



# Beaver News

March 2025

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## What is my teenager thinking?

We recently had a teenager move out of our home. It's been my privilege to work around teenagers vocationally and as a volunteer since I was teenager myself. Talking with teenagers is one of my favorite things to do and yet, I have to be honest and say that I've asked this question many times: what was that teenager thinking?

Part of this answer is developmental. Although teenagers certainly do look like adults and often they act like adults, the simple fact is that a human's prefrontal cortex isn't done developing until age 25. The prefrontal cortex is responsible for "executive functions," things like planning, decision making, problem solving, and regulating emotions. As a result, teenagers tend to look at the world differently and balance the risks and rewards of a specific action in ways that don't always make sense to adults. There is a very large variation between individuals, but, in general, teenagers tend towards being spontaneous, socially-driven risk takers. It's the reason that car insurance is so much more expensive for teenage drivers.

Being the parent of a teenager is sometimes a real adventure. Even the most mature teenager is capable of behaving in ways that are sometimes dumbfounding to parents. Recently, I ran across a couple of articles, both addressing the topic of "things kids wished their parents knew." I want to summarize some of those results here, but first, a disclaimer.

Every teenager is different. Every family is different. Every situation is different. Just because an article is on the internet doesn't mean it's useful. As parents, we need to make our own calls. Still, sometimes it's helpful to read the perspectives others have to offer on the topic of "What is my teenager thinking?" With that being said, here's that summary.

One of the common themes was around the following sentiment: Please don't compare me with anyone. "You're just like your brother," or "You're a lot like your mom." It's a normal thing we tend to say to kids, but it's a thing that teenagers often say that they don't like very much. We're all individuals and teenagers, in particular, are attempting to determine and define who they are and who they want to be. Comparisons can sometimes inadvertently communicate judgement.

Another common theme - and this one is very common - is this: Please listen to me. Listen at least as much as you speak.

## What is my teenager thinking cont.

As a parent of a teenager and now a young adult, I badly want to help, assist, advise, bolster, and provide the benefit of my many years of mistakes. That's all good stuff, but the job of growing up is often about asking and answering your own questions and that means making some mistakes. If I jump in right away with advice, without meaning to, I can communicate the idea that what my daughter thinks or feels isn't as important as what I have to say about it. This past week, I asked some Woodland teenagers what they would like their parents to know or understand about their lives. One student said "Understand that listening to me is at least as important as teaching me things."

A third common thread I read and heard about can be summed up like this: The pressure teenagers feel is real. The life of today's teens may not seem pressured to adults. After all, most teenagers don't have to worry about taxes or jobs or the care of their own children or fixing the water heater or paying the rent. While that may be true, teenagers experience a whole host of pressures of their own, and those pressures are every bit as real to them as adult pressures are to adults. One teenager I spoke to said to me "I love it when my parents say 'I'm sorry that's happening. That can be tough. I know that you're strong and capable, though.'"

One final theme I heard in talking to some Woodland teenagers is around the idea of the importance of friends in the lives of teenagers. Humans are social creatures, but teenagers, in particular, are tuned to the social environment around them. The influence of friends is often one of the most important things teenagers talk about. One teenager I talked with said "Teenagers want their parents to understand why their friends are so important to them." While I have often been frustrated that my daughter has sometimes been more interested in friends living halfway across the country than she is in our family dinners, I try always to remember that her having close friends is, and will be, an invaluable component in her life.

## Academic Top 5%

Congratulations to the Class of 2025 Top Five Percent students: Samantha Brown, Jonathan Biggs, Katera Rappleye, Penelope Tyler, Amelia Bareford, Giselle Vazquez-Mendoza, Tabitha George, Alyssa Eros-Pen, and Braden Davis. They will be honored at Senior Recognition Night, as well as wearing the prestigious silver honor cords at graduation. Congratulations again!



CONGRATULATIONS  
WOODLAND HS  
CLASS OF 2025



**TOP 5%**

**Samantha Brown**

**Jonathan Biggs**

**Katera Rappleye**

**Penelope Tyler**

**Amelia Bareford**

**Giselle Vazquez-Mendoza**

**Tabitha George**

**Alyssa Eros-Pen**

**Braden Davis**



# Helpful Information Links

ATHLETICS: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/95>, <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/48>

- For updated information and sport schedules: <https://www.arbiterlive.com/Teams?entityId=26210>, <https://whsbeavers.com/>
- Check updates on Twitter (WHS Athletics) or Facebook (Woodland High School Athletics).

