

# A Community Pulling Together: Bringing the Boys & Girls Club to Pullman

*Nathan Roberts, Board Director District 4*

When the YMCA announced on July 10th that it would close on August 31st, the news created an urgent need to find a new partner to provide after-school programing. The YMCA of the Palouse had been a cornerstone of the community for 130 years, providing summer camps, Spring Break activities, and after-school programing at each of the elementary schools. The immediate challenge was clear to the School Board and our Superintendent, Dr. Maxwell: we needed to find a solution for the 65 families affected by the closure.

Dr. Maxwell immediately contacted the Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Lewis Clark Valley to explore a potential partnership. At the same time other community leaders also reached out to the Boys & Girls Club as well. Within a week, Dr. Maxwell and other community leaders in Pullman and the LC Valley engaged in numerous discussions to address this issue swiftly. Through these and other community members' advocacy, a variety of organizations, along with the city and school district, came together to ensure our community would have a high quality after-school program for children.

This group of local leaders devised a short-term plan to provide after-school programing. The leadership group convened to work on securing investment to establish a Boys & Girls Club in Pullman with two locations: one at Kamiak on the north end of town and another at Franklin Elementary on the south end. The next step was for the group to return to their respective leadership teams to seek financial commitments for this new initiative. Given the imminent school start date, this was a significant challenge, but as Dr. Maxwell noted, “I left the meeting confident that the community leaders understood the importance of after-school programing and were committed to finding a solution, including raising the necessary funds to bring the Boys & Girls Club to our community.”

By July 23, the Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Club and a National chapter representative were touring facilities in Pullman to assess feasibility. And the next day, just a short time after the initial meeting, funding had been secured, and the Boys & Girls Club Board of Directors was planning a vote to expand into Pullman.

It is truly inspiring how quickly our district and community came together to address this critical need for our children and families. In just 13 days we went from a crisis with an unknown outcome to executing a plan for enrolling kids in a new after-school program. Thanks to the generous contributions from community members, and the leadership of key stakeholders Pullman School District is excited to welcome the Boys & Girls Club to Pullman. And as of the beginning of September, we are proud to have nearly 80 children enrolled in the Boys & Girls Club program.

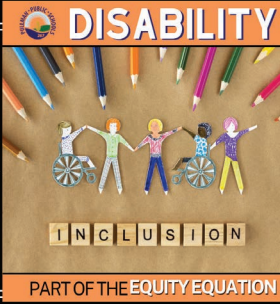
We should take a moment to recognize that this effort would not have been possible without local philanthropists Dr. Ed and Beatriz Schweitzer, who donated \$100,000 with a matching donation from Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories. Here is a list of the Pullman residents we would like to publicly thank for this gift to our Pullman kids.

Pullman residents and businesses who donated to the program

- (Pullman Radio News):
- Ed and Beatriz Schweitzer
  - Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories
  - Bryan & Kathey Slinker
  - Dave & Nicci Whitehead
  - Dave Christy State Farm
  - Eddie & Laura Schweitzer
  - Francis & Heidi Benjamin
  - Heritage Realty
  - Joey & Kerry Nestegard
  - John Cassleman & Shanell Cox
  - Jonny Fisher DDS
  - Kiwanis Club of Pullman
  - Mary Schweitzer
  - Nic Seeley & Stephanie Schweitzer
  - P1FCU
  - PJ Sanchez & Kelli Kamimura
  - Ray & Pat Wright
  - RE/MAX Home and Land Property Management
  - Steffens Foundation
  - Ted & Lisa Uhlenkott
  - University Collision of Pullman
  - Values & Vision Financial Advisors
  - Washington State University Pullman
  - Washington Trust Bank
  - Whitman County Association of Realtors

*The opinions expressed in Board Reports are those of individual school board members and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or views of the board as a whole or of Pullman Public Schools.*

OCTOBER IS  
DISABILITY  
HISTORY  
AND  
AWARENESS  
MONTH



PART OF THE EQUITY EQUATION

October is **DISABILITY HISTORY & AWARENESS MONTH!** During the month of October, each public school will conduct or promote educational activities that provide instruction, awareness, and understanding of disability history and people with disabilities.

We also have created a page with a multitude of resources. Go to [www.pullmanschools.org](http://www.pullmanschools.org) **DISTRICT | EDUCATIONAL EQUITY | CULTURAL AWARENESS & RECOGNITIONS | DISABILITY HISTORY & AWARENESS MONTH**



## Child Find 2024-2025

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING

This screening is an opportunity to identify, locate, and evaluate children who might have a disability and to address potential concerns. This is available to children (birth through 5 years of age) residing, or living in a temporary situation, within Pullman School District's boundaries.

