



Beaver News

March 2026

Volume 6, Issue 6

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. Recently, 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.



The Second Half Sprint: Attendance Matters!

We're officially 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:

- **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.
- **One thing we have adopted as a district is allowing the school offices time to distribute notes at the end of the day. Changes to a student's after school plans must be made prior to 2:50 PM.**

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

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/>

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

CELL PHONE POLICY & Personally Owned Electronic Devices:

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 or 360-841-2837.

SENIORS:

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

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

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

TECHNOLOGY

As part of our ongoing commitment to student safety and well-being, Woodland Public Schools uses a monitoring system on district-issued devices. This software can detect searches related to self-harm or unsafe activity. If this happens after school hours, parents/guardians may automatically receive a notification via email. If you receive an alert, please know the suicide prevention hotline number is 988 and available 24 hours a day.

2025 - 2026 YEARBOOK COST

- February through April 2026 - \$55
- May 2026 (wait list) - \$60
 - Your name will be put on a wait list, you do not pay in advance. Once yearbooks come in and we have a book for you, then you will pay before receiving the book.
- NO Engraving Available

Check, cash, or card in the WHS office, or online through InTouch.



Taste

Of

Jazz

Thursday, March 26th

7:00pm

Woodland High Commons

*Tickets can be purchase at the
WHS office until March 23rd*

\$20 each

*An evening of Great Music and
Tasty Desserts presented by our:
Vocal Jazz, Jazz Band,
and Culinary Department*

Taste of Jazz

What: Jazz Music, Dessert, and Fun!

Where: WHS Commons

When: Thursday, March 26th @ 7:00PM

Tickets Sales: Must be bought in advance at the WHS Office March 4th - March 23rd

Cost: \$20 per person

Come support three WHS groups with an elegant evening of jazz performed by the WHS Vocal Jazz and Jazz Band, and tasty desserts prepared by the WHS Culinary Club. Everything offered at this event is produced and performed by students and 100% of the proceeds go back to support those student groups

Tickets will be presold in the WHS office and you will need to choose your seat at the time of payment. Ticket sales are open and close March 23rd, so hurry in and reserve your seat or even a whole table to enjoy with family and friends!

2026 TOLO ROYALTY



Marcellus Arevalo
Logan Ashley
Chase Dunn
Alex Vega-Bazante
Bradley Woolfe



Tolo King - Chase Dunn



WELCOME TO THE
UNIFIED
JUNGLE PROM

SAVE THE DATE:
6 PM-8 PM | 3.14.2026
WOODLAND HS
1500 DIKE ACCESS RD, WOODLAND, WA
IN THE COMMONS
FREE ADMISSION EVENT



WOODLAND BEAVER BOOSTER CLUB 2025 - 2026 Meeting Dates



- October 15, December (canceled), February 25, and April 15
- Meetings are held at Woodland Pizza Factory
- 6:30 sharp, meeting are 30-45 minutes long
- See the last page for more Booster Club information

KEY CLUB'S
EASTER
CANDY
FUNDRAISER

@WOODLAND.KEYCLUB

ALONG WITH
WOODLAND/KALAMA KWANIS
GROUP. MAKE A SEE'S CANDY
PURCHASE TO SUPPORT OUR
CLUB

VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION

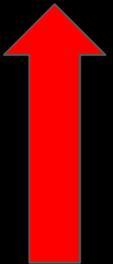
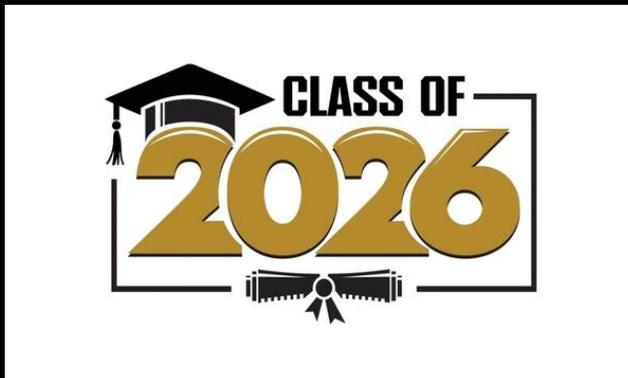
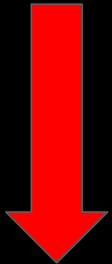
SENIORS - CLASS OF 2026

CAP AND GOWN ORDERING - through Herff Jones (below)

- You have been emailed.
- Info is posted on our Senior Information page see link below.
- Paper copies are available on the Senior Information counter in the front office.
- ANY QUESTIONS? See Sarah or Sheri in the front office.

HERFF JONES - CAP, GOWN, TASSEL, STOLE, ANNOUNCEMENTS & MORE!

- [Herff Jones Contact Information](#)
- [Herff Jones QR Code for Ordering](#)
- [Herff Jones Year at a Glance Information - what to expect](#) - please review this for important deadlines.



