Washington State’s ESDs

Tim Merlino, Superintendent, Educational Service District 112

2020 WASA Incoming Superintendents Conference
July 23, 2020
Created by Legislature in 1969-

Purpose

✓ Ensure equal opportunities to all students

✓ Provide cooperative and informational services to school districts when such functions are more effectively and economically administered from the regional level

✓ Assist OPSI and SBE with performance of statutory duties

✓ Manage and/or support personnel service

✓ Provide cooperative curriculum services such as health promotion, health education, training, assessment

✓ Assist with technology integration and tool selection
ESD Governance

- ESDs are governed by 7 or 9 member Board of Directors, elected by school board members in the ESD region, to four year terms.

- Each ESD has regularly scheduled superintendent meetings to discuss legislation, items from the region, and reports from OSPI and other partners.

- Each ESD has a Superintendent’s Executive Advisory Council that approves the annual ESD budget and makes recommendations for ESD services and support.

- All cooperatives have advisory boards made up of regional superintendents to guide the administration of the program.
ESD Funding Model

- ESDs each receive approximately $800,000 from the state in core funding for basic support
- All ESD services are provided on a district “opt in” model, district choice
- Nine ESDs provided over $300 million in services in 2019-20 or about $37.50 in services for the $1 invested by the state
- ESDs provided approximately $273 in services per student in 2019-20
ESD Programming – Teaching and Learning

- Special Education – Fee for Service and Cooperatives
- Behavioral Day Treatment Programs
- Nursing Services
- Teacher Training
- Math/Science/ELA/CCL coordinators
- Prevention Programs
- Open Doors
- Early Learning – Head Start, ECEAP, Childcare, WAKIDS, ESIT
Administrative Support and Services

- Small district business management and payroll services
- Fiscal and student software support (WSIPC)
- HR and legal support to school districts
- Self insured programs – unemployment, worker’s compensation, property casualty
- Construction services (CSG)
- Communication services
- Convener of “Job Alike”, middle man between OSPI and districts
- Work with school districts on legislative issues
ESD Response to COVID-19

- ESDs have served as the information flow for questions and answers between the state and regional school districts during this critical period.
- AESD convenes the bi-weekly meetings of all associations, AWSP, WSSDA, WASA, WASBO, and OSPI.
- AESD prepared the PPE bid for all districts in the state of Washington.
- AESD is partnering with Jeff Utecht to provide training for teachers in online instruction.
- AESD is working with WSIPC to provide an online option for school districts for health attestations.
ESD and WASA Partnership

- Excellent Professional Development Opportunities
- Superintendent Handbook
Questions?