**UPCOMING SCREENING DATES:**

✓ Friday, September 6

✓ Friday, October 11

✓ Friday, November 1

✓ Friday, January 10

✓ Friday, February 7

✓ Friday, March 7

✓ Friday, April 4

✓ Friday, May 2



All children ages 5-21 who are suspected of possibly having a disability who reside in, or are living in a temporary situation, within PSD's boundaries are entitled to child find activities. This includes all children enrolled in PSD schools, children who are being home schooled, and children enrolled in a private school located in the district (even if they reside in another district).

For more information or to **schedule an appointment**, please contact Pullman School District's Instructional Programs Office at (509) 332-3144.



### WE WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNIZE THE FOLLOWING EMPLOYEES FOR THEIR MANY YEARS OF SERVICE:

10 YEARS	20 YEARS	25 YEARS
<b>Stephanie Bray</b> <b>Lonna Carrier</b> <b>Luke Conley</b> <b>Meg Conley</b> <b>Sarah Davis</b> <b>Dagny Myers</b> <b>Jody Pomponio</b> <b>Emily Poston</b> <b>Xin Wang</b> <b>Yelonda Wilke</b>	<b>Connie Hoyle</b>	<b>Sherree Komp</b> <b>Joe Thornton</b> <b>Debbie Stone</b> <b>Eugene Winkler</b>

FROM ALL OF US HERE AT PULLMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS,  
**WE THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR MANY YEARS OF SERVICE!**



# It Takes a Special Person to Love Middle School

## Cameron Grow, Lincoln Middle School Principal

Middle school is a time of transition, a bridge between the innocence of childhood and the complexities of adolescence. For many, it's a challenging period marked by growth spurts, shifting friendships, and a whirlwind of emotions. But amid the chaos and change, there are individuals who not only navigate this tumultuous time but thrive in it. These are the special people who truly love middle school. That is your middle school faculty and staff in Pullman.

Middle school is often seen as a tricky phase, both for students and the adults who work with them. It's a time when kids are figuring out who they are, often experiencing the highest levels of emotional turbulence. Yet, our Lincoln Middle School educators, counselors, and staff find immense joy and purpose in this unique environment. What makes these individuals so special, and why do they choose to embrace middle school with such passion?

For us at Lincoln Middle School, it's all about connection. Middle school students are at a stage where they are highly impressionable, eager to connect with others, and just starting to explore their identities. Our staff thrives in this setting and often finds deep satisfaction in forming meaningful relationships with students. They take joy in seeing kids grow, learn, and discover their potential.

Middle school is a time of intense personal development. Students are exploring new subjects, discovering hobbies, and beginning to think about their futures. With over 20+ clubs and activities, our staff have those opportunities outside the school day as well. For those who love working in this environment, witnessing this growth is a significant part of what makes middle school special.

The Lincoln Middle School staff often recognize the profound impact they can have on students during this formative period. Their support helps guide students through the emotional and social challenges they face, influencing their self-esteem and academic success. For many on our staff, this sense of purpose is what drives their love for working in

our middle school.

Of course, working with middle school students comes with its challenges. Adolescents are dealing with complex emotions and social dynamics, and it requires patience, empathy, and creativity to support them effectively. It's greeting students at the door, attending their sporting events, helping with their locker, and High 5 Friday's. We genuinely care about middle school students, these challenges are part of the journey, adding to the fulfillment of our role.

Loving middle school takes a special kind of person—someone who sees beyond the chaos and embraces the opportunity to make a lasting impact. It's about connecting with students, witnessing their growth, and finding joy in the unique challenges and rewards that this transitional stage offers. For those who choose this path, middle school isn't just a job; it's a calling. The LMS staff's dedication helps shape the future of countless young lives.

So, the next time you encounter someone who is passionate about middle school, remember: it takes a special person to thrive in this environment, and their love for the job makes all the difference for the students they serve.

### UNITY DAY

16 OCT 2024

**WEAR AND SHARE ORANGE**

#UNITYEVERYDAY  
PACER.ORG/UNITYDAY

### UNITY DAY

16 OCT 2024

**PONTE ALGO COLOR NARANJA**

#UNITYEVERYDAY  
PACER.ORG/UNITYDAY

Unity Day, started by PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center as the signature event of National Bullying Prevention Month continues to grow every year as a tangible representation of the universal message that our society wants to promote kindness, acceptance and inclusion to prevent bullying. Plan to support the event by participating in the simple call to action—wear and share the color orange on October 16, 2024!