BELL SCHEDULE: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/6812>

## **CELL PHONE POLICY & Personally Owned Electronic Devices: This is NEW, please read**

- <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1e5NOTyuZyvACIHbmbMZelv5iNp840daCSmsU0vBj9bY/edit>
- [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1lwweiFdrHUTVIRIMBRegerWHM71DESKnkdS2\\_4EQPDo/edit#heading=h.gjdgxs](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1lwweiFdrHUTVIRIMBRegerWHM71DESKnkdS2_4EQPDo/edit#heading=h.gjdgxs)

COMMUNITY RESOURCES: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/59>, <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/203>

- Latino & Spanish speaking families: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/341>

COUNSELING: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/99>

- Career Pathways <https://sites.google.com/woodlandschools.org/whs-curriculum-handbook/pathways?authuser=0>
- Financial Aid: <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>, <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/108>

DIGITAL RESOURCES: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/116>

FOOD SERVICES: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/45>

FOOD MENU: <https://woodlandschooldistrict.nutrislice.com/menu/woodland-high-school>

HEALTH DESK: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/21>

- Parents - If your child has a life-threatening health condition that requires rescue medication, medication orders and an updated care plan should be in place. If you have any questions you can reach our district nurse, Kerri Six at [sixk@woodlandschools.org](mailto:sixk@woodlandschools.org) or 360-841-2837.

INSTAGRAM:

- ASB - follow us for the daily bulletin and all current school events @woodlandhsasb
- Principal Pearson - follow for shout outs "we are beavers in action" @woodlandhsa

TECH SUPPORT: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/195>, <https://www.woodlandschools.org/home-tech-support>

- Chromebooks issues, see Powerwashing a Chromebook <https://sites.google.com/woodlandschools.org/student-parent-tech-resources/powerwashing-a-chromebook?authuser=0>

YEARBOOK & PICTURES: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/117>



## **SENIORS - VERY IMPORTANT LINKS - These pages are updated often as information becomes available - CHECK OFTEN**

- Here is a link to the Senior Information Page on our District Website <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/124>
- Here is a link to the Yearbook & Pictures Page on our District Website <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/117>



# Senior SlideShow!



Due  
April 25th

Email  
[klausk@woodlandschools.org](mailto:klausk@woodlandschools.org)



We have been working hard to plan a safe and sober celebration for  
Graduates of the Class of 2025!

Parents, please click on the below waiver to R.S.V.P. on behalf of your graduate.

Please note, while we aim to include all graduates from our district, we must  
Have a solid attendance number by 4/11/25 to secure our transportation needs.

Thank you for your prompt response.

<https://forms.gle/tox9gMLvzqk13Phu9>

Hemos estado trabajando duro para planificar una celebración segura y sobria para  
¡Graduados de la promoción de 2025!

Padres, hagan clic en la siguiente exención para R.S.V.P. en nombre de su graduado.  
Tenga en cuenta que, si bien nuestro objetivo es incluir a todos los graduados de nuestro  
distrito, debemos

Tener un número de asistencia sólido antes del 11/04/25 para asegurar nuestras necesidades  
de transporte.

Gracias por su pronta respuesta.

<https://forms.gle/rzzzPzN28TUV7Q5ZA>





**DANCE TEAM  
NATIONALS  
FLORIDA**







**Showtimes:**

**Friday, March 21st: 7:00pm**

**Saturday, March 22nd: 2:00pm and 6:00pm**

**Tickets are \$10.00 per seat\*\* - general admission seating- and  
can be purchased here:**

**<https://wa-woodland-lite.intouchrecepting.com/WMSDrama>**

**\*\*Toddlers and babies who can sit on laps do not need to have a  
ticket purchased.**



## **JOB OPPORTUNITY!**

**HELP SUPPORT LEWIS RIVER LITTLE LEAGUE AND BECOME A JR UMPIRE!  
IT'S THE BEST SEAT IN THE HOUSE TO CHALLENGE YOUR BASEBALL/SOFTBALL KNOWLEDGE**

- MUST HAVE BASIC GAME AND RULES KNOWLEDGE-**
- MUST HAVE AT LEAST THREE YEARS PLAYING EXPERIENCE-**

**HIGH SCHOOLERS 14-18 YEARS OLD.  
\$40 PER GAME - PER JUNIOR UMPIRE.  
SEASON RUNS APRIL THROUGH JUNE.**

**-YOU MUST ATTEND OUR TRAINING CLINIC-  
WHICH WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY MARCH 15TH.  
9AM-3PM AT THE LEWIS RIVER LITTLE LEAGUE FIELDS IN WOODLAND.  
REFRESHMENTS AND LUNCH IS PROVIDED.**

**CONTACT RANDY HENNINGS TO SIGN UP OR GET MORE INFORMATION.  
EMAIL: RTHENNINGS@YAHOO.COM - CELLPHONE (TEXT) 360-562-6031**

