Colleagues and Friends,

The level of engagement by WASA members during the 2019 Legislative Session was the most robust in memory. Your outreach to legislators was strong, steady, and persistent throughout the entire session. Those efforts made a difference on a variety of legislative policy fronts that will help schools and districts, as well as fend off legislative policy that would have been harmful to schools. While the legislature did not fully address our priorities or resolve many of our concerns, there were a number of wins for schools and school districts.

On April 28, the 2019 Legislature adjourned sine die. For many WASA members, the end of the session is also the end of their interaction with legislators—until next January. Others will continue to invest time and energy maintaining contact with legislators to further strengthen relationships. This “year-round” approach to engaging legislators is key to building credibility and maximizing your influence.

As a leader, you know that relationships are the foundation upon which things get done. Relationships are at the core of your ability to inspire, influence, and mobilize those in your school district to implement change and drive toward excellence. The same applies to those legislators you hope to influence—it begins with personal relationships.

Fundamentally, relationships provide access to lawmakers. If they know and respect you, they are inclined to pay more attention when they hear from you than when they hear from someone they don’t know. In fact, the ideal relationship would be one in which the legislator is proactively reaching out to you to secure your perspective on an issue or topic.

Don’t wait until January to re-engage with legislators. Take advantage of the next seven months to build and make stronger your rapport and connection with them. Regardless of what they did NOT do for schools in the last session, thank them for their efforts. Reach out with an invitation for coffee to hear their perspective on the 2019 session, and what they foresee in 2020. Consider extending invitations to your high school graduation exercises, the opening of a new school, or a board meeting. Invite them to visit your school district early next fall—consider getting it calendared now.

Fortifying these relationships will not necessarily ensure that legislators always land on your side of an issue. Remember, they are managing a considerable number of competing interests. Nevertheless, a focus on building these relationships will amplify your voice and bolster your influence when it counts the most.

I believe this work is essential to your role as the preeminent educational leaders in your respective communities. You are advocates for children in all that you do. Working to influence education policy that benefits the students in your schools will buttress your ability to build great schools and school districts that serve students and position them for bright futures.

All the best to you as another successful school year comes to a close. Amidst the flurry of activity in these final days and weeks, be mindful of the great work that has occurred in your schools this year; great work that brings out the best in the students you serve.

I look forward to seeing you in Spokane at the Summer Conference.

Best regards,

Joel Aune
WASA President-elect Campaign

The WASA President-elect campaign is now underway. Jake Dingman, superintendent, Oakesdale School District, and Brian Talbott, superintendent, Nine Mile Falls School District, are this year’s candidates. Electronic candidate brochures will be sent to WASA members mid-June. The candidates will make a presentation at the Honorary Awards Luncheon being held in conjunction with the WASA/AWSP Summer Conference on July 1 in Spokane. Electronic ballots will be sent to WASA Active Members on August 1, and voting will be open until August 13.

AASA Women in School Leadership Awards

The AASA Women in School Leadership Award program is designed to recognize the exceptional leadership of active, front-line female leaders who are making a difference in the lives of students every day. Three awards are available—Superintendent Award, Central Office/Principal Award, and The School Driven Leadership Award. Applicants are judged on the following criteria—Leadership for Learning, Communication, Professionalism, and Community Involvement. Applications must be submitted online at www.aasa.org/WomensLeadership.aspx by October 11, 2019. Finalists will be announced November 18, 2019. Winners will be announced on February 14, 2020, at the AASA National Conference. For more information visit www.aasa.org/WomensLeadership.aspx.

AASA Educational Administration Scholarships

AASA’s Educational Administration Scholarships were created in 1949 to provide incentive, honor, and financial assistance to outstanding graduate students in school administration who intend to make the school superintendency a career. Seven top graduate students in educational administration will receive a scholarship from AASA. The scholarships are given in honor of AASA’s former executive directors. To review the eligibility information and FAQ, visit www.bit.ly/2CkFofI. Applications are available on the AASA website. The deadline to submit an application is September 30, 2019.

2020 Washington Superintendent of the Year (SOY)

Please consider applying or encouraging a worthy candidate to apply for Washington’s 2020 Superintendent of the Year (SOY). The online application can be found on the AASA website at soy.aasa.org. To be considered for Washington’s SOY process, the deadline to apply is October 1, 2019. A panel of WASA judges will then determine Washington’s SOY for 2020. The selected candidate for Washington State will be submitted to AASA to be considered for the 2020 AASA National Superintendent of the Year, which will be announced at the 2020 AASA National Conference on Education, February 13–15, 2020, San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, California. For information on the Superintendent of the Year program and process, go to soy.aasa.org. For questions on Washington’s SOY process, contact Shari Parsons at sparsons@wasa-oly.org or 360.943.5717.

ARE YOU CONNECTED TO WASA?

Be sure to follow us on Facebook and Twitter for information on upcoming conferences and workshops, legislative news and updates, and school news.
**Event Calendar**

**2019 WASA/AWSP SUMMER CONFERENCE**
June 30–July 2 | Spokane Convention Center, Spokane
Register now at [www.wasa-oly.org/Summer19](http://www.wasa-oly.org/Summer19).

**2019 WASA INCOMING SUPERINTENDENT CONFERENCE**
July 22–23 | DoubleTree by Hilton, Olympia
Register now at [www.wasa-oly.org/Incoming19](http://www.wasa-oly.org/Incoming19).

**2019 WASA/OSPI SPECIAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE**
August 1–2 | Hotel Murano, Tacoma
Register now at [www.wasa-oly.org/SPED19](http://www.wasa-oly.org/SPED19).

