



Selah School District's

# Education Report

An education update for the Selah community

316 West Naches Avenue, 98942; 509-698-8000

Fall 2024

## Selah Learners Have Been Hard at Work!



Selah students have been working this fall as the District continues to cultivate a culture of lifelong learning for all! Participating in equitable and quality learning experiences, our students are acquiring the skills needed for future college and career opportunities.

### Taking A Sneak Peek at the News Inside

#### A Message from the Superintendent Page 2

It's hard to believe we are over a third of a way through another school year.

As 2024 draws to a close, Superintendent, Kevin McKay, shares his thoughts from the fall. **See His Message on Page 2.**

#### Dual Credit and College-in-the-High School Page 4

Selah High School is always looking to grow educational opportunities to benefit students. See more about the school's efforts to provide dual credit and college-in-the-high school offerings.

**See Page 4.**

#### Good News to Share! Page 5

There is always good news to share about staff and students in the Selah School District. This fall there have been many staff and program accomplishments. Learn more about these highlights.

**Read Page 5.**

*Cultivating a Culture of Life-Long Learning for All!*

# A Message from the Superintendent...



by: Superintendent, Kevin McKay

**H**appy holidays to our Selah School District families and community! It is hard to believe that 2024 is coming to an end and the second phase of the academic year has already begun. The day-to-day excitement of visiting schools, seeing the enthusiasm of teaching and learning, and following our student activities, make the year go by quickly.

It has been busy in our schools this fall. From being engaged in quality learning opportunities, to participating in athletics and other school activities, our students are growing and exploring their interests. The learning experiences of everyday impact their true world as they are engaged, think critically, gain confidence, develop communication abilities, strengthen their decision-making skills, and cultivate outside-the-box ideas.

We continue to emphasize the importance of our students being *Future Ready*, meaning they have the skills necessary to pursue their career pathway, whatever that may be. This is valuable to learning and our Career and Technical Education courses at the middle and high schools continue to expand and provide students with both the academic knowledge and technical skills specific to choosing a career path. This essentially prepares students for post-secondary education opportunities and future employment by offering hands-on learning, industry connections, and real-world applications to equip them with the necessary skills to succeed and build toward their future. Also, at our younger grades, students are introduced to different pathways such as technology, coding and keyboarding, where 21st Century skills begin to develop and serve as building blocks for their learning.

As we conclude these last couple of weeks of 2024, I could not be prouder of the work of our staff, the accomplishments of our students, and the support by our parents and the entire Selah community. We are fortunate to be Vikings, together!

Happy and safe holidays, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. It will be a great 2025!

## A Conversation with Kevin!

Mark your calendar for **Tuesday, January 28**, as Selah Superintendent, Kevin McKay, hosts a community roundtable to bring parent and patron voices together to discuss Selah School District issues and happenings. The roundtable event will be held at **6:00 p.m. at the Selah Middle School VPAC**. Be part of the discussion and submit a Selah topic to [kevinmckay@selahschools.org](mailto:kevinmckay@selahschools.org) before January 28, and be ready to have a conversation with Kevin.

Selah School District		Distrito escolar de Selah	
<b>A CONVERSATION WITH KEVIN!</b>		<b>UNA CONVERSACIÓN ¡CON KEVIN!</b>	
Join Superintendent Kevin McKay for a <b>Community Roundtable Event</b>		Únase al superintendente Kevin McKay para un <b>Evento de mesa redonda comunitaria</b>	
Join Superintendent McKay at a roundtable event, where parent and patron voices come together to discuss Selah School District issues and happenings.	<b>WHEN</b> Tuesday, January 28	Únase al Superintendente McKay en un evento de mesa redonda, donde las voces de padres y usuarios se unen para discutir los problemas y acontecimientos del Distrito Escolar Selah.	<b>CUANDO</b> Martes 28 de enero
.....	<b>TIME</b> 6:00 p.m.	.....	<b>HORARIO</b> 6:00 p.m.
<b>BE PART OF THE DISCUSSION!</b> Submit a topic of discussion to <a href="mailto:kevinmckay@selahschools.org">kevinmckay@selahschools.org</a> before January 28th and be ready to have a conversation with Kevin.	<b>WHERE</b> @ Selah Middle School VPAC	<b>¡SE PARTE DE LA DISCUSIÓN!</b> Envíe un tema de discusión a <a href="mailto:kevinmckay@selahschools.org">kevinmckay@selahschools.org</a> antes del 28 de enero y prepárese para tener una conversación con Kevin.	<b>DÓNDE</b> @ VPAC de la escuela secundaria Selah



