



Beaver News

November 2025

Volume 6, Issue 2

Video Games

The good, the bad, and the ugly

I often see the incredible energy and passion our students bring to everything they do, and that certainly includes their engagement with video games. It's a topic that comes up frequently, and I understand that it can be a bit of a mystery, or even a source of concern. My hope is to offer a friendly and supportive perspective on the advantages and disadvantages of video games, so we can all better understand this evolving aspect of our teenagers' lives.

The Bright Side of Gaming

It might surprise you to hear that video games offer some benefits! Many of these games, especially those that involve strategy or puzzles, are fantastic for developing **critical thinking and problem-solving skills**. Our students are learning to analyze situations, make quick decisions, and adapt to new challenges – skills that are incredibly valuable in the classroom and beyond.

Beyond academics, gaming can actually be a powerful tool for **social connection**. While the image of a solitary gamer persists, many popular games are designed for multiplayer interaction. This means our students are often collaborating, communicating, and building friendships with their peers, both locally and globally. For some, especially those who might be a bit shyer, online communities can provide a comfortable space to connect and belong.

And let's not forget the physical benefits! Many action-oriented games can actually boost **hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills**. Plus, some games even spark **creativity**, allowing students to design, build, and tell stories in unique digital worlds.

Navigating the Challenges

Of course, like anything, there's a flip side. The most common concern I hear, and one we all need to be mindful of, is **time management**. When gaming becomes excessive, it can sometimes lead to neglecting homework, family responsibilities, physical activity, and even in-person social interactions. Our aim is always for a balanced life, and too much screen time can throw that off.

We also need to be aware of the potential for **addiction**.

Video Games cont.

While it's not a widespread issue, some students can develop an unhealthy reliance on gaming, which can impact their sleep, mood, and overall well-being. Keeping an eye on these patterns is important.

Another area to consider is **content**. Many games have ratings for a reason, and some contain violence or mature themes that aren't appropriate for all teenagers. Open conversations about game ratings and the content they encounter are crucial.

Lastly, with online interactions comes the possibility of **cyberbullying or negative experiences**. While many online gaming communities are positive, it's important that we equip our students with the tools to navigate these spaces safely and to speak up if they encounter anything inappropriate.

Finding That Healthy Balance

My biggest takeaway for all of us is the importance of **open communication**. Talk with your teenagers about their gaming habits, what they enjoy, and any concerns you might have. Setting clear expectations around screen time, game choices, and online behavior is key. Let's also encourage a rich variety of activities – sports, clubs, hobbies, and plenty of family time – to ensure they're growing into well-rounded individuals.

Video games are a significant part of our students' world. Together, we can help them develop responsible habits that will serve them well, both on and off the screen.

Connect Night and Veterans Day at WHS

On Wednesday, November 12, WHS students and staff will be honoring our veterans in our Veterans' Day assembly starting at 1:25 pm in the main gym. All our community veterans and their family members are invited to attend. As a part of our assembly, we will be specially honoring our community veterans and family members of our students who are veterans. We hope to see many of you there.

Lastly, a huge thank you to everyone who helped to make Connect Night a huge success. 309 community members attended and were treated to food, games, information, and great parent teacher conversations. It was a fantastic event!

W



HOMECOMING COURT 2025

Madison Walker, Ella Tallbut, Ava Johnson, Makenzie
Neibler, Faith Hay
- QUEEN AVA JOHNSON -

W

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.

