

# Culminating Project



## GUIDELINES

**WALLA WALLA HIGH SCHOOL**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Walla Walla High School Graduation Exit Outcomes

- **Effective Communicators** who can convey and receive ideas, read with comprehension and write with skill.
- **Knowledgeable Persons** who demonstrate a mastery of basic and intermediate skills in mathematics; science; civics and history; geography; arts; and health and fitness.
- **Critical Thinkers** who think analytically, logically and creatively.
- **Life Long Learners** who understand the importance of work and how performance, effort, and decisions affect career and educational opportunities.
- **Responsible and Capable Citizens** who contribute to the well being of self and others.

## State Learning Goals

1. Read with comprehension, write with skill and communicate effectively and responsibly.
2. Know and apply the core concepts and principles of mathematics; social, physical and life sciences; civics and history; geography; arts; and health and fitness.
3. Think analytically, logically, and creatively and integrate experience and knowledge to form reasoned judgments and solve problems.
4. Understand the importance of work and how performance, efforts, and decisions affect career and educational opportunities.

## WA-HI CULMINATING PROJECT OVERVIEW

Starting with the class of 2008, all Washington public high school graduates must fulfill the following four statewide requirements as determined by the State Board of Education.

*(“Footnote 8: Each student shall complete a culminating project for graduation. The project consists of the student demonstrating both their learning competencies and preparations related to learning goals three and four. Each district shall define the process to implement this graduation requirement, including assessment criteria, in written district policy.” (WAC 180-51-061)*

### **FOUR STEPS TO GRADUATION**

1. High School and Beyond Plan
2. Credit requirements
3. Certificate of Academic Achievement/Individual Achievement (CAA / CIA)
4. Culminating Project

**WWHS Culminating Project** is a portfolio-based project which will provide students with opportunities to examine their skills and abilities, as well as articulate their plans for the future.

- ***Will the students not meeting standards for the Culminating Project be able to graduate?***
  - The currently written (WAC 180-51-061) places the culminating project as a **mandatory noncredit graduation requirement**. Thus students will not receive a diploma without completing the culminating project, which includes the Senior Presentation.
- ***Will the Culminating Project be graded?***
  - The students will receive a satisfactory grade (**S**), for proficient and adequate performance or unsatisfactory grade (**U**).
- ***You will be able to access pertinent information about the Culminating Project at Walla Walla High School website, <http://www.wahibluedevils.org>. The website will lead you to the Culminating Project link, which contains forms, documents, events, and the link to the WOIS (Washington Occupation Information System), which is a program the students can use for storing artifacts electronically.***
- **Contact person for Culminating Project and Senior Presentation:**
  - Mira Gobel, Associate Principal, [mkgobe@wwps.org](mailto:mkgobe@wwps.org)
- **Contact person for WOIS:**
  - Brett Cox, Assistant Pricipal, [bcox@wwps.org](mailto:bcox@wwps.org)

# Portfolio Descriptions and Guidelines

- **Personal Story**: This is an opportunity for each student to showcase and celebrate your unique talents, interests, and accomplishments. You can include documents and experiences which highlight your involvement in clubs, athletics, extra-curricular activities, special recognition, certificates, and awards. Personal Story can include your journey as a student and what experiences, interests, and goals are shaping who you are now and who you want to become.
- **My Best Work**: This section of the project is designed to showcase your schoolwork, completed during your high school career. By the end of each school year, you will collect minimum of five assignments or projects. The assignments and/or projects you choose need to reflect what you have learned in each class.
  - **Examples of My Best Work**: Since you will be selecting only five assignments from each school year, the work should be comprehensive, such as semester tests and/or projects, research paper, essays, presentations, performances, portfolios, and projects that demonstrate your knowledge and skills obtained throughout the year. Short assignments, quizzes, scantron tests, daily work, entry tasks etc. should not be included.
  - You will scan, upload, and/or import documents, videos, PowerPoint presentations, digital photos etc. into your WOIS account throughout the year. You will also be able to scan, import, and upload documents from home.
- **Community Volunteer Work**: This is an opportunity to give back to the community at large and for you to demonstrate becoming a contributing and responsible citizen.
  1. Complete 40 hours of community volunteer work hours beginning your freshman year in high school. We recommend that you complete a minimum of 10 hours per year until the required 40 hours have been completed. You may choose one or more community volunteer activities to complete this requirement.
  2. You can download the Community Volunteer form from the Wa-Hi website, under Culminating Project, and record the hours throughout the years. This form will need to be included in your Senior Presentation.
  3. The Career Center has the list of volunteer opportunities and contact information. You can visit Mrs. Hanford to find out how you can get involved in the community.
  - **Community Volunteer Project Guidelines and Ideas**
    - Community service project must be a voluntary, non-paid or non-court ordered activity.
    - You should not receive compensation for your efforts; *compensation* means any type of pay, credit, or favor from the person or organization that you are helping. For an example, picking up litter around Walla Walla High School can be community service project. However, picking up litter to serve assigned detention does not qualify as community service project.
    - Helping *family*, including *family chores*, **does not** qualify for this project (*family* is considered anyone that is related to you by blood or marriage).
    - Helping non-profit organizations is encouraged.
    - You can include the volunteer work from the summer starting your 9<sup>th</sup> grade year.
    - You can organize and participate volunteer work with a group of friends.

