



Washington Achievement Award



LHS Principal Aaron Fletcher, Retta Malone, Duke Hammond

Liberty High School is a recipient of the 2014 Washington Achievement Award. LHS was honored for High Progress and Overall Excellence. This is an extraordinary accomplishment and is a direct reflection of the hard work of our students, the dedication of our teachers, and the support and guidance of our parents.

Liberty's award is well deserved. The [Washington Achievement Awards](#) are sponsored by the WA State Board of Education and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. They celebrate the state's top-performing schools and recognize achievement in many categories. This highly selective award is based on our school's performance on the [WA State Achievement Index](#). The Washington Achievement Award is given in six categories: overall excellence, high progress, reading growth, math growth, graduation rate and English language acquisition. The selection process for the award is very rigorous, and all of us take great pride in this accomplishment.

The Liberty Lancer

May/June 2015

Message from the Superintendent

Dear Parents, Staff and Community members:

All of our work seems to be ramping up as we enter into the last month and a half of the school year—especially for our seniors as they prepare for graduation and life beyond high school.



Kyle Rydell
Superintendent/K-8 Principal
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Music director Lee Cox has decided to retire at the end of this school year. He has been an integral part in the success of the K-12 students and in our community since 2001. We wish Lee the best in his retirement and will miss him. We have completed interviews and would like to welcome Morgan Pendon to the Liberty family. He joins us from White Swan where he is finishing the year as their music/band director. Please help me in thanking Lee for his service and welcoming Morgan to our staff.



Morgan Pendon will join the Liberty staff as music director in the fall.

We continue as a district to look toward next year and building our budgets, but as you may have heard the legislature is back in a special session determining their 2015-2017 budget. We are hopeful they can reach a decision within the next 30 days so we can finalize our planning and move forward with any summer hiring as early as possible.



Lee Cox

Once again, thank you for your continued support of our schools and district, your partnership and dedication to our students is vital to the success of our community. If you should have any questions, please contact me in my office at 509-245-6213 or on my cell phone at 509-370-4079.

WASA Community Leadership Award

Liberty School District recognized the Spangle Service Club for its ongoing support of the school district at the annual WASA (Washington Association of School Administrators) Community Leader Awards ceremony on April 24.

For the past several decades the Service Club and its 30-plus members have focused on building a stronger community and have directed significant contributions to Liberty students. With this solid partnership in place, a total of \$54,695 has gone to Liberty students and district programs over the past five years, including \$9,000 in senior scholarships each year, football helmet purchases, sponsorship of our FFA team's trip to nationals, donations of \$5,000 toward new wrestling mats, sharing in the costs of new scoreboards, supporting our Spanish Club's trip to Spain, supplying funding for field trips, supporting the local Junior Livestock program, and assisting with many other activities in which our students are involved.



(Pictured l-r) WASA president Rick Linehan, Spangle Service Club officers Bill Sievers, Dawn Brash, Joe Jovanovich, and Liberty superintendent Kyle Rydell.

It is a great honor to partner with the Spangle Service Club, and we are proud to recognize this group for its commitment to the betterment of our community through the investments it has made in the lives of our students.

Liberty Lancer

The Liberty Lancer is published during the academic year by Liberty School District. The Lancer is published to provide current information about school district sponsored and co-sponsored events, student and educator recognition, as well as other news of interest to our school community.

Comments, questions or suggestions should be sent to the Superintendent.

May/June 2015

Board of Directors

Kynda Browning
kybrowning@libertysd.us

Mark Bullock
WIAA Representative
mbullock@libertysd.us

Chad Cornmesser
Vice Chair
ccornmesser@libertysd.us

Marci Green
Legislative Representative
mgreen@libertysd.us

Scott Simmons
Chair
ssimmons@libertysd.us

Board member phone numbers are available on the district website.