**2019 WASA FALL CONFERENCE**
October 8 | Four Points by Sheraton Seattle Airport South
Registration opens August 7.

Click here to view the 2019–20 Event Calendar

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**The 2019 WASA/AWSP Summer Conference Mobile App is Coming Soon!**

This interactive app will allow you to:

- View the complete conference schedule and explore the sessions offered.
- Bookmark sessions and create your own personal schedule.
- Keep a pulse on the most popular sessions by viewing the app’s Activity Feed, which highlights useful comments, photos, ratings, and more.
- Receive announcements and obtain the most up-to-date information about what’s happening at the conference.
- Expand your professional network and have fun by interacting with other attendees in the app.
- Connect with speakers and presenters.
- Meet with exhibitors.

Stay tuned for an update and download instructions when the app is ready! Details can be found at [www.wasa-oly.org/Summer19](http://www.wasa-oly.org/Summer19).

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**WANTA TO TELL YOUR STORY?**

WASA is looking for stories on the great learning and teaching taking place in our Washington schools. To “Tell Your Story,” please send information, pictures, materials, etc., to Tricia McCosh at pmccosh@wasa-oly.org.

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**WASA Incoming Superintendent Conference**

**JULY 22–23, 2019**
**DOUBLETREE BY HILTON, OLYMPIA**

The WASA Incoming Superintendent Conference provides a unique and invaluable opportunity for first-time and seasoned incoming superintendents to network and focus their leadership and goals on the first 90 days of the superintendency.

We encourage all incoming superintendents to participate. Registration and conference details are available at [www.wasa-oly.org/Incoming19](http://www.wasa-oly.org/Incoming19).
WASA/OSPI SPECIAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE
AUGUST 1–2, 2019 | HOTEL MURANO, TACOMA

New Director Preconference: July 31

Register now at www.wasa-oly.org/SPED19.
Spotlight on a WASA Diamond Level Sponsor:

Inspirus Credit Union believes in the power of education. When Seattle math and journalism teacher Robert J. Handy founded the credit union in 1936, the idea of a financial institution owned and operated by the people who saved there was a new (and some said radical) concept. To get the word out, Mr. Handy typed the first newsletter on a mimeograph master, ran off copies, and distributed them via principals' boxes.

Despite what must have seemed like long odds, the credit union met milestone after milestone: extending membership statewide in 1949, reaching $1 million in assets by 1952, and ranking as the state's second-largest credit union by 1960. Today, the member-owned financial institution heavily invests in giving back to Washington's schools, students, and educators. In 2018 alone, Inspirus gave over $650,000 across the state through classroom grants, volunteer opportunities that benefitted numerous students, and partnering with education-affiliated programs.

Along with the opportunity to make a difference, Inspirus members get the support they need to achieve their goals with personalized banking services and great products that can help them save time and money. The credit union also offers free educational resources like the Your Money Handbook blog, providing helpful guidance on financial milestones, how to strategically use loan products, and more. Learn more by visiting www.inspirusCU.org.

2019 Gallagher Howard M. Coble Scholarship Recipient Announced

A highly successful school superintendent and respected school leader for many years, Dr. Howard M. Coble also served as Executive Director of WASA from 1980 to 1991. Throughout Howard's career, he was a mentor for educational leaders across the state. Howard passed away in October 2016, at the age of 91. After his passing, the WASA Board authorized the creation of a scholarship in Howard's name. The Howard M. Coble Scholarship is designed to assist talented, underrepresented educators in pursuing graduate studies that prepare them for central office leadership positions.

Launched in February 2018, the scholarship was awarded to Trevor Greene in its first year. This year 19 applications were submitted. Courtney Lear, of the Mount Adams School District, has been selected as the recipient for the 2019 Howard M. Coble Scholarship. The award of $5,000 was presented to Courtney during the WASA/AWSP/WSSDA Equity Conference luncheon on May 22 in SeaTac.

Beginning this year, Gallagher has stepped forward to be the sole sponsor of the Howard M. Coble Scholarship. Gallagher has been a long-time supporter and sponsor of WASA. At WASA, we are both delighted and grateful that Gallagher will be sponsoring this scholarship for many years to come.

Upcoming Awards & Scholarships

Superintendent of the Year

The Superintendent of the Year program is designed to recognize the outstanding leadership of active, frontline superintendents.

Application Process: May 1–October 1, 2019

To review the criteria for the various awards, visit the WASA website at bit.ly/2g3DV0W. More information will be included in future editions of Hotline.

Region Events—June

Many WASA regions conduct monthly gatherings and/or provide activity reports in conjunction with ESD meetings (not listed below).

REGION 123
June 13, 5:30–8 p.m.

PRESIDENT—WADE SMITH
Honorary Awards Ceremony Banquet, Meadow Springs Country Club, Richland

Video: Manson Staff Dream Big

Internships in nursing, aviation, and criminal investigation are just a few of the opportunities Manson High School students are pursuing to get ready for their futures. Watch this North Central Washington district's story of developing a personalized pathways initiative that supports every student in reaching their education and career goals. The superintendent, teachers, and students offer insights about how the program got started and why it is working. Watch the video here.
WASA Honorary Awards

This spring, WASA regions throughout Washington honored and recognized outstanding administrators and community members who have made extraordinary contributions to public education. Below is a sampling of photos from several awards presentations. Congratulations to this year’s region recipients. The statewide awards (Golden Gavel, Barbara Mertens Legacy, Service to WASA, and WASA Leadership) will be presented at the WASA Honorary Awards Luncheon on July 1 in conjunction with the WASA/AWSP Summer Conference in Spokane.

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Past President: Steve Webb, Vancouver
Secretary: Vicki Bates, Auburn
Treasurer: Corine Pennington, Puyallup