\*THE DISTRICT DOES NOT SPONSOR THIS EVENT AND THE DISTRICT ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR IT. IN CONSIDERATION OF THE PRIVILEGE TO DISTRIBUTE MATERIALS, THE WOODLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL BE HELD HARMLESS FROM ANY CAUSE OF ACTION FILED IN ANY COURT OR ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL ARISING OUT OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF THESE MATERIALS, INCLUDING COSTS, ATTORNEY'S FEES AND JUDGMENTS OR AWARDS.\*



## The Second Half Sprint: Attendance Matters!

We're officially a little more than halfway through the school year! It's a great time to reflect on our progress and look ahead to a strong finish. One key ingredient to student success is consistent attendance. Being present in class every day maximizes learning opportunities, fosters deeper understanding, and helps students build valuable connections with their teachers and peers.

### Why is Attendance So Important?

Regular attendance is directly linked to academic achievement. Students who are consistently in class:

- **Learn more:** They don't miss out on crucial instruction, discussions, and activities.
- **Perform better:** Consistent learning leads to better grades and test scores.
- **Build confidence:** Being present and engaged helps students feel more confident in their abilities.
- **Develop strong habits:** Regular attendance instills discipline and responsibility, skills that are essential for success in school and beyond.

### A Few Important Reminders:

As we head into the second half of the year, we want to remind everyone of a few key attendance procedures:

- **Check-In/Check-Out:** For the safety and well-being of all students, it is *crucial* that every student checks in and out through the main office. This allows us to accurately track student presence and ensure everyone is accounted for. We appreciate your cooperation in making this a priority.
- **Excused Absences:** The state allows for up to 15 excused absences per school year without a doctor's note. Beyond 15 absences, a doctor's note is required for the absence to be excused. We understand that not all illnesses require a doctor's visit. However, any absence beyond the 15 allowed without a doctor's note will be marked as unexcused unless there are extenuating circumstances. Please communicate with the school if such circumstances exist.
- **Tardiness:** Being on time is essential for maximizing learning time. Please be aware that arriving more than 10 minutes late to a class period is considered a full period absence, not a tardy.

As always, if you have any questions about your child's attendance please feel free to reach out to Jodi at 360.841.2804 or email [mclendoj@woodlandschools.org](mailto:mclendoj@woodlandschools.org)

**School Board Meetings - March 13 & 27, 2025 at 6:30**

ALL TEACHERS CAN BE REACHED BY email using the following format: first seven letters of their last name & first initial of first name  
@woodlandschools.org (Ex: [pearsonp@woodlandschools.org](mailto:pearsonp@woodlandschools.org))  
Woodland High School 1500 Dike Access Road Woodland, WA 98674-9498,  
Main Line 360-841-2800 Fax: 360-841-2801  
Dr. Phillip Pearson, Principal ~ Michael Lindsay, Assistant Principal

Woodland Public 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, gender 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 employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Vicky Barnes, Title IX Officer, Civil Rights Coordinator, and Affirmative Action Officer, 800 Second St. Woodland, WA 98674, [barnesv@woodlandschools.org](mailto:barnesv@woodlandschools.org), (360) 841-2702 Jake Hall, 504 Coordinator, 800 Second St. Woodland, WA 98674, [hallj@woodlandschools.org](mailto:hallj@woodlandschools.org), (360) 841-2725. You can report discrimination and discriminatory harassment to any school staff member or to the district's Civil Rights Coordinator, listed above. You also have the right to file a complaint. For a copy of your district's nondiscrimination policy and procedure, contact your school or district office or view it online at [www.woodlandschools.org](http://www.woodlandschools.org).

District Vision Statement: Woodland Public Schools, in partnership with its community, will create a PreK-12 system that serves and supports ALL children and ensures EACH child has FULL access to, is engaged in, and obtains an excellent education that prepares them for responsible citizenship and a future of adaptability and success in life and their chosen endeavors.

District Calendar: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/storage/file/44/2023-24%20Calendar%20Final.pdf>  
Woodland High School Calendar of Events: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/92>



**Woodland Beaver Boosters**

[woodlandboosters@gmail.com](mailto:woodlandboosters@gmail.com)

Like us on FB @ Woodland Beaver Boosters,

Instagram @ WHS Beaver Booster Club

Twitter - Woodland HS Beaver Booster Club

@beaver\_hs

The District does not sponsor this event and the District assumes no responsibility for it. In consideration of the privilege to distribute materials, the Woodland School District shall be held harmless from any cause of action filed in any court or administrative tribunal arising out of the distribution of these materials, including costs, attorney's fees and judgments or awards.

**MARCH 2025  
NON SCHOOL DAYS**

- 25-28 Early Release for conferences 12:10
- 31-April 4 Spring Break
- See you April 7