Superintendent
Kyle Rydell
krydell@libertysd.us

Website: www.LibertySD.us

29818 S. North Pine Creek Road
Spangle, WA 99031
Phone: (509) 624-4415
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Upcoming Board Meetings

All meetings are held at 7:00 PM
in the Elementary/Junior High Library

Thursday, May 28

Thursday, June 25

Tuesday, July 28

Thursday, August 27

Staff Spotlight: Jennifer Waddell

Mrs. Waddell joined the Liberty staff this year as a bus driver and food services employee. Join us in learning more about her:

Background: I'm originally from California and moved to Washington state in 1977. I was raised in Millwood and attended school at West Valley. I have a 24-year-old daughter named Clarissa who attended Liberty (K-12) and is now in her third year of college at the University of Montana. My family loves football—especially the Green Bay Packers. It's the only thing we look forward to about winter!

Hobbies: I enjoy traveling, camping, gardening and cooking, and recently learned to can.



What do you like most about working at Liberty? I love working with kids, watching them grow up, and seeing how much they mature over each school year. I think some of the things they do and say are funny, and sometimes they are too brutally honest. I enjoy the little bit of quality time we have on the bus together every day. We have seen a lot of interesting things and wildlife on our route together.

I love working at Liberty and wish I would have started here years ago. I have the best co-workers at the bus garage and in the kitchen. It makes my job and day enjoyable.

Favorite school lunch: My favorite school lunch is the Cherry Blossom chicken and Danita Shaw's homemade rolls.

Sheriff's Corner Social Media and Teens

Almost every teen today has a cell phone. When we as parents decide to give our kids a cell phone to use, we need to make sure we set rules and discuss the importance of using them appropriately. For teens, having a cell phone is not a necessity, it's a privilege. Remember, you as the parent own that phone, not your teen. You pay the bill that shows up every month.

Now that your teen has a cell phone, he or she basically has access to anything. Today's cell phones are handheld computers. This is where "social media" comes into play. There are so many apps out there that teens are inundated with. Although many were created to keep family and friends in touch with one another, not everyone uses social media the way it was intended. In fact, this is where most of today's bullying and harassment occurs. People say things to one another that they wouldn't dare say face-to-face. It's easier, so impersonal, and detached. I periodically talk to the kids about proper use and their digital footprint. Unfortunately, someone usually ends up getting into trouble over something that he or she posted. The response I get is, "I didn't think I'd get caught."

It is important to realize that employers and colleges now look at social media accounts of prospective employees or students. These entities want to make sure their potential employee or student will not reflect poorly upon them because of activity on their social media accounts. Once an item is sent, it's out there forever, and it can be found.



Deputy Ron Nye

As parents, you should randomly access your teen's cell phone just to see what kind of apps he or she uses and what kinds of texts and pictures they may have. Some may surprise or even shock you, although I hope that's not the case. It's very easy this day and age for anyone to get into trouble with law enforcement over something that was sent. Please don't let your teen be one of them. Monitor what he or she is doing with social media and take appropriate action as the parent and owner of that cell phone. If you do find something inappropriate, take proper action.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding social media, please feel free to contact me at 477-3174, 245-3229, or rgnye@spokanesherriff.org.

Liberty Elementary & Junior High

Elementary Excellence Awards

April



Congratulations to our elementary citizens of the month who exemplified April's "Character Counts" trait—fairness: (top, l-r) Aubrey Hofmann, Amber Embry, Sadie Stout, Owen Johnson, Brody Hofmann, Katie Finley (bottom, l-r) Isaac Fuchs, Taylor Felgenhauer, Connor Stitt, Cole Ottmar, Trace Gale.

E for Excellence Awards



Congratulations to our "E" Award recipients for going above and beyond the call of duty. Gus Suksdorf (*far left*) was honored by Mr. Degenhart for classroom excellence, and Jordan Wanberg, Laura Sycks, and Lucas Boone (*inset*) were honored by custodian Steve Martensen for their cheerful assistance cleaning up in the cafeteria.

Freshman Orientation

On Tuesday, May 19, at 6:00 PM, Liberty High School will welcome incoming freshmen at a new freshman orientation meeting. This will be an informative meeting where parents/guardians will learn about new graduation requirements, SBA and EOC testing information, and updated sports information for the high school.

If you or someone you know would like information about becoming a new student at Liberty High School, please contact our secretary Krissy Hardie at (509) 245-3229 ext. 1.