# Selah School Board News and Notes...

## A Look at Selah School District Board Briefings...

### • School Board Welcomes Two Student Reps!



Charlee Miller



Clare Richards

Two Selah High School students are ready to serve as they were selected this fall as the new student representatives on the District's Board of Directors.

Juniors, **Charlee Miller** and **Clare Richards**, have been selected as the new student panel members and will serve a two-year term. They join senior representatives, Addison Flowers and Lauren Rice. Student representatives began serving on the school board in 2010. The role of the representatives is to provide student insight and perspective to the Board and administration.

### • Election of Board Officers

At its December 12 meeting, the Board of Directors elected new officers to serve for the upcoming year.

Retaining his position as Board President is **Dan Peters**, who was re-elected to his second term in the leadership position. Also re-elected to serve as the Board's Vice-President is **Jamie Morford**. In addition, **Derek Iverson** will serve as the District's Legislative Representative.

### • A Board Meeting Reminder

Selah School District Board Meetings are generally held the **second and fourth Thursday** of the month. The first meeting of the month begins at 7:00 a.m. The second monthly meeting starts at 4:30 p.m. Access the QR Code above to see the complete Board meeting schedule.



### • Looking Ahead...January is School Board Appreciation Month!

Although we always appreciate their service, School Board Recognition Month is a time to say "Thank You" to Selah's board members and celebrate the crucial role they play in ensuring the vitality of our school system.

Selah's five-person governing team is part of Washington's 1,477 school board members, plus those who serve the nine educational service districts.

School board members collaborate to develop policies and make decisions on educational and social issues. Also, members are accountable to patrons in their districts, serving as a link between the community and schools. Additionally, the Board sets priorities



Dan Peters



Jamie Morford



Sarah Michael



Joe Catron



Derek Iverson

for the District, establishes standards for what students should learn, adopts policies and budgets, and works with administrators, teachers, parents, students and the community to foster a safe and productive learning environment.

In Selah, the Board consists of: **Dan Peters**, President; **Jamie Morford**, Vice President; **Derek Iverson**, Legislative Representative; and members, **Sarah Michael** and **Joe Catron**. Also, we acknowledge the four student representatives to the Board: Seniors, Addison Flowers and Lauren Rice, and juniors, Charlee Miller and Clare Richards.

This January and always, thank you, Selah School Board for your work!

To learn more about the school board, including a review of board policies, please access the Selah School District website at <https://www.selahschools.org/about-us/board-of-directors>.



As a new year approaches, the Selah School District hopes its families had a happy holiday season and are looking forward to 2025! Thank you for your support of our schools and for trusting in our commitment of young people!

## STAY CONNECTED!

With Selah Schools!



[www.selahschools.org](https://www.selahschools.org)

Facebook @ selahschoolsdistrict119  
Instagram @ 119ssd  
Connect With ParentSquare

# Selah School District News and Notes...

## A Look at Our Offerings

We have a lot to offer students and families in the Selah School District. From quality and diverse learning experiences to a variety of programs and activities, we are always looking for ways to grow educational opportunities to benefit students. Selah High School has some great news to share about its dual credit and college-in-the-high-school offerings. See the images below to learn more on how these opportunities benefit learners.



