Dear Colleagues,

On October 7, the WASA Board approved our 2020 Legislative Platform. In the time since, we have seen each ESD identify their own regional legislative priorities. Those regional priorities are very much in congruence with the priorities outlined in the WASA Legislative Platform. This consistency effectively positions WASA members to speak in a unified voice as we engage with legislators over the next three to four months.

Although the upcoming “short” session is just 60 days long, it is important that we have a strong presence in the conversations that will unfold during the 2020 Session. While we acknowledge new revenue for K–12 will likely be scarce during the 2020 Session, WASA’s Legislative Platform outlines what is essential for schools and school districts to serve students, develop their skills and talents, and prepare them for bright futures. Regardless of available resources, we believe it is important to stand firm in asking for what is needed to get the job done with the children and young people in your schools. This approach ensures legislators are aware of what is needed while setting the stage for continuing this conversation into the future. Our approach to legislative advocacy is to focus on immediate needs while always being cognizant of the long game, and the importance of building a foundation for future discussions.

WASA is committed to keeping you informed during the course of the 2020 Legislative Session. You are undoubtedly familiar with our weekly publication that is produced during the session, This Week in Olympia (TWIO). This publication is extremely informative and rich in detail. Another resource that we developed last year is a weekly podcast. The podcast, in which Dan Steele provides a concise overview of key information and recent developments, is a quick and easy way to stay informed of the happenings in Olympia. The podcasts are broadcast each Monday during the session and run approximately five minutes in length.

Time is your most valuable asset. The podcast is a quick and easy way to stay on top of the latest news surrounding the legislative session. Watch for information concerning this year's first podcast, which is set to air prior to the session.

I hope you will take a few minutes to listen to the podcast and make it part of your weekly routine during the course of this winter’s legislative session. I believe you will find this time, just a few minutes each week, to be worth your while.

We hope that you find these resources to be helpful as you engage with legislators in the coming months, and thanks in advance for taking a few minutes to check out the podcast.

Happy Holidays to you and yours,
Dr. Greg Baker Selected 2020 Washington Superintendent of the Year

On November 23, at the WASA Superintendents Component meeting in Bellevue, the announcement was made that Dr. Greg Baker, Superintendent, Bellingham Public Schools, is Washington’s 2020 Superintendent of the Year. Greg is now a candidate for the AASA National Superintendent of the Year. The national award will be announced during the 2020 AASA National Conference on Education scheduled February 13–15, in San Diego, California.

Upon learning of this award, Superintendent Baker stated, “It’s an honor to receive this recognition. I would like to acknowledge that it really represents the incredibly hard work of so many others. In Bellingham, we have a united focus on The Bellingham Promise, our commitment to the students of our district. To achieve what we have thus far, it takes a high performing and equity-focused school board, district leadership team, and staff, all supported by an incredible community, with a deep love toward our nearly 12,000 exceptional students,” he said.

“This award is also representative of all superintendents in our state who work so tirelessly, often under intense scrutiny, to ensure outstanding educational opportunities for all students,” he added. “On behalf of myself, the board, staff, students, families, and our entire Bellingham community, thank you!”

Northwest Reception
(Held in conjunction with the AASA National Conference on Education)

Friday, February 14, 2020
Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina
333 West Harbor Drive
San Diego, CA 92101
5–7 p.m.

Hosted by:
Alaska Council of School Administrators
Montana Association of School Superintendents
Confederation of Oregon School Administrators
Washington Association of School Administrators

Recruitment for WASA Board of Directors’ Positions

WASA is seeking nominations for the following Board of Directors’ leadership positions. Terms begin July 1, 2020.

- Superintendents Component Chair-elect (3-year commitment)
- Instructional Program Administrators Component (IPAC) Chair-elect (3-year commitment)
- Business and Personnel Administrators Component (BPAC) Chair (2-year commitment)
- Principals Component Chair (2-year commitment)

If you are interested in filling one of these WASA Board positions or nominating someone, please contact Joel Aune at jaune@wasa-oly.org for more information.

