

2026

'éey'snin' kím̐ti 'ín̐m̐iwit  
Happy New Year

# LAPWAI SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S WEEKLY UPDATE



Friday, January 9, 2026

Celebrations & Pictures of Wildcat Scholars  
& the Dedicated Staff Who Serve Them

# CELEBRATION OF SERVICE



Please join us in celebrating the exemplary service and dedicated leadership of Sonya Samuels-Allen and Lori Johnson on the Lapwai School District Board of Trustees. Their caring support of our students, families, staff, and community were honored at the December meeting. Their unwavering commitment to our success has been a gift resulting in incredible growth and increased resources for the students we serve. qe'ciyew'yew'

Sonya Samuels-Allen, Chair  
2007-2025

Lori Johnson, Vice-Chair  
2010-2025

Together, we ensure all students will  
reach their full potential.

# KINDERGARTEN READERS!



Mrs. Sliger's Kindergarten Wildcat Scholars  
partner reading and practicing their sight words.

qe'ciyew'yew' Mrs. Sliger for sharing pictures!



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# WILDCAT WAY AWARDS



A Wildcat thank you to the Idaho Office of Drug Policy for their award of a Substance Prevention & Treatment Block Grant. Their support provides recognition for students modeling the Wildcat Way who are substance free with respectful, responsible, and safe behavior. Two exemplary 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Wildcat Scholars were selected for celebration. Congratulations to Rhoni Taylor and Cylen Moses! They each received a Wildcat Way medal and a life-size cardboard cutout for display in their school.

**CONGRATS!**



Please join us in celebrating Rhoni and Cylen!



# WILDCAT WAY AWARDS



**THANK  
YOU**



A Wildcat thank you to the Idaho Office of Drug Policy for their award of a Substance Prevention & Treatment Block Grant. Their support provides recognition for community partners modeling the Wildcat Way who are substance free with respectful, responsible, and safe behavior. We were proud to honor Julie Seely of the Lapwai Community Library! Julie has gifted us with her big heart and dedication to our students through the Lapwai Community Coalition, Family Engagement Team, Superintendent's Community Cabinet, and the annual Celebrating Families in Our Community event. We celebrated Julie with a Wildcat Way medal and a life-size cardboard cutout for display at the library.

Please join us in thanking Julie Seely!

# WILDCAT CHEER!



The Lapwai High School basketball cheerleaders have showcased an outstanding season filled with enthusiasm, creativity, and community pride. This year, the team introduced a collection of brand new cheers and dynamic stunts that elevated the energy of every home game. Their commitment to constant cheering throughout each matchup has energized both the players and the fans, reflecting the deep pride and unity of the Lapwai community and the Nez Perce Tribe.

The cheerleaders have also collaborated seamlessly with the newly formed pep band, creating an exciting, synchronized game-day experience that amplifies school spirit and crowd involvement. Their ability to engage fans of all ages—students, alumni, and community members alike—has strengthened the connection between the school and the broader Lapwai community.

Under the guidance of their dedicated coaches, the squad has displayed remarkable teamwork, discipline, and passion. The coach's leadership has been instrumental in fostering a culture of confidence and excellence, resulting in a noticeable surge of enthusiasm at every event. The cheerleaders' infectious energy, creative routines, and unwavering support for the Wildcats exemplify the heart and pride of Lapwai High School athletics.

Dr. D'Lisa Penney, Lapwai Middle-High School Principal

# WILDCAT ROAR! 🐾



Congratulations to Mrs. Paris' 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Wildcat Scholars for achieving a Wildcat Roar Celebration! Each day an elementary class has everyone in attendance and on time, they receive a Wildcat Roar Card. Once the class achieves 10 cards, they earn the celebration of their choice. This system of celebrating success is an action plan created by the Superintendent's Faculty Cabinet. This team benefits from the generous support of Local Education Program Funds from the Nez Perce Tribe. Please join us in thanking them for making these rewards possible!

What gets recognized, gets repeated. What gets celebrated, becomes a habit.

Please also join us in celebrating Attendance Clerk, LaTasha Dishion, for coordinating these celebrations! qe'ciyew'yew'



**TAU'ALA GEORGE 2ND GRADE**

**WEEKLY  
WILDCAT  
PERFECT  
ATTENDANCE**

**WOW!**



# LAPWAI.ORG - IMPACT AID



In an effort to hear the voices of our parents, community members and Nez Perce Tribal leaders in the planning and development of our educational programs and activities, the following survey was created. The survey is available in two formats.

[Summary of Last Year's Results](#)