### SELAH HIGH SCHOOL

College in the High School

#### 882 ENROLLMENTS IN DUAL CREDIT HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

As part of our Future Ready goals, we've developed partnerships with several universities. We believe that, along with a clear pathway, our offerings of rigorous college level courses help better prepare students for their future. In the 23-24 school year, we had 882 enrollments into our College in the High School and Dual Credit courses.

#### 214 FREE CREDITS AVAILABLE STARTING IN 9TH GRADE

While attending Selah High School, we currently offer over 214 College Level credits. These opportunities help reduce the burden of university cost on families while offering students the opportunity to learn at the rigorous university level.

#### 2600+ CREDITS EARNED

Our average College in the High School Course has 4 credits. During the 23-24 school year, students earned over 2,600 credits while attending Selah High School in person.

#### COLLEGE PARTNERSHIPS

Every year Selah High School looks for ways we can grow our offerings that support furthering our student opportunities beyond the walls of our building. We offer 110 credits from Central Washington University, 56 from Yakima Valley College, 43 from Eastern Washington University, and 5 from the University of Washington while on remaining on the campus at Selah High School.



110



56



43



5



**GUARANTEED ADMISSIONS PROGRAM**

Students who earn a cumulative 3.0 GPA and complete ALL of the graduation requirements at Selah High School will get GUARANTEED ADMISSION to the following schools:

- Central Washington University,
- Eastern Washington University,
- The Evergreen State College,
- University of Washington Tacoma,
- Washington State University,
- Pacific Lutheran University, and
- Western Washington University.



### SELAH HIGH SCHOOL

College in the High School

#### CWU 110 CREDITS AVAILABLE

**MATH**  
Pre-Calculus (Math 153, 154)  
Calculus (Math 172, 173)  
Financial Algebra (Finance 174)

**CTE**  
Drafting (ETSC 160, 265)  
Robotics (ETSC 277)  
Manufacturing/Woodworking II (ETSC 145)  
Intro to Digital Media (IT 111)  
Child Development (CDPS 232)  
Careers in Education (EFC 250)

#### SCIENCE

Physics (Physics 111, 112)  
Gray's Anatomy (Biology 201)

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE**  
Spanish (151, 152, 153)  
ASL (151, 152, 153)

**ENGLISH**  
CWU English 101 (ENG 101)  
CWU English 105 (ENG 105)

#### YAKIMA VALLEY COLLEGE 56 CREDITS AVAILABLE

**CTE**  
Agriculture, Foods, and Natural Resources (AG 101)  
Gray's Anatomy (AH 110, AH 120)  
Sports Medicine I (AH 155)  
Sports Medicine II (AH 119)  
Drafting (ENGR 110, 112)  
Childcare Basics (ECED 6100)  
Intro to ECE (ECED & 105)  
Child Health, Safety, and Nutrition (ECED & 107)  
Teaching/Preschool Practicum (ECED & 120)  
Careers in Education (ECED & 111 and EDUC 101)  
Child Development (EDUC & 115)  
Marketing: Shark Tank (BA 156)

#### EASTERN 43 CREDITS AVAILABLE

**HISTORY**  
EWU 105 (HIST 105)  
EWU 106 (HIST 106)  
US History B (HIST 112)  
Political Science (POLI 100)  
Global Issues (INST 200)

**ENGLISH**  
Philosophy (PHIL 211)

**CTE**  
Public Speaking (CMST 201)  
Events Management (CMST 203)

#### UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON 5 CREDITS AVAILABLE

**HISTORY**  
Psychology (PSYCH 101)

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CHOOSE ONE OF THE QR CODES**





CREDITS AND TRANSFER GUIDE      EARNING AN AA DEGREE AT SHS



**Schools on the Rise Award**

POWER OF WE, PASSION AND PURPOSE, BE THE BEST YOU #ROLLVIKS




### SELAH HIGH SCHOOL

College in the High School

# 2,431

CREDITS EARNED

Selah High School students Earned 2,431 credits from Central Washington University last year. That is 9th among all 200+ high schools in the state!