For more information about Unity Day and bullying prevention, visit PACER's website at: <https://www.pacer.org/bullying/nbpm/unity-day.asp>

**PHS Boosters Senior Party Committee and PHS Class of 2024 would like to THANK the following individuals and businesses for their generous support of this year's Senior Party!**

Airway Hills Golf Center • Anita's Rentals • Arby's • Birch & Barley • Blood Diamond Ink Tattoo • Jo & Cameron Brinkman • Lynda Carey • Carmel Minogue CPA & Assoc • Chipman & Taylor Chevrolet • Chipotle • Jim & Bridget Clark • Cougar Country • Crimson & Gray • Marcus Crossler • Crumbl Cookies • Dairy Queen • April & Dirk Danninger • Dave Christy State Farm Insurance • DRA Rentals • Electrical Contractors NW • Flying Squirrel Moscow • Fork In the Road Catering • Foundry Kitchen • Gesa Credit Union • Gritman Medical Center • Hampton Inn • Happy Day Catering and Event Rental • Harbor Freight Tools • Sue & Mike Hinz • Amy & Phil Honeywell • Idaho Central Credit Union • j&h Printing • Glenn & Kathy Johnson • Jonny Fisher, DDS • Karen & Bill King • Kiwanis Club of Pullman • Betty & John Klover • Kuhl Auto Parts – NAPA • Kristi Kurle • Largent's Pullman Appliance • Jean & James Logan • McDonald's of Pullman • Mike Lowery, CPA • Myers Auto Rebuild & Towing • Nayarit Mexican Restaurant • Neill's Flower & Gifts • Neill's Coffee & Ice Cream • PIFCU • PAC Insurance Group • Palouse Balloons • Palouse Pediatric Dentistry • Palouse Ridge Golf Club • Paradise Creek Brewery • Pickard Orthodontics • Pizza Perfection • Poe Asphalt Paving • Presnell Gage • ProFormance Physical Therapy • Pullman High School • Pullman Lions Club • Pullman Police Officer Scott Patrick • Pullman Radio Stations • Pullman Regional Hospital Foundation • PRH Summit Therapy & Health Services • Pullman Subway • RE/MAX Home and Land • Rico's Pub • Roost Coffee & Market • Rosauers Supermarkets • Safeway • Sanctuary Dance • Sam Dial Jewelers • Brenda & Kurt Schroeder • Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories • Scusi! • Sella's Calzone, Pizza, & Pasta • Ade Snider • Staples • Starbucks • Janice Stewart • Sweet Mutiny • Target • Thomas Hammer Coffee Roasters • Toyota of Pullman • Tri State Outfitters • University Collision of Pullman • Village Centre Theatres LLC • Walmart • WSU Foundation • Zelda's Pet Grooming • Zeppoz • Zoe Coffee & Kitchen

**Thank you to everyone who bought and displayed a poster or stencil. We are grateful for every donation and the support of the entire community. Together we made PHS Class of 2024 feel supported and loved! Go Hounds!**



*The Pullman School District Board of Directors and the Pullman School District shall provide equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students in all aspects of the academic and activities programs without regard to race, religion, creed, color, national origin, age, honorably-discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation (including gender expression or identity), marital status, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability, participation in the Boy Scouts of America or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. The district will provide equal access to school facilities to the Boy Scouts of America and all other designated youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society. District programs will be free from sexual harassment.*


*The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Civil Rights Coordinator and Title IX Coordinator; Assistant Superintendent, (509) 332-3144, and Section 504 Coordinator; Director of Special Services, (509) 332-3144. 240 SE Dexter Street, Pullman, WA 99163. Applicants with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations in the application process by contacting the Personnel Coordinator at (509) 332-3584.*

## PULLMAN EDUCATION FOUNDATION (PEF) MONTHLY UPDATE

The Pullman Education Foundation operates exclusively for charitable and educational purposes to improve the quality of public education in the Pullman School District and provide a means of enhancement.

PEF is now accepting applications for Fall 2024 Teacher Grants. From October 1st to November 15th, Pullman School District educators can apply for up to \$500 to enhance their classrooms. These grants support innovative projects not covered by existing budgets and will be awarded by Winter Break.

For details and to apply, visit:

 <https://www.pullmaneducationfoundation.org/>

Arron Carter  
Director, District 1  
[acarter@psd267.org](mailto:acarter@psd267.org)

Lisa Waananen Jones  
Director, District 2  
[lwaananenjones@psd267.org](mailto:lwaananenjones@psd267.org)

Craig Nelson  
Director, District 3  
[cnelson@psd267.org](mailto:cnelson@psd267.org)

Nathan Roberts  
Director, District 4  
[nroberts@psd267.org](mailto:nroberts@psd267.org)

Amanda Tanner  
Director, District 5  
[atanner@psd267.org](mailto:atanner@psd267.org)