

2024-2025 Annual Report



WALLA WALLA PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

In partnership with:



Fiscally sponsored by:



OUR MISSION

The mission of the Walla Walla Public Schools Foundation is to enrich and enhance the educational experiences of students in the Walla Walla Public School District.

OUR WORK

We provide at least one field trip for every WWPS student, grades K - 8, each year as well as overnight, outdoor experiences for high school students.

OUR VALUES

Our field trips are free for all students and serve an entire grade level.

OUR TEAM

Board of Advocates

Sara Archer • Shauna Bogley • Beki Buell •
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Roger Esparza • Ron Higgins • Ruth Ladderud • Jenny
Lemma • Cindy Meyer • Dan Reid • Yvette Selfa • Tamara
Tinhof • Rubi Villegas • Sam Wells • Andy Zahl
District Liaison, Dr. Wade Smith (through June 2025)
District Liaison, Dr. Ben Gauyan (from June 2025)

Walla Walla Public High Schools Scholarship Fund Committee

Andy Zahl (chair), Peter Erb, Ron Higgins, Cindy Meyer, Dan Reid

Staff, Elsa Watson

Because Learning Doesn't End at the Classroom Door

Since our launch in August 2022, we've been amazed by the community response to our goal of providing out-of-the-classroom educational experiences for our students. From individuals and businesses making contributions to local organizations jumping in with both feet to provide amazing content, the backing has been incredible. Most gratifying of all is the excitement on the faces of the students when they arrive for a field trip and the enthusiasm of our talented Walla Walla educators. We're grateful to the Walla Walla Public Schools for their support and partnership.

As a schools foundation, it's our aim to expand learning beyond the classroom door, giving our students the best of what our community has to offer. Thank you for helping to make 2024-2025 such a successful year!

Elsa M. Watson



Elsa Watson (r) with Board of Advocates member Rubi Villegas (l) at Welcome Table Farm.

2024-2025 Field Trips by the Season



Fall

Wa-Hi 9th graders & student leaders: Into the Blue at Camp Wooten (overnight)

7th graders: the Whitman Mission National Historic Site

3rd graders: Welcome Table Farm

Lincoln students: the Leadership Academy at Camp Wooten (two nights)



Winter

2nd graders: Gesa Power House Theatre for a STEAM performance

5th graders: Gesa Power House Theatre to see "One Noble Journey"

7th graders: Fort Walla Walla Museum

8th graders: Whitman College campus



Spring

6th graders: exploration of the Walla Walla watershed

1st graders: Wa-Hi FFA barn

5th graders: Walla Walla Foundry

3rd graders: City of Walla Walla Public Works Department

Kindergarteners: Welcome Table Farm

4th graders: salmon program at the WEC

The Walla Walla Public Schools Foundation raised the \$117,000 necessary to fund these programs in 2024-2025.

Big things happen at camp!