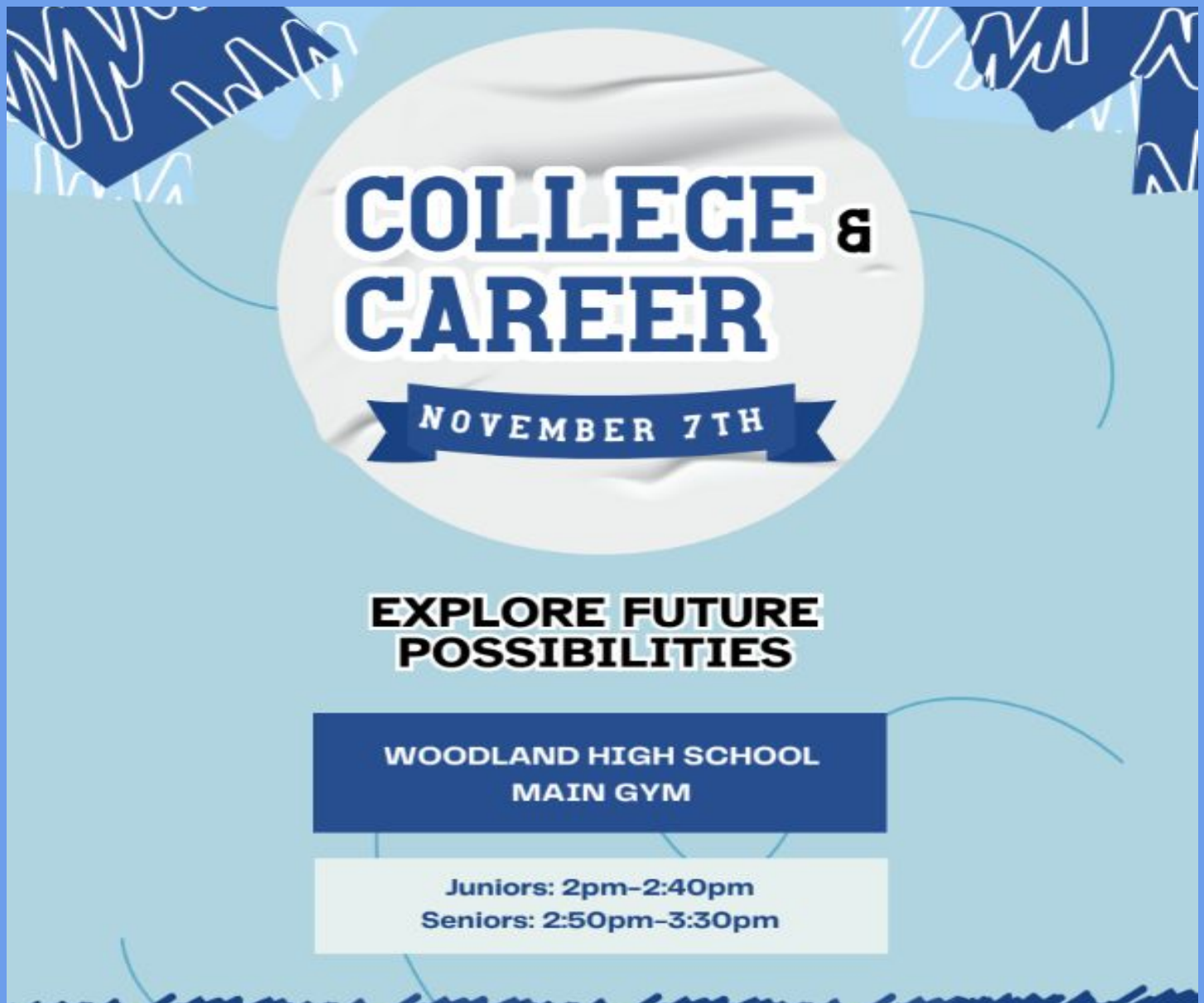
2025 - 2026 YEARBOOK COST

- Now through January 2026 - \$50
- 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.

UPCOMING NOVEMBER & DECEMBER EVENTS

- NOVEMBER 6: Latino Family Night from 5:00 - 7:00 pm in the WMS commons
- NOVEMBER 7: Career Fair, during school hours (Junior & Senior class only)
- NOVEMBER 11: Veterans Day No School
- NOVEMBER 12: Veterans Day Assembly during GRIT at WHS
- NOVEMBER 12: Knowledge Bowl first League Competition at LCHS 4:00 -7:00 pm
- NOVEMBER 20: Red Cross Blood Drive at Woodland High School, 8:30 am-1:30 pm
- NOVEMBER 20: Mr. Woodland Fashion Show hosted by WHS DECA, 7:00 pm, doors open at 6:00
 - \$50 VIP tickets, \$400 VIP Table (for 8), \$15 General Admission. Woodland High School commons
- NOVEMBER 26 - 28: Thanksgiving Holiday - No School
- DECEMBER 22 - JANUARY 2: Winter Break - No School



Give blood.

