Dear Colleagues:

Oh, the weather outside is frightful. We’ve heard this song many times over the years. This past month it could be the theme song for school districts across the state of Washington. From Vancouver to Newport, from Neah Bay to Asotin, and from Blaine to Roosevelt, almost every single school district has been hit hard by challenging winter weather.

So, how did we do in responding to this adverse weather? We responded courageously, thoughtfully, and appropriately, and kept both hands on the wheel. WASA leaders from across the state responded by keeping the safety and well-being of their students and staff at the core of these difficult and sometimes unpopular decisions. My hat is off to you for working closely with your team and with local school districts and agencies in making the right decisions and for remaining focused on what is best for students.

An excellent example of one of our leaders who continues to serve while expecting nothing in return is our 2019 Washington State Superintendent of the Year, Mike Nelson. Mike has served the Enumclaw School District, WASA, and every school district he has been a part of with a tireless spirit to make a difference. Mike is one of the most genuine and humble servant leaders I’ve ever been around. He is a role model for all of us. Mike was recently recognized at the AASA National Conference of Education in Los Angeles. In addition to this honor, we believe he is also unofficially the Best Dressed Superintendent in the United States of America. Don’t be surprised if he is on a future cover of some fashion magazine. Way to go, Mike—we are very proud of you!

We are closing in on the three-quarter mark for the 2018–19 school year and we have much still to do. Thanks for staying focused on advocating for your students and your communities while also realizing we’re in this together. Our three “ships”—relationships, leadership, and partnerships—continue to be front and center for everything we do.

Thanks for making a difference each and every day!

Sincerely,

Randy Russell
WASA Leaders Workshop
April 16, 2019
Four Points by Sheraton at Seattle Airport South

WASA leadership will come together in April for the annual WASA Leaders Workshop. President-elect Krestin Bahr will facilitate the meeting. WASA members in the following leadership roles should plan to attend:

WASA Board of Directors 2018–19
Region Presidents 2018–19
Region Presidents-elect 2018–19
Region Presidents-elect 2019–20
Standing Committee Chairs 2018–19
Standing Committee Chairs 2019–20

An invitation with further details will be sent in early March. Questions may be directed to Shari Parsons at sparsons@wasa-oly.org or 360.943.5717.

2019 WASA Honorary Awards
Nominations are Now Being Accepted

The 2019 WASA Honorary Awards nomination process is underway. Nomination forms were sent electronically to all active WASA members; additional electronic applications may also be found on the WASA website at https://wasa-oly.org/HonoraryAwards. State awards are presented at the 2019 WASA/AWSP Summer Conference in July and include the Golden Gavel, Barbara Mertens Legacy, Service to WASA, and WASA Leadership awards. Region awards, presented at award ceremonies regionally, include the Student Achievement Leadership, Award of Merit, Community Leadership, Twenty-Year, and Retiree awards. This is a great opportunity to acknowledge those colleagues or community members who are making an extraordinary contribution to K–12 education.

WASA Board Minutes in Brief—February 10, 2019

The Board approved the following:

- Consent Calendar (WASA November 2018 Financials; December 5, 2018, Board Meeting Minutes; and January 2019 Membership Report).
- Candidates slated for the 2019–20 President-elect Election.

Information items included:

- Update on the School Day Task Force Workgroup.
- Reminder of the 2019 WASA Leaders Workshop.
- Reports by WASA Assistant Executive Directors.
- Reports by WASA Liaisons.

The next WASA Board of Directors meeting is April 15, 2019, in conjunction with the WASA Leaders Workshop at Four Points by Sheraton Seattle Airport South.

Howard M. Coble Scholarship for Under-Represented Educational Leaders

Applications are being accepted for the Howard M. Coble Scholarship for Under-Represented Educational Leaders. A $5,000 scholarship will be awarded by the Washington School Administrators Foundation in partnership with WASA to an educator pursuing graduate studies in education leadership by the fall of 2019. The scholarship was developed to assist talented, under-represented educators to pursue graduate studies that prepare for central office leadership positions and was created in honor of former WASA Executive Director, Dr. Howard M. Coble.