For more information on Selah High School's Dual Credit and College-in-the-High-School opportunities, contact the school, or the District's Director of Future Learning, Jeff Cochran, [jeffcochran@selahschools.org](mailto:jeffcochran@selahschools.org).

## Inside Selah Schools...

Again this year, the District is featuring its *Inside Selah Schools* video series, where we peek into our buildings to see the learning taking place. This year, our students are *Building Blocks to the Future*! See the programs, experiences and opportunities that provide our learners with the skills needed as they grow educationally.



The year's first installment highlights the Robert Lince Early Learning Center. Amidst their eagerness to learn and grow, Selah's littlest learners are discovering how to become students, and they are establishing a foundation on which to stack the building blocks to their future. Access the QR code for viewing options in English and Spanish.



Robert Lince Early Learning Center students are establishing a foundation on which to stack the building blocks to their future.



# Selah School District Good News and Notes...

## Something to Brag About...

### • SHS Teacher, Heather Gamache, Honored Nationally!



Heather Gamache

Selah High School medical sciences teacher, Heather Gamache, has been doing the Texas Two-Step. That's because Gamache was honored at the Association for Career and Technical Education Vision Conference in early December, in San Antonio, Texas. Gamache was recognized as the 2024 *Health Science Education Outstanding New Teacher Award* recipient. Recipients of the award have made significant contributions toward innovative, unique, and novel educational programs which serve to improve and promote CTE in schools in one of the health fields. Gamache who is in her fifth year of teaching at Selah High School, teaches medical science classes.

Congratulations Heather Gamache! We are proud of you!

### • SIS Educator, Max Diaz Recognized for Educational Contributions!

Congratulations to Selah Intermediate School third grade dual language teacher, Maximiliano (Max) Diaz, for being one of the recipients of the Central Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce prestigious *Estrella Awards*.

The awards are a key highlight of the Chamber's Hispanic Heritage Month Campaign and celebrate the contributions of Hispanic and Latino individuals in our community and workplaces across Central Washington. The *Estrella Awards* recognize those who demonstrate exceptional dedication to Hispanic and Latino culture and community. Max, who is in his fifth year as a Selah teacher, was honored for his contributions in the category of *Education*. Congratulations Max Diaz!



Max Diaz

### • SHS is On the Rise!

Selah High School has been honored as an inaugural *Washington Schools On the Rise* award recipient. The formal award presentation by the Association of Washington School Principals (AWSP) and Association of Washington Student Leaders (AWSL) was earlier this fall.

The award celebrates schools demonstrating the power of student and adult collaboration in order to create a positive school culture with student engagement and voice, while working to build an inclusive and equitable learning environment.

Selah's nomination was student initiated and three achievements were highlighted: the implementation of the school's *Future's Night*, *Course Promotion Week*, and, the

*1/1 Registration Experience*.

In earning the recognition, Selah High School is only one of eight high schools in the state honored.

Congratulations!



Selah High School has been honored with a Washington Schools On the Rise award.



### • Selah's Nutrition Team Spotlighted!

It was lights, camera, action, as Selah's Nutrition Services Team has been spotlighted for their efforts in preparing healthy meals for students. Access the QR code to enjoy the video from OSPI, which showcases the great work of our nutrition staff. The Selah team is committed to farm-to-school efforts which bring fresh, locally grown products to the meal menus for students!

We are proud of our students and staff and want to brag about their accomplishments! To read more stories like the ones displayed in this issue, visit the District's website and look for the *Points of Pride* section on the main web page.



## Postal Customer

# A Final Look at the Selah School District

## A Look at Ole' Man Winter

Now that Ole' Man Winter is here, many early morning school operating decisions must be made. Go to the District's website to learn more about Selah school delays and cancellations and which platforms are used to communicate the information.

