old original tennis courts at Wa-Hi
- Repair the 43-year-old Garrison MS tennis courts (Chubb Courts) and resurface the 20-year-old track
- Install an all-weather track at Pioneer MS for athlete, school and community access
- Consistent with all league schools, install outdoor lighting (low spill/low glare) for early evening play in order to minimize instructional loss and maximize family participation for baseball and softball players
- Provide adequate access to restrooms and locker rooms for high school athletes
- Construct a JROTC “Raider Obstacle Course” for student, first responder and community use
- Ensure facility improvements support hosting of playoff competition and events for regional schools and community organizations for local economic impact and reduced travel



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

The Committee developed two recommendations for consideration. The district is engaging with stakeholders to determine the community's priorities.

The Committee encouraged the school district to perform outreach and engagement in order to gain feedback on the two improvement approaches they identified, the Comparable and Comprehensive Plans. Based on stakeholder input, they recommend the district consider funding one of the two plans through a lower-cost, short-term capital levy. In order to reduce costs they also instructed the district to seek state/local grants in addition to applying the revenue from the district's partial asset in Borleske.

The committee recommended the district consider placing a capital levy on the February 2024 ballot to complement the district's replacement "learning levy" that continues to fund programs and educational enhancements not paid for by the state. We look forward to engaging with our entire community about these recommendations and look forward to your input.

Dr. Wade Smith, Superintendent
(509) 526-6715 / wsmith@wwps.org
Twitter: @WallaWallaSup

Proposed Schedule for Either Improvement Plan				
Improvements	Summer 2024	24-25 School Yr	25-26 School Yr	26-27 School Yr
General	Finalize Funding, Prep & Bids			
Pioneer Middle School		All-Weather Track & Minor Baseball/Softball Improvements		
Garrison Middle School		Repair Tennis Courts & Resurface Track		
Wa-Hi Tennis		Construct Tennis Courts		
Wa-Hi Track		Construct Throwing Events Area		
Wa-Hi Multi-Use JV Field		Construct Bathrooms, Team Room & Install ArtificialTurf		
Wa-Hi Softball/Baseball Lights		Grant Application (June 25 Award)	Install Lights	
Multi-Sport Facility	Finalize Contracts, Orders & Permitting	Construct Facility	Occupy Facility	
Wa-Hi JROTC Raider Course		Construct JROTC Raider Course		



Photo: Army Times

RAIDER COURSE WOULD OPEN DOORS TO IMPROVED TRAINING AND COMPETITIONS

The committee recommends constructing a Raider Obstacle Course on the Wa-Hi campus for JROTC, other school programs and the community. The course would feature climbing walls, ropes and other fitness challenges. It also provides Wa-Hi JROTC cadets the opportunity to train as a team and compete in Raider Challenge competitions.

"The ultimate goal for our JROTC Program is to prepare and compete in the Western Region and the National Raider Challenge for Army and All Services competitions held annually at Ft. Campbell Kentucky," said Senior Army Instructor CSM (Ret) Anthony Marrero.

"A Raider Obstacle Course will promote leadership development, instill confidence and enhance teamwork."

-ANTHONY MARRERO, SENIOR ARMY INSTRUCTOR CSM (RET)

WALLA WALLA & MID-COLUMBIA CONFERENCE OUTDOOR FACILITIES COMPARISON

The district's Outdoor Athletic and Activity Facilities Committee completed a comprehensive analysis of facility comparisons, including research of all district schools in the Mid-Columbia Conference. The study finds most of Walla Walla Public Schools' components are in need of substantial renovations and improvements.

We are the only middle school still running on a crushed gravel track.
BRIAN RICHARD, PIONEER MS ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

While we were able to install a beautiful track 10 years ago, it lacks all of the amenities every school in our league offers such as adequate seating, access to restrooms and lights.
ERIC HISAW, WA-HI BOYS & GIRLS TRACK COACH

The condition of our 60-year-old facility with only five courts places us at an extreme disadvantage compared to our competition.
BRYAN EGGART, WA-HI BOYS TENNIS COACH

Our softball/baseball players miss a combined 100 days of school every year because we don't have lighted fields.
ARCH MCHIE, WA-HI GIRLS SOFTBALL COACH

Wa-Hi is the only school in the league that does not have access to at least one artificial turf field.

OUTDOOR ATHLETIC & ACTIVITY FACILITIES COMMITTEE FINDING

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHY WEREN'T ATHLETIC IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDED IN THE APPROVED 2018 SCHOOL BOND?