To submit an application, visit the WASA website at https://wasa-oly.org/CobleScholarship. The deadline to submit an application is April 1, 2019.
Upcoming Awards & Scholarships

**Howard M. Coble Scholarship for Under-Represented Educational Leaders**

Designed to assist talented, under-represented educators to pursue graduate studies that prepare for central office leadership positions.

**Application Process:** February 19–April 1, 2019

**Doyle E. Winter Scholarship for Administrative Leadership in Education**

Designed to assist talented and committed educational administrators as they enhance those skills and abilities needed to serve as educational leaders in the field of K–12 public education.

**Application Process:** March 1–April 25, 2019

**PEMCO Robert J. Handy Most Effective Administrator Awards**

One highly effective superintendent, central office administrator, or building administrator will be selected from a small district (up to 500 students), medium-sized district (501–2,000 students), and large district (over 2,000 students).

**Application Process:** January 16–March 21, 2019

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**WASA HONORARY AWARDS**

**State Awards**

The state awards include the Golden Gavel, Barbara Mertens Legacy, Service to WASA, and WASA Leadership.

**Application Process:** March 1–May 1, 2019

**Region Awards**

These awards are handled at the region level and include the Award of Merit, WASA Student Achievement Leadership, Twenty-Year, Retirement, and Community Leadership.

**Application Process:** March 1–May 2019 (deadlines vary by region)

**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 [http://bit.ly/2g3DV0W](http://bit.ly/2g3DV0W). More information will be included in future editions of Hotline.

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**Piper Jaffray Dr. Doyle E. Winter Scholarship for Administrative Leadership in Education**

WASA is now accepting applications for the Piper Jaffray Dr. Doyle E. Winter Scholarship for Administrative Leadership in Education. The scholarship will be awarded to a school administrator who is presently in or accepted into a doctoral program in education administration that has been approved by the Washington State Professional Educators Standards Board. The deadline to apply is April 25, 2019. For more information and the application, please see the WASA website at [https://wasa-oly.org/WinterScholarship](https://wasa-oly.org/WinterScholarship).

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**PEMCO Robert J. Handy Most Effective Administrator Awards**

Deadline—March 21

WASA is accepting applications for the PEMCO Robert J. Handy Most Effective Administrator Awards. Three awards are presented each year to a highly effective superintendent, central office administrator, or building administrator from a small, medium, and large school district. Nominees must be active members of WASA or AWSP to be eligible. The application deadline is March 21. For further information and the application, please visit the WASA website at [https://wasa-oly.org/HandyAwards](https://wasa-oly.org/HandyAwards). For questions, contact Shari Parsons at sparsons@wasa-oly.org or 360.943.5717.

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**TWIO: THIS WEEK IN OLYMPIA**

Don’t forget to check out the latest news happening in Olympia every Friday during session! Your copy of This Week In Olympia is waiting in your email inbox and online at [https://wasa-oly.org/twio](https://wasa-oly.org/twio).
Spotlight on a WASA Diamond Level Sponsor:

McKinstry helps schools reduce their operating costs, plan for bonds, and tune up their buildings. Founded in 1960, McKinstry has spread its roots from Washington to become a national leader in designing, constructing, operating, and maintaining high-performing buildings. The company takes a long-term perspective to helping school districts “for the life of your building,” ranging from building new schools to retrofitting the rest, and from mobile service to technical consulting.

McKinstry is best known for their work as a state-accredited energy services company (ESCO). As an ESCO, McKinstry designs, builds, and guarantees the performance of energy-saving facility improvements, such as HVAC replacements or lighting upgrades. McKinstry serves as the turnkey contractor throughout the process, shouldering the performance risk and taking responsibility for an excellent project.

McKinstry also consults with school districts to help them make data-driven decisions about their operations. Throughout the life of a school building, certain “gaps” arise that cost districts money, time, and resources. These gaps may be gaps in information, gaps between contractors, compliance gaps, or gaps between different internal teams. McKinstry helps districts bridge these gaps and unlock potential within their own operations to transform into a proactive, efficient, and data-driven organization.