## Keeping Kids Safe!

Keeping students and staff safe is the District's top priority. Our goal is to provide safe and secure learning environments where high quality educational experiences help cultivate a culture of life-long learning for all. In order to provide quality learning environments, students and staff must be safe. That is why the District has safety systems in place, so learning is the focus. This year the District is providing a series of safety videos. Access the QR code to view the District's first video on Crisis Alerts and Crisis Response specific to the Core Four.



### Keeping Kids Safe!

#### WINTER DRIVING REMINDERS

#### SNOW REMOVAL

Clear all snow and ice from your car before driving. Be sure to get everything off, not just the windows. Snow left on the roof of a car can slide onto your windshield, or blow onto another.

#### DRIVING IS VISUAL

Make sure your wiper blades, heater, and defroster are in good working conditions during winter weather. Driving is a visual task, so always be sure your windows and mirrors are clean and clear and your visibility is good.

#### BE VISIBLE

Remember to turn on your headlights for better visibility and to be seen.

#### ALLOW MORE TIME

Be prepared for winter driving and allow time to safely travel to your location. Drivers who allow extra travel time, help ensure appropriate speed for weather conditions and a safe following distance for wet and icy roads.

#### BE AWARE

Winter days mean darker mornings and afternoons. Be aware of students walking, crossing the roads and riding bikes to and from school.

#### SLOW DOWN

Slow down when driving on ice and snow. It's easier to skid or lose control traveling at higher speeds. When slowing down, remember downshifting as an option. Also, give yourself time to safely come to a stop.

#### KNOW THE BUS ROUTES

Be aware of alternate bus stops. During the winter the Transportation Department utilizes alternate bus routes. Students will appear at different locations other than where drivers are used to seeing them.

#### WATCH FOR STUDENTS

Be alert to students crossing roads, walking on sidewalks, or riding bikes. Icy conditions could mean they fall.

#### REMAIN ALERT

Students are more likely to be rushing during cold temperatures and could be hidden by poor visibility or snow banks. Remain alert for children who may be hidden or standing in or near the street at the bus stop due to snow piles.

#### BE PATIENT

School bus drivers are well trained on driving in inclement weather. However, snow and icy roads can slow down even experienced drivers. Safety is each driver's priority and extra time may be needed to get from stop to stop.

## Join Our TEAM!

### ATTENTION!

We Are Recruiting For **ALL** Classified Substitute Positions!

### Sub Positions Needed:

- PARA-EDUCATORS  
(General, Bilingual, & Special Education)
- BUS DRIVERS
- COOKS
- CUSTODIANS

More Information:  
509-698-8014  
jobs@selahschools.org

APPLY AT:  
<https://selahjobs.hrmpplus.net/Home.aspx>

**Superintendent**  
Kevin McKay

**Board of Directors**  
Dan Peters; President  
Jamie Morford; Vice-President  
Joe Catron; Legislative Representative  
Sarah Michael; Member  
Derek Iverson; Member

The *Selah Education Report* is a publication for the patrons of the Selah School District. Please contact, Heidi Diener at 509-698-8007, or, heididiener@selahschools.org, with inquiries.

Selah School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

The following employee(s) has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

Chad Quigley, Executive Director of Human Resources; 316 W. Naches Ave., Selah, WA 98942; 1-509-698-8004; chadquigley@selahschools.org

El Distrito Escolar de Selah no discrimina en ningún programa o actividades sobre el base de sexo, raza, credo, religión, color, origen nacional, edad, estado de veterano o militar, orientación sexual, expresión de género, identidad de género, discapacidad o el uso de perros entrenados como guía o animales de servicio y proporciona el acceso igual a los Boy Scouts y otros grupos designado de jóvenes.

El empleado mencionado a continuación ha sido designado para atender consultas y quejas de supuesta discriminación:

Chad Quigley, Executive Director of Human Resources; 316 W. Naches Ave., Selah, WA 98942; 1-509-698-8004; chadquigley@selahschools.org