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.
2020 AASA National Conference on Education

The 2020 AASA National Conference on Education is to be held at the San Diego Convention Center, February 13–15, 2020. The theme for this year’s conference is “The Personalization of Education.” General session topics and speakers include:

- **Educating the Heart and Soul**, David Brooks, Op-Ed Columnist for the *New York Times*, Author
- **The Possibilities and Challenges of Personalizing Education**, Linda Darlin-Hammond, President and CEO, Learning Policy Institute
- **Social Emotional Learning that Changes Lives**, Mawi Asgedom, Founder, Mawi Learning and Strategic Advisor for ACT, Social and Emotional Learning

To register for the conference or preview other offerings, visit the AASA website at [http://nce.aasa.org/](http://nce.aasa.org/).

Nominations Requested for 2020–21 WASA President-Elect

Dr. Randy Russell, WASA Past President, is seeking nominees for WASA President-elect for 2020–21. Nominees must presently serve as an administrator on the west side of Washington. Nominations can be made by regions, components, individuals, or by self-nomination.

The deadline to submit a nomination is Friday, January 24, 2020. The campaign will include information in several Hotlines, candidate brochures emailed to all WASA members, and candidate speeches to be given during the WASA Honorary Awards Luncheon at the 2020 WASA/AWSP Summer Conference. Electronic ballots will be emailed on Saturday, August 1, 2020. Questions and nominations may be forwarded to Dr. Randy Russell, Superintendent, Freeman School District, at 509.291.3695. Or by email at rrussell@freemansd.org.

Please Update Your WASA Profile

Just as districts around the state are asked for staff and student demographics, WASA often receives requests regarding our members’ gender, race, and ethnicity. This information is helpful when specific invitations are made for members to serve on committees, task forces, or workgroups. In addition, we are also asked for a mix of geographic area (east/west) and/or size of district (small to large) as needed. Please take a moment to update your membership profile to assist us in appropriately responding to the requests we receive. Go to WASA’s website at [www.wasa-oly.org](http://www.wasa-oly.org) to log in/My WASA Profile/Update.
**Event Calendar 2019**

**WASA Early Career Superintendent Academy Zoom Meeting**  
December 11 | Zoom

**Event Calendar 2020**

**WASA Winter Conference**  
January 28 | Crowne Plaza, SeaTac  
Register now at [www.wasa-oly.org/Winter20](http://www.wasa-oly.org/Winter20).

**WASA Special Education Academy Cohort II**  
January 28–29 | Crowne Plaza, SeaTac

**WASA/WSSDA/WASBO Legislative Conference and Day on the Hill**  
February 9–10 | South Puget Sound Community College and Capitol Campus  
Register now at [www.wasa-oly.org/Leg20](http://www.wasa-oly.org/Leg20).

**WASA Mentor Academy Session Two**  
February 23–24 | Four Points by Sheraton Seattle Airport South

**WASA Early Career Superintendent Academy Session Two**  
February 23–24 | Four Points by Sheraton Seattle Airport South

**WASA Spring Conference for Small Schools Leaders**  
March 9–10 | Wenatchee Convention Center  
Registration opens January 8.  

**WASA Special Education Academy Cohort II Zoom Meeting**  
March 17 | Zoom

**WASA Special Education Academy Cohort I Zoom Meeting**  
March 27 | Zoom

**WASA Early Career Superintendent Academy Zoom Meeting**  
March 25 | Zoom

**WASA Women in Leadership Conference**  
April 25 | Campbell's Resort, Chelan  
Registration opens February 5.

**WASA Superintendent Conference**  
April 26–28 | Campbell's Resort, Chelan  
Registration opens February 5.

**WASA/AWSP/WSSDA Equity Conference**  
May 20 | DoubleTree by Hilton, SeaTac  

**WASA Early Career Superintendent Academy Zoom Meeting**  
May 20 | Zoom

**WASA Special Education Academy Cohort II Zoom Meeting**  
May 27 | Zoom

**WASA Special Education Academy Cohort I Zoom Meeting**  
May 27 | Zoom

**WSLA Summer Statewide Workshop**  
June 26 | Davenport Grand Hotel, Spokane

**WASA/AWSP Summer Conference**  
June 28–30 | Spokane Convention Center  
Registration and Housing open January 27.

**WASA Incoming Superintendent Conference**  
July 20–21 | TBD

**WASA/OSPI Special Education Conference**  
July 30–31 | TBD, Tacoma

**WASA Fall Conference**  
October 6 | TBD

Submit your proposal by December 20!