Every 2 seconds someone
in the U.S. needs blood.

American Red Cross



Blood Drive **Woodland High School**

Gym
1500 Dike Accesses Road
Woodland, WA

Thursday, November 20, 2025
8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)
or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: woodland
to schedule an appointment.



Scan to be directed to
RedCrossBlood.org



Give blood Nov. 17-Dec. 7 for an exclusive pair of Red
Cross x PAC-MAN socks, while supplies last!



Scan to schedule
an appointment

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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[111]-046 © 100208 - Item ID: 9439057-014 | 1-800-733-2767 | 2025-APR-0742 - 46211-20209



HOPE begins with you.

Blood Donation Requirements for High School Students

Thank you for your interest in donating blood. By donating blood, you are giving life to someone in need.

So that we can provide the safest possible donation experience, selection criteria include a table based on height and weight to determine if students are eligible.

FEMALE donors who are 18 years old and younger must weigh 110 lbs. or more, depending on their height. See chart:

If you are	4'10"	4'11"	5'	5'1"	5'2"	5'3"	5'4"	5'5"	5'6" or taller
You must weigh at least	146	142	138	133	129	124	120	115	110

MALE donors who are 18 years old and younger must weigh 110 lbs. or more, depending on their height. See chart:

If you are	4'10"	4'11"	5' or taller
You must weigh at least	118	114	110

RedCrossBlood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767

Females who are shorter than 4'10" may still be eligible to donate blood. They may call 866-236-3276 to ask about their eligibility.
Other restrictions may apply. © 2024 The American Red Cross | 467701-1AR



**American
Red Cross**



Looking for More Students at the Student-Run iQ Credit Union Branch at Woodland High School!

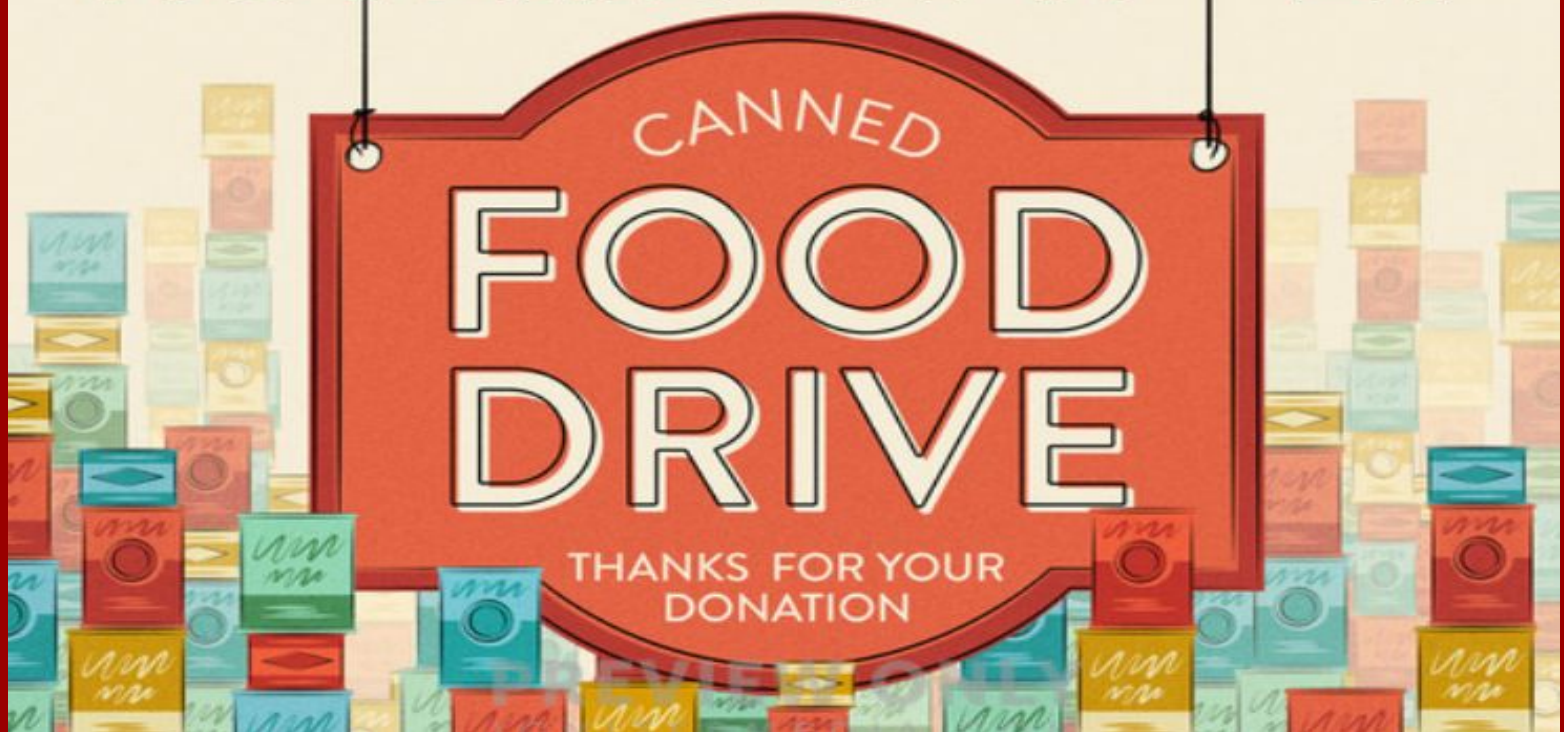
Exciting news! Starting Fall 2025, Woodland High School students have the chance to gain real-world work experience right on campus through a brand-new, student-run iQ Credit Union branch. This hands-on opportunity will allow students to manage a fully functioning credit union location, supported by financial literacy and business coursework. If you are a student interested in this class, please contact Ms. Andria Terry.