Teacher Appreciation Week
May 4-8



May (Perseverance)

- 1 Midterm
- 4 2-Hour Late Start
- 5 Teacher Appreciation Day
- 6 National School Nurse Day
- 6-9 Junior Livestock Show
- 10 Mother's Day
- 12 Mom's Muffin Day, 7:45 am
- 15 Fun Run, 2:00pm
- 16 Lilac Torchlight Parade
- 19 8th Grade HS Orientation, 6pm
- 20 K-4 Spring Concert, 7pm
- 21 College Color Day
- 25 NO SCHOOL—Memorial Day
- 26 7-12 Choir Concert, 7pm
- 27 K-6 Awards Assembly, 1:55
- 28 Board Meeting
- 29 K-4 Field Day

June

- 8 8th Grade Promotion
- 9 8th Grade Silverwood Trip
- 10 LAST DAY! 10:25 Dismissal
- 11-15 School Office Open, 8-4

Liberty High School

Aaron Fletcher, Principal
afletcher@libertysd.us

Character Counts



Congratulations to Frank James, Kyle DeGon, Match Burnham, Harley Rhoads, and Marybelle Buck—awarded for displaying fairness.

Each month Liberty School District focuses on a character trait of the month. For the month of May students will be focusing on perseverance. For April the student body focused on fairness. Students and staff recognized the students pictured to the left for displaying the trait of fairness in a variety of ways.

FFA Plant Sale

Liberty FFA will be holding its annual plant sale May 11 and 12 from 7:30-5:00. The money from this fundraiser helps pay for students to attend the State FFA Convention in Pullman and travel to the Washington Leadership Conference and/or National FFA Convention. For more information, please contact our FFA advisor Mr. Kimble at ext. 7-1200.



*FFA plant sale May 11-12
7:30-5:00*

National Honor Society

Congratulations to our newest members of the National Honor Society. Students were honored at an induction ceremony that took place April 2. Current officers Match Burnham, Jack Simmons, Kaitlyn Rambo and Jodi Carrell welcomed new inductees Madelynne Flaig, Patrick Paredes, Christine Denny, Chase Burnham, Braden House, Jacob Harrington, Devin Billington, Kristin Ince, Abigail Karlis, Matt DeGon, Kyle DeGon, Justin Flaig, Elizabeth Brown, Bridgette Roll, Tyler Haas, Kathryn Fairfield, Kain Feltwell, and Kyle King.



May

- 6-9 Junior Livestock Show
- 11 FFA Plant Sale
- 12 FFA Plant Sale
- 13-16 FFA State Convention
- 16 Lilac Parade
- 19 New Freshman Orientation
- 21 College Color Day
- 22 Gender Defender Volleyball
- 25 No School—Memorial Day
- 26 Choir Concert

June

- 1-2 Senior Finals
- 3-8 Finals
- 4 FFA Banquet
- 6 Graduation, 1:00
- 10 Last day of school—10:25 dismissal

Summer Hours

The school offices will remain open for business after school ends from 8:00-4:00 daily through Monday, June 15.

The offices will re-open for the 2015-2016 school year on Wednesday, August 19.

MAY 2015 STATE ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE, GRADES 3-12

M	T	W	R	F
<small>ELA = English Language Arts EOC = End of Course Exam</small>				<small>MAP = Measurement of Academic Progress MSP = Measurements of Student Progress</small>
4 <i>Late Start</i> E/JH Reading MAP	5 E/JH Reading MAP	6 E/JH Reading MAP	7 E/JH Reading MAP	8 5th Math 11th Math
11 3rd Math 4th Math 6th ELA * 10th ELA	12 3rd Math * 4th Math 5th Sci. MSP * 6th ELA 8th Sci. MSP * 10th ELA	13 3rd Math 4th Math 6th ELA * 10th ELA	14 3rd Math 4th Math 6th ELA * 10th ELA	15 11th Math
18 7th Math 11th ELA	19 7th Math 11th ELA E/JH Math MAP	20 7th Math 11th ELA	21 Geometry EOC E/JH Math MAP	22 E/JH Math MAP
25	26 8th Math	27 8th Math Algebra I EOC	28 8th Math Biology EOC (10th)	29