For example, it can be difficult to gather a comprehensive understanding of the condition of their buildings. Both the OSPI-mandated Study and Survey and Asset Preservation Program gather high-level building system information, but neither helps districts decide between replacing a boiler or a breaker. McKinstry’s facility condition assessment provides detailed data down to the asset level that helps districts make informed decisions about their buildings and build realistic capital plans.

Another example is managing energy. Building energy performance tends to “drift” over time, meaning school districts pay extra to receive the exact same levels of comfort, lighting, and indoor air quality. There are two strategies to solve this: perform a building “tune up” and set in place an energy management program. A building “tune up” is like taking your car to the mechanic. The contractor will look for broken parts and settings that have been changed that are causing the building to run inefficiently. An energy management program, on the other hand, is a long-term strategy for discovering energy waste. Tactics might include utility bill tracking, student engagement, or creating an energy policy.

The learning environment plays a key role in student success. Warm, safe, and dry classrooms enable students to learn and thrive at school. McKinstry helps the people who are responsible for protecting the learning environment, like superintendents and facility directors, use their resources wisely to take care of these important spaces.

Washington State Leadership Academy: Refreshed and Ready to Grow Your District

The Washington State Leadership Academy (WSLA) has a refreshed curriculum, strands, and rubrics, and is recruiting interested teams for the 2019–21 cohort!

At WSLA, the mission is to create sustainable aligned systems that ensure equity and high levels of learning. Committed to providing all leadership teams with the support to develop an aligned system focused on high quality instruction, WSLA’s refreshed updated curriculum is making a significant impact on increased student learning. Districts are taking advantage of the new curriculum for leadership teams to participate again, if they have already completed the two-year cohort.

Take advantage of this one of a kind leadership opportunity to work with your leadership team. WSLA workshops are offered regionally through the support of the ESDs. Currently, WSLA is working with the ESDs to determine interest within each region. To learn more about this exciting and powerful leadership program and to view an overview video, please visit our website at http://www.waleadershipacademy.org. To learn more about joining WSLA for next year, please contact Director Sharon Bower at 360.520.6503 or sbower@waleadershipacademy.org.

Let the power of WSLA grow your district!

Throughout the remainder of the 2019 Legislative Session, Assistant Executive Director Dan Steele will be posting short, informative podcast episodes on a regular basis. This podcast focuses on key legislative issues to keep WASA members informed of hot topics and emerging conversations in Olympia. Learn how to subscribe by visiting https://wasa-oly.org/LegPodcast.
## Event Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>URL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2019 WASA SPRING CONFERENCE FOR SMALL SCHOOLS LEADERS</strong></td>
<td>March 4–5</td>
<td>Wenatchee Convention Center, Wenatchee</td>
<td><a href="https://wasa-oly.org/Spring19">https://wasa-oly.org/Spring19</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2019 ERNN REGIONAL WORKSHOP</strong></td>
<td>March 19</td>
<td>ESD 105, Yakima</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2019 WASA SPECIAL EDUCATION DIRECTOR ACADEMY</strong></td>
<td>March 20</td>
<td>Four Points by Sheraton Seattle Airport South</td>
<td><a href="https://wasa-oly.org/ERNN19">https://wasa-oly.org/ERNN19</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2019 ERNN REGIONAL WORKSHOP</strong></td>
<td>March 20</td>
<td>ESD 123, Pasco</td>
<td><a href="https://wasa-oly.org/ERNN19">https://wasa-oly.org/ERNN19</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2019 ERNN REGIONAL WORKSHOP</strong></td>
<td>March 26</td>
<td>NWESD 189, Anacortes</td>
<td><a href="https://wasa-oly.org/ERNN19">https://wasa-oly.org/ERNN19</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2019 WASA EARLY CAREER SUPERINTENDENT ACADEMY</strong></td>
<td>April 2</td>
<td>Zoom Meeting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2019 ERNN REGIONAL WORKSHOP</strong></td>
<td>April 10</td>
<td>ESD 112, Vancouver</td>
<td><a href="https://wasa-oly.org/ERNN19">https://wasa-oly.org/ERNN19</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2019 WASA SPECIAL EDUCATION DIRECTOR ACADEMY</strong></td>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Zoom Meeting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2019 WASA WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE</strong></td>
<td>May 4</td>
<td>Campbell’s Resort, Chelan</td>
<td><a href="https://wasa-oly.org/WIL19">https://wasa-oly.org/WIL19</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2019 WASA SUPERINTENDENT CONFERENCE</strong></td>
<td>May 5–7</td>
<td>Campbell’s Resort, Chelan</td>
<td><a href="https://wasa-oly.org/Supt19">https://wasa-oly.org/Supt19</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2019 WASA/WSSDA/AWSP EQUITY CONFERENCE</strong></td>
<td>May 22</td>
<td>DoubleTree by Hilton, SeaTac</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2019 WASA/AWSP SUMMER CONFERENCE</strong></td>
<td>June 30–July 2</td>
<td>Spokane Convention Center, Spokane</td>
<td><a href="https://wasa-oly.org/Summer19">https://wasa-oly.org/Summer19</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2019 WASA INCOMING SUPERINTENDENT CONFERENCE</strong></td>
<td>July 22–23</td>
<td>DoubleTree by Hilton, Olympia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2019 WASA/OSPI SPECIAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE</strong></td>
<td>August 1–2</td>
<td>Hotel Murano, Tacoma</td>
<td>The New Director Preconference will be held July 31.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2019 WASA FALL CONFERENCE</strong></td>
<td>October 8</td>
<td>Four Points by Sheraton Seattle Airport South</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**THE 2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION GUIDE IS NOW AVAILABLE!**