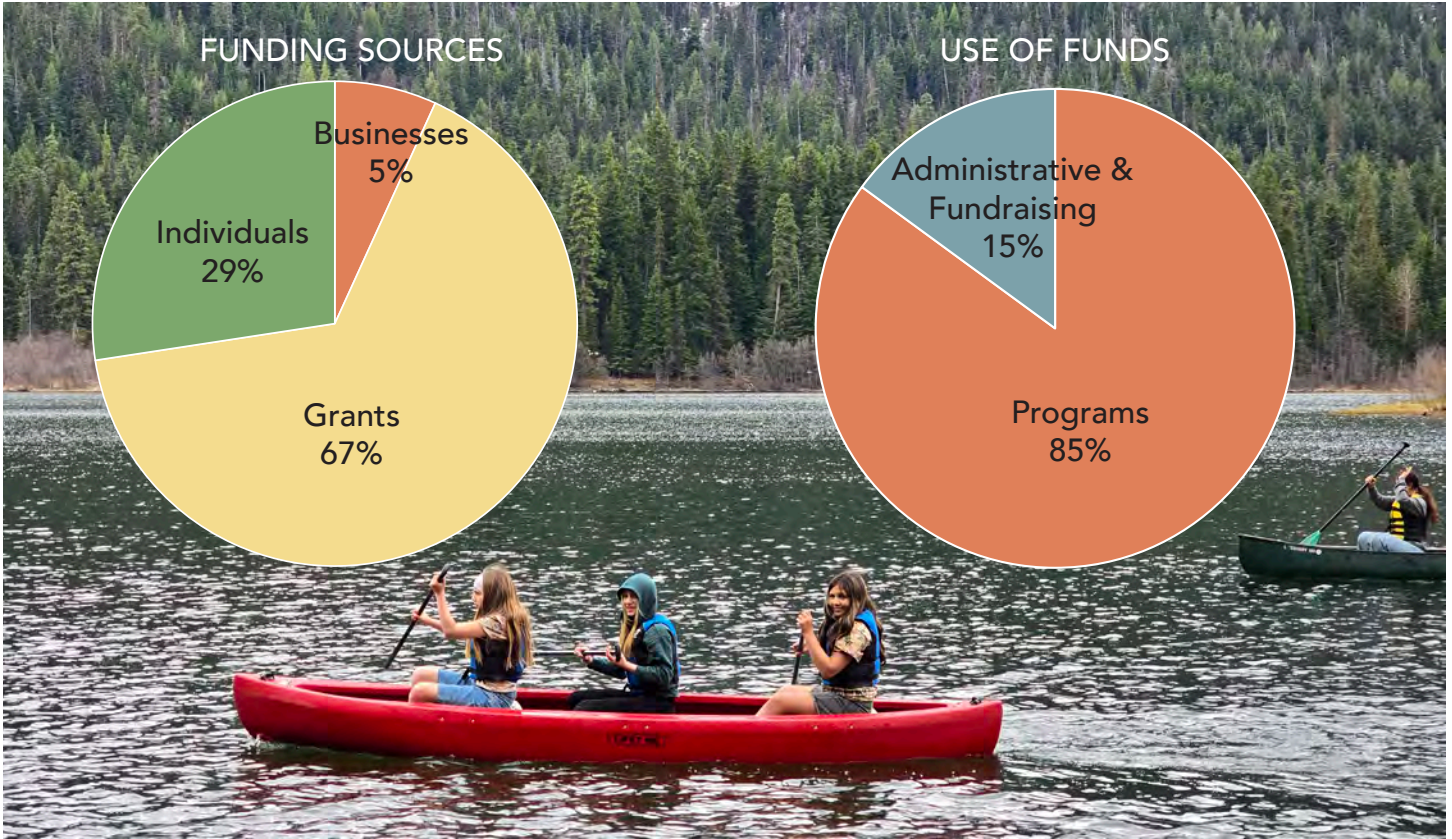
Lincoln's Leadership Academy



Wa-Hi's Into the Blue



2024-2025 Financials



Walla Walla Public High Schools SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Launched by Jerry Zahl and the Wa-Hi Class of 1962 thirteen years ago, the Walla Walla Public High Schools Scholarship Fund now sits at more than \$300,000 and awarded eight scholarships in 2025.

This needs-based scholarship has awarded \$55,500+ to date, supporting 55+ Walla Walla graduates. Awardees used their scholarships at Washington State, Central Washington University, Whitworth University, Western Washington University, Portland State University, University of Washington, and Eastern Washington University. The fund is held at the Blue Mountain Community Foundation.

Thank you!

Tremendous thanks to the 2024-2025 donors whose gifts have made our programs possible.

Grantors

AAUW - Walla Walla
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Pacific Power Foundation
The Shindig Fund, Blue Mountain Community Foundation
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Lori Watson
Sam Wells
Sue Wickham
Cindy Widmer
Andy Zahl
Kathryn Zahl



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