

Kelly Garza, Superintendent

March 11, 2024

Contacts: Mike Balmelli, Community Relations Manager 509-307-4923/509-877-5019 Erin Gonzalez, Wapato Middle School Cultural Unity Fair Organizer, 509-877-2173

Celebrating 41 Years of Cultural Unity

Wapato Middle School proudly presents the 41st Annual Cultural Unity Fair. It takes place on **Thursday, March 28, from 4:30-7:00 p.m. at Wapato Middle School.** The purpose of the event is to celebrate the diverse and rich cultures of the Yakima Valley. It all started in 1982 when a concerned group of teachers and school leaders developed a concept for cultural unity to combat the perception, at the time, that gangs and violence dominated Wapato's community. The fact that this year's event is the 41st anniversary is a testament to the unity demonstrated by our community.

The event features foods from the many different cultures that make up our region. Some of the ethnic foods included are Indian Fry Bread, Salmon, Pansit, Lumpia, Tacos, Cinnamon Rolls, Pizza, Baklava and the ALWAYS popular Cheese Zombies. Adult cooks from the various cultures combine to provide this culinary feast.

Advance ticket sales are happening now. Tickets can be purchased in advance in the Wapato Middle School office located at 1309 Kateri Lane in Wapato from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday or on-line by scanning the QR code below. They are also available at the door the evening of the event. Tickets are \$8.00 for adults and \$6.00 for Seniors and children. In exchange for each ticket, participants receive food tokens that can be used to sample the various foods.