Engage with your legislators during this session of the 66th Washington State Legislature. Use this session guide to align your messages with WASA’s 2019 Legislative Platform and find up-to-date contact information. The session guide can be found at [https://wasa-oly.org/19SessionGuide](https://wasa-oly.org/19SessionGuide).
Women administrators are invited to come together to converse, network, and brainstorm possible ways to address the issue of attracting, mentoring, and retaining women in administrative leadership roles.

Register at https://wasa-oly.org/WIL19.

WASA Mentor Academy

The second Mentor Academy took place on February 25. If you are interested in cultivating your mentoring skills, visit https://wasa-oly.org/MA to learn more.

WASA Early Career Superintendent Academy

Attendees of the WASA Early Career Superintendent Academy, a workshop that supports superintendents in the first three years of superintendency. To find out more, visit https://wasa-oly.org/ECSA.

An analysis of the state’s new K–12 funding system indicates legislative changes as a result of the McCleary decision will leave more than 100 school districts with less money for basic operating expenses in 2019–20, forcing budget cuts that will significantly impact staffing and programming, creating inequities in communities across the state. The findings also include a short-term legislative solution aimed at helping the affected districts break even and avoid deep cuts to staff and programming due to losses incurred under the new state funding structure.

As we move forward together, it is critically important that WASA members who engage in conversations on this matter be well informed and speak in a unified voice that is both accurate and consistent. To that end, we have developed a collection of resources that can be accessed in order to familiarize yourself with the committee’s analysis and then communicate with legislators and other key constituents. The resources can be found at https://wasa-oly.org/HoldHarmless.
Spotlight on a WASA Diamond Level Sponsor:

OAC

Founded in 1955, OAC Services, Inc. is a firm of project and construction management experts who have devoted their professional lives to improving the built environment. OAC serves clients and communities as trusted partners to design, build, and improve where people live, work, learn, and play. They lead in alternative delivery, lean methods, sustainable solutions, and true collaborative systems by listening and responding to their clients’ needs and goals.

OAC is a leading professional services firm who has redefined how owner’s representative partnerships work—from new construction to renovations and improvements. Their leaders serve education, municipal, healthcare, high-tech, commercial, and public/private hybrid clients by delivering answers and achieving objectives. Through these efforts, OAC is building tomorrow’s communities.

OAC EDU was formed to bring together highly skilled and experienced program, project, and construction managers to foster a think tank and advisory collective focused on innovations and technologies that improve environments for education.

With its 60-year history of collaborating with school districts throughout the state of Washington, OAC EDU utilizes the collective resources of more than 30 experts in three offices (Seattle, Olympia, and Spokane) to help school districts achieve their bond program, levy initiatives, new construction, remodel, modernization, and upgrade project objectives. OAC EDU partners with public schools to improve education environments and communities. OAC EDU serves clients and communities to design, build, and improve where people live, learn, work, and play.