- You are encourage to continue to log the volunteer hours beyond the required 40 hours. As you apply for colleges, scholarships and work, this experience will be beneficial and maybe required.
- **Walla Walla High School Clubs:** Many of the Walla Walla High School clubs are involved in community volunteer projects. If you are a member of the following clubs, you will have opportunities to participate in various volunteer projects.
  - **List of Clubs:** Amnesty Club, International Club, Key Club, Girl's League, Boy's Federation, Art Club, Latino Club, French Club, National Honor Society, Crest Club (senior girls only)
  - **Community Non-Profit Organizations:** Children's Museum, Humane Society, Salvation Army, Fort Walla Walla, Walla Walla Public Schools, WHAMMY (mental illness), Department of Fish and Wildlife, Tri-State Steelheaders, Red Cross, St. Vincent DePaul, Some church activities, City of Walla Walla (Parks and Recreation plus other departments), Little League Baseball & Softball/Soccer/Pop Warner junior football, Goodwill, Whitman Mission, Birthright, YMCA, YWCA etc.
- **My High School and Beyond Plan:** This section of the project will include career exploration, career planning, course planning, resume, reflections, feedback, and plan summary. You will include your goals for immediately after high school. Your plan should include the classes needed in preparation for a 2 to 4 year college, vocational or technical school, certificate program or the workforce.
  - **Career Preparation:** The Career Preparation will help you connect your classroom experiences to your future. You will have opportunities to explore and include in your project, career exploration, interest and skills assessments, goal setting, employment skills, and personal finance. The information and activities in the Career Preparation will prepare you for post-high school plans such as employment and continuing education.
- **Senior Year Presentation Plan:** During your senior year, you will begin to design and plan the Senior Presentation. This is the Culminating Project portion of the graduation requirement. You will receive the planning guide and the scoring rubric. All students will be required to present the Blueprint project to a panel of adults, community members, teachers, and/or parents, during their senior year.

# **SENIOR PRESENTATION: GUIDING QUESTIONS**

## **Personal Story**

1. Tell us about you as a student.
  - What has been the most rewarding part of high school?
  - How have your four years at Wa-Hi helped prepare you for life after high school? Provide specific examples.

## **Best Work**

2. How does the Best Work that you have chosen to include in your portfolio show that you have earned a high school diploma?
  - What is your favorite area of work?
  - Provide two or more reasons to support your choice.
  - Describe how your Best Work influenced you as a student.
  - Make sure to show examples of your best work.

## **Community Volunteer Work**

3. Describe community service that you were involved in during your four years at Walla Walla High School?
  - Provide two or more reasons why this was rewarding.
  - Has this experience influence your post-high school plan? If so, how?
  - How will you continue to give back to your community after high school?

## **High School and Beyond Plan**

4. Describe your post-high school plan.
  - How did you arrive at this plan?
  - What were the resources and information that helped you in creating the plan?
  - How has your high school experience contributed to this plan?

# SENIOR PRESENTATION PLANNING SHEET

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>PERSONAL STORY</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> What are some things you want the panel to know about you? <input type="checkbox"/> What are some things you would include in your introduction?	
<input type="checkbox"/> What has been the most rewarding part of high school? Why? <input type="checkbox"/> What has been the most challenging part of high school? Why?	
<input type="checkbox"/> How did your experiences at Wa-Hi prepare you for your post high school plan?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Describe the highlights of your high school experience.	
<b>BEST WORK</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> What is your favorite area of work and why?	
<input type="checkbox"/> List the specific Best Work you plan to include in your presentation. <input type="checkbox"/> How do these selected pieces support your Personal Story and High School and Beyond plan?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Describe how your Best Work influenced you as a student.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Provide reasons to support the selection of this work.	

## **COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER WORK**

Describe community volunteer service in where you were involved.

Provide reasons why this was a rewarding experience.

Has this contributed to your high school experience and / or your post-high school plan? Explain.

How will you continue to give back to your community after high school?

## **HIGH SCHOOL AND BEYOND PLAN**

What are your plans after graduation?  
(What would you be doing the following school year, the fall of 2008?)

How did you arrive at this plan?  
 What were the resources and information that helped you in creating the plan?

How did your high school experience contribute to this plan and/or prepare you for this plan?

## **PRESENTATION**

When do you want to present?  
▪ February 22 or 23  
▪ March 22 or 23

What kind of presentation will you do?  
▪ PowerPoint presentation  
▪ 3 – ring binder portfolio presentation  
▪ Video presentation  
▪ Visual aids  
▪ Other? Explain

# WALLA WALLA HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR PRESENTATION EVALUATION

Student Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Initials: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Please evaluate each area and fill in the score column to get the overall rating.

	Does not meet standard- requires further work	Meets standard – minimum requirements	Exceeds standard - excellent	Score
<b>Content</b>				
A. <b>Personal Story:</b> Personal story, interests, accomplishments, aspirations, reflections, etc.	0 1 2	3 4	5	
B. <b>Best Work:</b> Examples of work samples	0 1 2	3 4	5	
C. <b>Community Volunteer Work:</b> Minimum of 40 documented hours	0 1 2	3 4	5	
D. <b>High School and Beyond Plan</b>	0 1 2	3 4	5	
<b>Sub Total</b>				
<b>Organization</b>				
Introduction, conclusion, visual aids etc.	0 1 2	3 4	5	
<b>Delivery</b>				
Use of voice, eye contact, professional appearance, etc.	0 1 2	3 4	5	
<b>Sub Total</b>				
<b>Total</b>				

**\*NOTE: Students MUST include best work samples and documented community volunteer hours in their presentations. If a student receives a zero on either of these categories, due to lack of evidence, he/she will be required to re-do his/her presentation at a later date.**

- Overall rating:     Exceeds standard (25 points or above)  
                           Meets standard (15 -24points)  
                           Does not meet standard (below 15 points)

Comments and/or suggestions for improvement:

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