Building on the students’ high school experiences, the culminating project is designed to assist students in developing realistic and fulfilling life plans based on their understanding of themselves, their needs, interests and skills. The project complements the Wenatchee School District mission and satisfies legal requirements.

The state law mandating the culminating project states, “Each student shall complete a culminating project for graduation. The project consists of students demonstrating both their learning competencies and preparation related to goals three and four” per WAC 180-51-061.

Goal Three: To “think analytically, logically and creatively, and to integrate experience and knowledge to form reasoned judgments and solve problems.”

Goal Four: To “understand the importance of work and how performance, effort, and decisions directly affect career and educational opportunities.”

The Wenatchee School District’s mission is: to personally know and encourage students as learners and recognize their academic, citizenship and co-curricular accomplishments; to assist students to learn and apply essential skills and values to be contributing community citizens with a global perspective; to challenge students to continually stretch and grow while working with family and community as active partners.

All seniors will be expected to complete this requirement as a part of graduation. Failure to complete the culminating project can prevent a student from graduating and it will be listed on student transcripts with a pass or fail (P/F) grade.

The Wenatchee High School Culminating Project (CP) will consist of the following components:

1. **Portfolio**

The portfolio will be a collection of evidence documenting a student’s skills, knowledge, experience and accomplishments during his or her high school educational experience. The portfolio will be the place to
(a.) organize and store important information, especially work you are proud of, 
(b.) market yourself when applying for an internship, job, scholarship or to college, and
(c.) help you plan for the future by setting goals and keeping track of your high school progress (you may even want to use your portfolio during parent conferences).

Your Portfolio will contain artifacts/items listed on the Portfolio Checklist or approved by your CP Advisor that reflect your interests and accomplishments in at least four different subject areas and may include items such as, but not limited to the following:

- Samples of your best work (your best work and work that shows how you have improved)
- Financial Plan for your future after High School
- Record of jobs, internships, community service, volunteer experiences, etc.
- Honors or awards you have received
- The test you made an “A” on in Math, a photo of your final shop project or your prize-winning steer, a CD or video of a performance, a computer project you have completed, etc.

The portfolio will include all required and optional items listed in the CP Portfolio Grade Requirement checklist for each grade level organized into the three different sections according the checklist (required items, required student selected items, and optional items).

Student Portfolio checks will occur annually during CP Advisory meetings with a final Pass/Fail grade awarded at the end of the school year.

CP Advisors will sign-off Portfolio Checks as Pass or Fail, 9th – 11th graders keep yellow copy in your CP file and the advisors keeps the white original and enters the Pass/Fail grade for the report card only.

Seniors: keep yellow copy in your portfolio and CP advisor keeps Pink copy and turns the white original in to the Counseling Office/Registrar to be recorded on the student’s report card and “P” (pass) or “F” (fail) on the final transcript.

Students will need to make arrangements with their respective CP advisor or Counselor for Running Start students to complete any missing CP requirements.

If your portfolio is not complete, you have until the last CP Advisory for the year to complete all missing items whereupon your portfolio folder will be reviewed for completion by your CP Advisor.
**Portfolio Career Pathway**  The concept of Career Pathways reflects a systematic, logical career guidance tool that will assist all students to make educational and career decisions while exploring a wide variety of educational opportunities. Career Inventories such as the WOIS career interest inventory and ASVAB are excellent resources for determining a Career Pathway. The WHS Career Center serves as an essential resource for materials and information for accessing WOIS, the Washington Occupational Information System as well as other helpful career and higher education materials.

You must have a copy of your latest Career Interest Inventory and your identified Career Pathway (check your WHS WOIS electronic portfolio which you may have developed in the 9th grade or go to the Career Center and make an appointment for assistance to complete a career interest inventory and to identify your pathway).

2. **5th Year Plan**

Each student who will graduate from Wenatchee High School will formulate a High School Plan each year for his or her four years of high school and a 5th Year Plan during the senior year for one year beyond high school.

You must have a copy of your latest High school plan/Credit Check and Transcript, which you may have received from your counselor or counseling department. Plus, you must complete your 5th Year Plan in your Senior year.