OAC EDU has provided specialized construction services for more than 40 school districts throughout Washington.

Eagle Creek’s Great Kindness Challenge Brings Community Together


Eagle Creek Elementary’s Great Kindness Challenge took place January 28–February 1. Arlington agencies and community members visited the school to be role models of kindness, as they worked with students on kindness projects. This is the third year of the program at Eagle Creek.

During the week, community members and employees from agencies like the Arlington Police Department, Arlington Fire Department, City of Arlington, and Arlington School District helped students make different items to spread kindness. These included items like kindness pennants, individual letters, banners, and pictures. These items will be distributed by students in the next few weeks to businesses, neighborhoods, and community agencies.

“We’re trying to instill in the students the importance of giving back to the community,” said Colene Jablonski, Eagle Creek counselor and event organizer. “We also want the community to see how we can support each other through kindness.”

The Great Kindness Challenge is a national movement designed to increase tolerance, unity, and respect. More than 20,000 schools across the country were involved in the event.

WASAs Hotline • March 2019

WASAs 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.
## Region Events—March & April

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>101</td>
<td>Kyle Rydell</td>
<td>March 21, 8:30 a.m.–12 p.m.</td>
<td>NEWESD 101, Spokane Awards luncheon, CenterPlace Event Center</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>April 26, 11:30 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>105</td>
<td>Henry Strom</td>
<td>March 21, 8 a.m.–11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Topic: Threat Assessment, ESD 105, Yakima</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>April 18, 8 a.m.–11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Topic: Bargaining/Budgeting, Round 2—Warren Hopkins, ESD 105, Yakima</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>108</td>
<td>Mark Wenzel</td>
<td>March 15, 12 p.m.</td>
<td>ESD 189, Anacortes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>109</td>
<td>Ken Collins</td>
<td>March 5, 9–11 a.m.</td>
<td>Lake Stevens Educational Service Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>April 16, 9–11 a.m.</td>
<td>Lake Stevens Educational Service Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110</td>
<td>Rebecca Miner</td>
<td>March 15, 12–1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>General Member Meeting, PSESD, Renton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>111</td>
<td>John Hellwich</td>
<td>March 15, 7:30–8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>General Member Meeting, Fife School District Admin Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>112</td>
<td>Nathan Mccann</td>
<td>March 15, 10 a.m.–12 p.m.</td>
<td>General Member Meeting, ESD 112, Vancouver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>113</td>
<td>Jeff Davis</td>
<td>March 27, 9:30 a.m.–12 p.m.</td>
<td>Region Superintendents, ESD 113, Tumwater</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>April 24, 9:30 a.m.–12 p.m.</td>
<td>Region Superintendents, ESD 113, Tumwater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>114</td>
<td>Aaron Leavell</td>
<td>March 22, 9 a.m.–12 p.m.</td>
<td>General Member Meeting, ESD 114, Room 202, Bremerton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>April 26, 9 a.m.–12 p.m.</td>
<td>General Member Meeting, ESD 114, Room 202, Bremerton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>123</td>
<td>Wade Smith</td>
<td>March 14, 12–3 p.m.</td>
<td>SAC Meeting, ESD 123, Pasco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>171</td>
<td>Steve McCullough</td>
<td>March 27, 9:30 a.m.–12 p.m.</td>
<td>Strategic Planning, NCESD 171, Cottonwood Retreat Center, Wenatchee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>April 24, 9:30 a.m.–12 p.m.</td>
<td>NCESD 171, CTC, Wenatchee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>172</td>
<td></td>
<td>March 27, 9:30 a.m.–12 p.m.</td>
<td>Strategic Planning, NCESD 172, Cottonwood Retreat Center, Wenatchee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Contact WASA

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

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  awolf@wasa-oly.org

**2018–19 WASA OFFICERS**

President: Randy Russell, Freeman
President-elect: Krestin Bahr, Eatonville
Past President: Steve Webb, Vancouver
Secretary: Vicki Bates, Auburn
Treasurer: Corine Pennington, Puyallup

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