Exclusively available during lunch to students, staff, and associated families, the program will offer financial education, job training, valuable career-building experience, and possible paid internships. Woodland will join seven other high schools in Southwest Washington participating in this innovative program.

We're proud to partner with iQ Credit Union to bring financial education—and a little red and black plaid—to our campus!



NOVEMBER 17 - 21



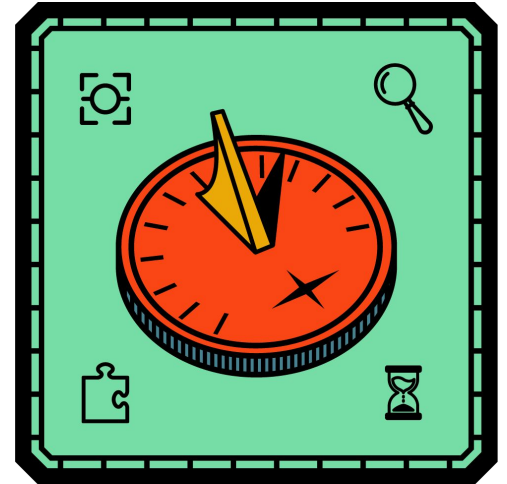
WHS Robotics

Team 13601 - A place for Everyone!

The WHS robotics 2025-2026 competition season has begun! This season's game is called "DECODE" by FIRST Inspires. The robot has been tasked with picking up and launching 5.5 inch wiffle ball into a 3 ft high goal. There is a 30 second autonomous period where the robot moves completely by itself and a 2 minute driver controlled period. The team is 15 members strong and continuing to grow! The team is lead by Philip Donald (head engineer), Grayson Tinker (head programmer), and Alaister Jones (head of logistics).

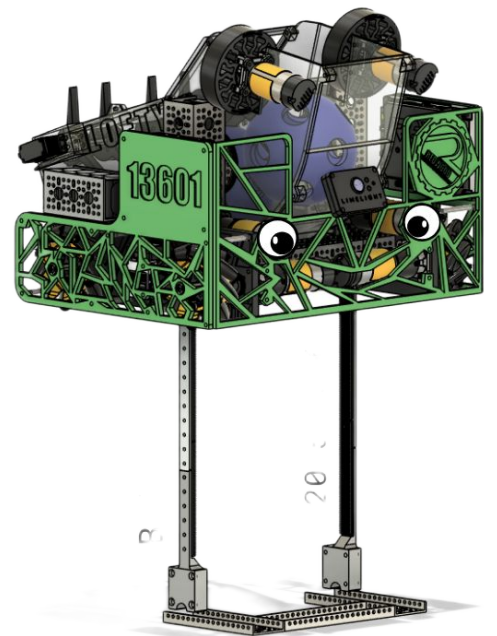
Our first competition was November 1st and our second competition is November 22nd at Skyview HS.