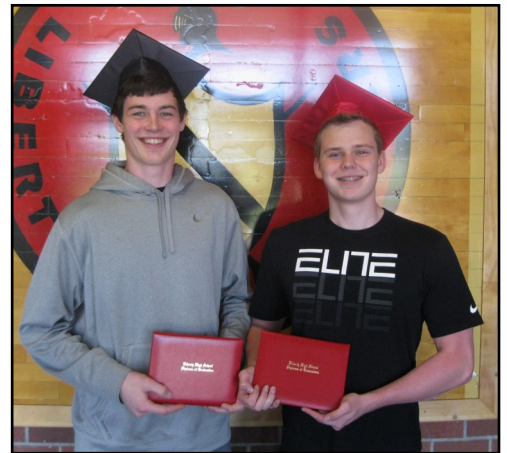
Graduation

Please join us Saturday, June 6, at 1:00 PM in the high school gym to recognize Liberty High School's class of 2015. All students have worked extremely hard to meet this goal in their life. Many of them will continue their education at colleges around the area.

The following students will be graduating with honors, which is a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher and completion of honors courses: Valedictorian Shareena McGregor, Salutatorian Abby Brown, Match Burnham, Alaina Curl, and Jack Simmons.

Congratulations to all of the seniors. We are proud of you—best of luck in your futures!

At right, Match Burnham and Jack Simmons model their graduation gear. Graduation is Saturday, June 6, at 1:00 PM in the LHS gym.



Spain 2015

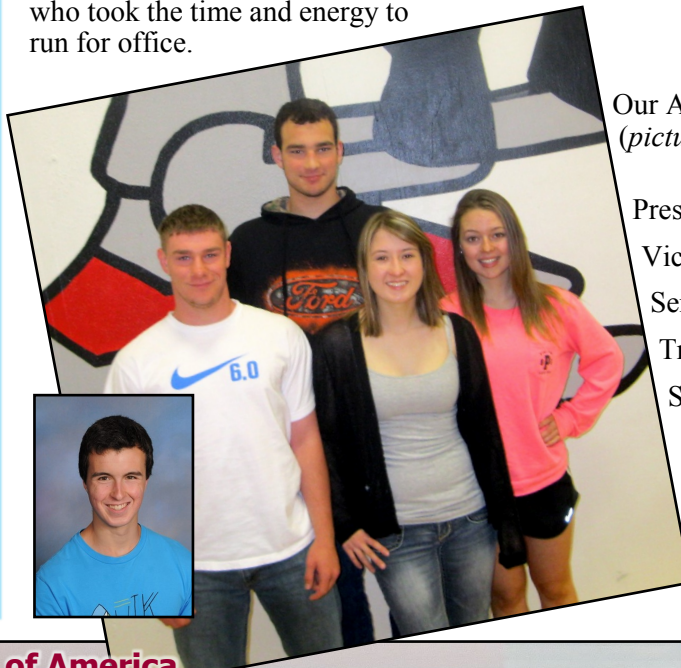
Eighteen Liberty students and 26 total travelers will leave for Spain on June 13, starting in Madrid, going to the Northern Coast, and ending up in Barcelona before returning on June 24.

If you have supported the Spanish Club students in their fundraising efforts, *thank you!*

There are still two more opportunities to help. If you purchase a Papa Murphy's pizza from the 29th Avenue location on **Thursday, May 7**, and/or **Wednesday, June 3**, Liberty will receive 15 percent of the day's full-price purchase sales to go toward expenses for the trip.

Student Government

Associated Student Body elections were held on April 27. Thank you to those students who took the time and energy to run for office.



Our ASB officers for 2015-16 are (pictured at left, l-r):

President Nathan Burley (inset)
Vice President Jake Pottratz
Sergeant-at-Arms Keith Dumaw
Treasurer Lillie Marsh
Secretary Bridgette Roll



Future Business Leaders of America



Liberty High School recently sent sixteen students to the 2015 FBLA State Convention in Spokane. Congratulations to Ms. Whittall and to all the Liberty FBLA participants. Students participated in a number of contests throughout the three-day conference.