



COACH BAKAMUS A LEGENDARY CAREER

Bill Bakamus, a revered figure in Washington's high school sports, is retiring after 41 years of teaching and coaching, 32 of which he called Mark Morris High School home. His illustrious career places him fourth among the state's all-time winningest coaches, a testament to his exceptional skill and dedication.

Bakamus's impact extends beyond the court; he has been a pivotal mentor, shaping students into successful individuals and athletes, with many advancing to college basketball or becoming head coaches themselves. Under his leadership the Mark Morris basketball program became synonymous with tradition and excellence, highlighted by unique game day ceremonies and the creation of the state's largest summer basketball tournament, War of the Border.

His commitment to excellence wasn't limited to athletics. Bakamus instilled the importance of academic success in his teams, leading them to win 26 league championships, 13 state trophies, and four 2A Academic State Championship Awards for the highest GPA in their classification in 2004, 2014, 2017, and 2019.

As Coach Bakamus steps into retirement, his legacy remains unmatched. He has not only contributed to the sport, but has also inspired a culture of excellence and dedication. The Longview community and beyond extend their heartfelt thanks for his 41 remarkable years of service and wish him well in retirement. His career is a beacon of what it means to be truly legendary in education and coaching.



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THANK YOU VOTERS

A sincere thank you goes out to Longview voters for supporting the Educational Programs & Operations Levy in February. The levy passed with a resounding 63.6% approval rating, which was among the highest in the state. The passage of the levy ensures educational programs and extracurricular activities that are critical to positive youth development will continue. Your continued support of Longview Public Schools and the families it serves is greatly appreciated!



CLASS OF 2024

The Class of 2024 is set to graduate on Saturday, June 8th, at Longview Memorial Stadium. RA Long's commencement will begin at 10:00 a.m. and Mark Morris's at 1:00 p.m. Discovery High School and Longview Virutal Academy will hold their ceremonies on Thursday, June 6th, at the Father's House Church at 6:00 p.m. For more information about graduation events, scan this QR code.



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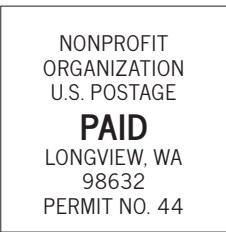
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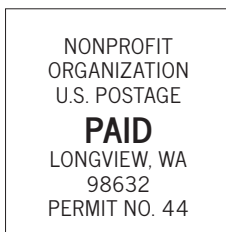




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DR. DAN ZORN
CELEBRATING LEADERSHIP

After nine years at the helm of Longview Public Schools, Superintendent Dan Zorn will be retiring at the end of June. He is leaving behind a legacy of having provided programs and opportunities for all students that improve literacy, bolster student engagement, and develop graduates who are career and college-ready.

Through Dan Zorn's career at Longview Public Schools, new programs were created and others expanded. Kinder Bridge, Longview Virtual Academy, and the Pre-Apprenticeship Program were created; and AP classes, College in the High School, and Career & Technical Education courses greatly expanded. Pay-to-play fees were eliminated to remove barriers to participation in programs and sports, and middle school sports programs expanded to allow any student who wished to play the opportunity to do so.

By championing literacy with passion, dedication, and innovative thinking, Dan Zorn has enriched our educational system and affirmed the role of educators in shaping the leaders of tomorrow. It is a testament to his belief that literacy is, indeed, the most important thing educators do.

To honor Dr. Dan Zorn for his contributions to our school and community, Longview Public Schools will be hosting a public farewell event on June 17th, from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. at the RA Long High School Cafeteria, 2903 Nichols Blvd. The public is invited to attend.



R.A. LONG GIRLS' BOWLING
CLINCHES STATE TITLE

The RA Long High School Girls' Bowling Team triumphantly clinched the state championship trophy this past February, marking a historic moment for the team and their devoted coaches, Shane Ber-ridge and Josh Donaldson. The state team Lily Mattison, Ava Rodman, Jade Walters, Destiny Ramirez, Hailey Wright and Bailey Smith's combined scores at the end of the 1A/2A State Tournament won them the top spot. Additionally, senior Lily Mattison secured the Class 2A individual state champion-ship, adding to the team's remarkable achievements. This victory holds special significance for the team, as they narrowly missed the state championship in previous years, finishing 3rd in 2023, and 5th in 2022. Fueled by their past experiences and desire to win, the team's determination was evident throughout the season as they edged toward their goal. Girls' Bowling has grown in popularity in Longview and is offered in middle and high school.

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