SENIORS ~ REMINDERS

- Check your school emails often.
- Tell your running start friends to check their Woodland High School email often.
- Check the website for current information.
 - Senior Information: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/124>
 - Yearbook & Pictures: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/117>

ATTENTION SENIORS

IT'S TIME TO SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS FOR THE
END OF YEAR SENIOR SLIDESHOW. SUBMIT UP TO
5 PHOTOS. 1 MUST BE A CURRENT PHOTO. THE
REST MAY BE PICTURES OF YOU FROM A
YOUNGER AGE. ALL PHOTOS MUST BE SCHOOL
APPROPRIATE.

SEND THEM VIA EMAIL TO MS. KLAUS AT
KLAUSK@WOODLANDSCHOOLS.ORG



Pictures
are due
Friday
May 1,
2026

Woodland's 20th Annual Community
Father Daughter Ball

Diamonds & Pearls

March 7, 2026

3-5 PM or 7-9 PM

\$10 Dads \$5 Daughters

*Each attendee must have their own ticket.

**Tickets go on sale February 1st
9am - 12pm**

Monday - Thursday 9am - 5pm

Sunday 9am - 12pm

Cash or Check only, no debit. Ticket good for time slot chosen.

All sales final, no refunds or exchanges

sorry curious moms, you must be escorted by your own father.

No Ticket Sales At The Door

**WOODLAND HIGH SCHOOL
1500 Dike Access Rd. Woodland WA**

NON-PROFIT COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENT SPONSORED BY:

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH

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



“The greatest adventure of all is finding our place in the circle of life”

Woodland School District
Presents

The Lion King JR

Showtimes: Saturday, March 21st, at 2:00pm and 6:00pm
Sunday, March 22nd, at 2:00pm and 6:00pm

Ticket Pricing: \$10.00 per ticket: purchase tickets on the ticketing website, or cash at the door. General admission seating.
Doors open ½ hour before the show.



Venue: Woodland High School Auditorium

Music & Lyrics by Elton John & Tim Rice Additional Music & Lyrics by Lebo M, Mark Mancina, Jay Rifkin, and Hans Zimmer Book by Roger Allers & Irene Mecchi Based on the Broadway production directed by Julie Taymor Originally produced on Broadway by Disney Theatrical Group Disney's The Lion King JR. is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized materials are supplied by Music Theatre International, New York, NY (212) 541-4684 mtishows.com

VALOR

Judges 6:12 - The Lord is with you, you mighty man of valor!

Wrestling Club



Opening: First practice - Monday March 9th
Registration: 5:00-5:30PM
Parent meeting: 5:30-6:00PM
Everyone practices: 6:00-7:30PM

Location: Elite Sports NW
128 Butte Hill Rd
Woodland, WA 98674

Practices: M, W, F
Times: Valor Core - 5:30-7:00PM
Valor Elite - 7:00-8:30PM
(Entrance into Valor Elite subject to evaluation)

Cost: \$75/month

Questions: (360) 901-7662
jakemotzkus@gmail.com



Valor Wrestling Club is proudly affiliated with FCA and reflects Head Coach Jake Motzkus's two greatest passions: wrestling and ministry. With more than a decade of coaching experience at the club and high school levels, Jake has guided athletes to success at state, regional, and national competitions. Off the mat, he serves as an elder at Woodland Christian Church where he enjoys teaching and preaching God's word. He is married to Kelli Motzkus and the two have eight wonderful children. Jake's mission is not only to develop talented wrestlers, but to help young men and women come to know Jesus Christ as their Savior.

Scan this QR code to register!



Ages 7 and Up - USA Wrestling Membership Required

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UMPIRES NEEDED



We need umpires for baseball and softball for the upcoming Season.

Why become an umpire?

- Earn \$40-\$50 per game
- Free meal from the Snack Shack
- Flexible scheduling
- The ability to see those plays up close 😊

Umpire Development Clinic
Saturday March 14th, 9-2.

Must be 14 years or older with reliable transportation. No prior experience needed. We provide all the learning opportunities you need to get started.

Text/Call 360-931-5363 for more information.

Email zachary.rosling@yahoo.com for more information.

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ripcity
runs deep



PORTLAND
vs.
SACRAMENTO

SUNDAY, APR. 12
5:30 PM

WOODLAND
TRACK &
FIELD NIGHT

Come out and support the Portland Trail Blazers as they take on the Sacramento Kings on Sunday, April 12th! Enjoy exclusive discounted tickets with friends, family, and teammates from Woodland Track & Field. It's a great night to celebrate the season and experience the excitement of NBA basketball together at Moda Center!

VISIT:
[Blazersgroups.com/woodland](https://www.blazersgroups.com/woodland)

ORDER DEADLINE:
Mon, Mar. 16

CONTACT:
CHANDLER MORSE
503.963.3946
chandler.morse@trailblazers.com

STARTING AT \$23

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School Board Meetings - March 12 & 26 at 6:30pm

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)
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, (360) 841-2702 Jake Hall, 504 Coordinator, 800 Second St. Woodland, WA 98674, halli@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.

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

Like us on FB @ Woodland Beaver Boosters,

Instagram @ WHS Beaver Booster Club

Twitter - Woodland HS Beaver Booster Club

@beaver_hs

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MARCH 2026

NON-SCHOOL DAYS

- 13: No school for students (staff work day)
- 31 - April 3: Early Release days for Conferences out at 12:10
- April 6-10: Spring Break