3. **Senior Presentation**

Each senior student will make an eight to twelve minute presentation to give students the opportunity to document, demonstrate and defend their learning experiences in preparation for the year after high school by addressing the following:

Has the student provided evidence that the Culminating Project:
- Has built on high school experiences?
- Has included a 5th year or future plan?
- Reflects an understanding of his or her self, needs, interests and skills?

**What:** Presentations must include, but are not limited to an oral response to the guiding questions listed on the Presentation Evaluation Rubric. The format may include a dramatic presentation or musical performance, multimedia presentation, a product, visual display or other demonstration approved by the CWP teacher or Counselor for Running Start students. The yellow copy of the Presentation Evaluation Rubric should be placed in portfolio, pink copy will stay with teacher/counselor and the white original needs to be turned into the counseling office by the CWP teacher or Counselor for Running Start students.

**WHEN:** Senior presentations will take place during the student’s CWP class with peers or in special circumstances by arrangement with the student’s CWP teacher for presentation during designated times during WASL weeks in March and April. Senior Running Start students not enrolled in a WHS CWP class must make presentation arrangements with their respective counselor.

**WHERE:** Presentations will take place in classrooms at Wenatchee High School.

**WHO:** Seniors will select and invite an adult family member/significant adult. The CWP teacher or Counselor hosting the Senior Presentation will be the sole evaluator of the presentation.

**Scheduling:** Seniors should make presentation arrangements as soon as possible with their CWP teacher or Counselor to make sure they have arranged a presentation time, have made arrangements for any necessary AV equipment, have invited their required guests and will have completed their 5th Year Plan form, Pathway and Portfolio.
Culminating Project Frequently Asked Questions

1) General

Q: The law creating the culminating project (CP) cites goals three and four. To what does this refer?

A: Goal three is to “think analytically, logically and creatively, and to integrate experience and knowledge to form reasoned judgments and solve problems."

Goal four is to "understand the importance of work and how performance, effort, and decisions directly affect career and educational opportunities."

Q: Where are students’ portfolios kept? Can they access them whenever they want? Who gets to see them?

A: Students’ portfolios will be kept by the student’s CP Advisor. Students may access their portfolios whenever they wish, but they must check them out from their CP Advisor. Individuals who may access portfolios include students, parents, counselors, career center personnel, teachers and culminating project advisors (CPA’s).

Q: How do we handle attendance, tardies and make-ups?

A: Handle attendance and tardy information as you would for any other class. You will find your culminating project (CP) class list on Skyward. Collect contact information (phone numbers, email addresses, etc.) for your group members. Students should treat the work missed during a CP lesson as work missed in a regular class and contact their CPA to make it up accordingly.

Q: What do we do about students who choose not to participate?

A: Beginning with the class of 2005, the CP portfolio and presentation were listed on student transcripts indicating a “P” (pass) or “F” (failure). Completion of the CP is required by law and the Wenatchee School District for graduation from WHS and will be reflected on transcripts.

Q: Why is there an overlap in the lunch release and lesson ending times on CP days?

A: Releasing both groups at the same time would create a huge bottleneck at the entrance to the cafeteria. Please expect the second CP group to wait until the first group is finished before entering the classroom.
Q: How does the pass/fail for the portfolio get on the senior transcript?

A: Your CP advisor will grade your portfolio and will turn in the original white copy of the CP Portfolio Requirements to the counseling office with Pass or Fail and you will receive a yellow copy to keep in your portfolio.

2) Culminating Project Presentation

Q: Can students invite as many people as they want to their presentation, as long as they have the minimum number of people represented?

A: Yes, if arrangements are made with the student’s CWP teacher or Counselor hosting the presentation.

Q: Who evaluates the presentation?

A: The CWP teacher or Counselor for Running Start students hosting the presentation is the sole evaluator.

Q: What happens if students don’t successfully complete their culminating project presentation? Do they have to do it over? If so, by what date?

A: Students may make adjustments and successfully re-present by May 15 of their senior year.

Q: What facilities are available for student presentations? How are they scheduled?

A: Classrooms will be the venue for CP presentations. Presentation Dates and times will be agreed upon by seniors and their CWP teacher or Counselor for Running Start students who will host the presentation.

Q: How does the pass/fail for the presentation get on the transcript?

A: Your CWP teacher or counselor (running start students) will fill out the Presentation Evaluation Rubric and will turn in the white original copy to the counseling office with Pass or Fail and you will receive a yellow copy to keep in your portfolio.