When surveyed, a majority of community members asked the district not to include outdoor athletic improvements in the proposed measure. They requested the district prioritize the 2018 replacement bond on classrooms, science labs, music, fine arts, CTE and other building/site needs. The school district honored this feedback and this expectation was carefully monitored by the Community Bond Oversight Committee. As a result, over \$300,000 in unspent bond funds were returned to taxpayers as promised, helping achieve a tax rate far less than what voters had originally approved.

WILL THE PROPOSED MULTI-SPORT FACILITY INCREASE TRAFFIC?

The committee learned that traffic impacts will be minimal for the five football games, which draw similar attendance as basketball games that already occur at Wa-Hi. Other than varsity football, all of the events currently proposed at the multi-sport facility already take place on the site. For example, boys and girls varsity soccer games and track events.

IS THERE ENOUGH PARKING AT WA-HI FOR A MULTI-SPORT FACILITY?

The district added 100 additional parking stalls with the new construction, totaling 733 spots. This represents over two times the number of stalls required for the high school campus (362), and well in excess of the 312 stalls required for the proposed facility.

WHO WILL USE THE MULTI-SPORT FACILITY?

In addition to the five home football games, the multi-sport facility will be used for track meets, soccer matches and serve as a practice facility for each of the events due to the durability of artificial turf. Marching band will also use it for practice in addition to school PE and community use. Local/regional schools may be able to host post-season games in Walla Walla rather than being forced to travel long distances.

Multi-Purpose Facility

SCHOOL	STADIUM LOCATIONS	BOND/LEVY FUNDED	LIGHTS	ARTIFICIAL TURF	BLEACHER CAPACITY	RESTROOMS	LOCKER ROOMS	CONCESSIONS
Hanford	High School + Fran Rish	✓	✓	✓	2,200	✓	✓	✓
Richland	Fran Rish	✓	✓	✓	9,000	✓	✓	✓
Kamiakin	High School + Lampson	✓	✓	✓	2,500	✓	✓	✓
Kennewick	High School + Lampson	✓	✓	✓	7,000	✓	✓	✓
Southridge	High School + Lampson	✓	✓	✓	7,000	✓	✓	✓
Pasco	Edgar Brown	✓	✓	✓	5,300	✓	✓	✓
Chiawana	High School + Edgar Brown	✓	✓	✓	5,300	✓	✓	✓
Hermiston	High School	Grant/Prvt Funds	✓	✓	2,500	✓	✓	✓
Walla Walla	Borleske (off-campus rental)	\$100K/yr op fee	✓	⊘	2,000	✓	⊘	✓

Track Facilities

SCHOOL	BOND/LEVY FUNDED	LIGHTS	SPECTATOR SEATING	RESTROOMS	ANNOUNCING/TIMING BOOTH
Hanford	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Richland	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kamiakin	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kennewick	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Southridge	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pasco	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Chiawana	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hermiston	Grant/Private Funds	✓	✓	✓	✓
Walla Walla	Private Funds + District Basic Ed Funds	⊘	⊘	⊘	⊘

Tennis Facilities

SCHOOL	NUMBER OF COURTS	BOND/LEVY FUNDED	LIGHTS	BLEACHERS
Hanford	8	✓	✓	✓
Richland	8	✓		✓
Kamiakin	8	✓		✓
Kennewick	8	✓		
Southridge	8	✓	✓	✓
Pasco	8	✓	✓	✓
Chiawana	8	✓	✓	✓
Hermiston	4	✓	✓	✓
Walla Walla	5	⊘	⊘	⊘

Soccer Facilities

SCHOOL	ARTIFICIAL TURF COMPETITION FIELDS	BOND/LEVY FUNDED	LIGHTS
Hanford	✓	✓	✓
Richland	✓	✓	✓
Kamiakin	✓ (2 Turf Fields)	✓	✓
Kennewick	✓ (2 Turf Fields)	✓	✓
Southridge	✓	✓	✓
Pasco	✓	✓	✓
Chiawana	✓ (2 Turf Fields)	✓	✓
Hermiston	✓	✓	✓
Walla Walla	⊘	⊘	⊘

Baseball/Softball Facilities

SCHOOL	BASEBALL LIGHTS	SOFTBALL LIGHTS
Hanford	✓	✓
Richland	✓	✓
Kamiakin	✓	✓
Kennewick	✓	✓
Southridge	✓	✓
Pasco	✓	✓
Chiawana	✓	✓
Hermiston	✓	✓
Walla Walla	⊘	⊘

WE NEED YOUR INPUT!

Please take time to review these options and share your feedback via a survey posted on the district webpage.

www.wwps.org



Tours & Information

SITE TOURS

Contact the WWPS District Office for a guided tour - 509.527.3000

FURTHER INFORMATION

For more details and information please visit the district website - www.wwps.org