Learn more on our website (<https://bit.ly/WHSBeaverBots>) or find us on Instagram @woodlandrobotics.



DECODE™

PRESENTED BY  RTX



<u>CLUB OR ACTIVITY</u>	<u>ADVISOR</u>
ART CLUB	Michael Smith
ASB	Emma Lindquist
DECA	Andria Terry - meetings every Thursday during lunch
DUNGEONS & DRAGONS	Anna Brassel - meetings during lunch, ask the advisor for meeting details
FCA	Jody Flanagan - every Tuesday during lunch
FFA	Kendra Pearce - 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month during lunch
GSA	Miranda Bullock - every Thursday during lunch
HONOR SOCIETY	Jordyn Smith
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC CLUB	Gordon Williford
KEY CLUB	Natalina Melton - meetings during lunch, ask the advisor for meeting details
KNOWLEDGE BOWL	Liz Williams - every Tuesday 4:00 - 5:00
LIFE SKILLS CLUB	Alex Onslow
MUSIC CLUB	Patrice Lins
ROBOTICS (Beaver Bots)	Stephanie Marshall - Monday & Wednesday 4:00 - 6:00
THEATER	Ronda Oathes
VIDEO PRODUCTION (Beaver Broadcast)	Jaclyn Stewart - every Wednesday during lunch
W CLUB	Taylor Adrian



rip city
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](http://Blazersgroups.com/woodland)
[/woodland](http://woodland)

ORDER DEADLINE:
Mon, Mar. 16

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

STARTING AT \$23

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.

VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION

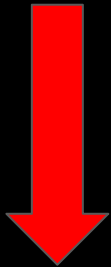
SENIORS - CLASS OF 2026

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](#)



REMINDERS ~ SENIORS ~ REMINDERS

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

IMPORTANT - FROM THE COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

FAFSA & WAFSA Application Information

What are FAFSA and WAFSA?

- **FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is the form you need to fill out to apply for federal financial aid for college and participating career and trade programs.
- **WAFSA** (Washington Application for State Financial Aid) is for students not eligible for FAFSA.

Where to Apply

- **FAFSA:** studentaid.gov
- **WAFSA:** wsac.wa.gov/wafsa

Important Dates

- **FAFSA:** The 2026-27 application is expected to open on **October 1, 2025**.
- **WAFSA:** The 2026-27 application is also expected to open in **October 1, 2025**.
- **Priority Deadlines:** Be sure to check with your specific colleges and universities for their priority deadlines, which are often much earlier than the federal or state deadlines.

Why apply for FAFSA/WAFSA?

- **Access money for college and participating career and trade programs:** This is the first step to getting grants, scholarships, loans, and work-study funds to help pay for tuition, books, and living expenses.
- **It's FREE:** The applications are completely free to submit. You have nothing to lose!
- **You may be eligible for more than you think:** Don't assume you won't qualify. Many families are surprised by the aid they can receive.
- **Early is best:** Complete your application as soon as possible to meet priority deadlines and have the best chance at securing aid.

Don't wait! Apply today!

Washington
STATE FAIR
FOUNDATION

EDUCATE. PRESERVE. IMPROVE.

BLUE RIBBON

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM!

60 Scholarships awarded at **\$250,000** per year.
Over **\$2.5 million** in awards have been distributed
to Washington state students since 1991.

For more info
& to apply:



THEFAIR.COM/FOUNDATION

School Board Meetings - November 13 at 6:30 pm

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, hallj@woodlandschools.org, (360) 841-2720. 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](#)

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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NO SCHOOL

**November 11 -
Veterans Day Holiday**

**November 26-28
Thanksgiving Holiday**