The Summer Conference Call for Presenters is open. Proposals should address a best practices approach to one or more of the following topics:

- Social Emotional Learning
- Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
- Culture
- Inclusionary Practices
- Strategic Communication and Engagement
- Leadership

[Click here](http://www.wasa-oly.org/Spring20C4P) to learn more and submit your proposal.
Brené Brown certified Dare to Lead Trainer Moe Carrick is coming to town!

This highly-interactive day will kick off with an inspiring keynote presentation by Moe, followed by a practical workshop—led by Moe—for skill application with real scenarios and experiences. We will explore:

- Elements of making workplaces fit for humans and key levers for leaders during change and uncertainty (#bravespaceworkplace);
- Practical skills for leaders in creating a sense of belonging for every employee;
- The profound connection between head and heart habits and teams who care;
- Four interconnected skills of courage that are measurable, observable, and trainable from Dr. Brené Brown's Dare to Lead™; and
- Cultivating self-awareness and self-care.

Participation by superintendents, district, and building administrators is encouraged!

Register and reserve your housing now—the discounted room block expires December 20. Visit [www.wasa-oly.org/Winter20](http://www.wasa-oly.org/Winter20) for details.

Register and Book Your Housing!

The annual WASA/WSSDA/WASBO Legislative Conference is an important partnership among school administrators, school board directors, and district business managers and provides the opportunity to hear updates on our shared legislative priorities and the current education policy landscape.

Sunday’s program takes place in the Minnaert Center at South Puget Sound Community College. Tentative topics/presenters include:

- Staffing Enrichment
- Policy Issues (Ed Caucus Panel)
- Madeleine Aroney Thompson, Senior Policy Advisor (Education), Office of Governor Jay Inslee
- Chris Reykdal, Superintendent, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Sunday concludes with a conference reception following the Day on the Hill Regional Planning Meetings. Attendees are encouraged to invite their legislators to attend the reception.

Monday’s Day on the Hill meetings with legislators take place on the Capitol Campus. Attendees will meet with their legislators to discuss shared priorities. WSSDA’s Government Relations Team and Legislative Committee members will schedule these critical meetings.

Visit the conference site at [www.wasa-oly.org/Leg20](http://www.wasa-oly.org/Leg20) for housing and full conference details.
Seeking Presenters!

We are seeking proposals for practitioner-led breakout sessions around the following educational equity-related topics for our upcoming Equity Conference:

- Disability
- Race
- Gender
- SES/Class
- Ethnicity
- Cultural Competence
- Other

Click here to learn more and submit your proposal by January 10.

Deadline approaching, submit your presentation proposal now!

With small schools in mind, we are seeking school or district personnel who have satisfactorily addressed or are currently engaged in significant work in any of the following topics. Proposals should address a best practices approach to one or more of the topics.

- Hope—For Students and Staff
- Practices Related to Graduation Pathways
- Instructional and Assessment Practices
- Ensuring Success for All Students

Sessions are one hour each and should engage participants in meaningful discussions and share viable experiences resulting in individual growth and/or systems improvement.

Submit your proposal at www.wasa-oly.org/Spring20C4P by December 20!

Congratulations to Washington Blue Ribbon Public Schools 2019–20

Every year the U. S. Department of Education seeks out and celebrates great American schools. The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes public and private elementary, middle, and high schools based on their overall academic excellence or their progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. The award affirms the hard work of students, educators, families, and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging content.

For the 2019–20 school year, there are 40 top Blue Ribbon public schools in Washington, serving 19,963 students. These schools have been recognized by the Department of Education for achieving superior standards of academic excellence.

To view the full list of Blue Ribbon Public Schools in Washington, click here.

RETURN TO PAGE 1
ABOUT
The Washington Association of School Administrators’ (WASA) project, *Inclusionary Practices: Statewide Support for District Change*, will provide professional learning and support to assist districts as they move to more fully inclusive learning environments for students with disabilities.

WASA’s target audience is district-level leadership teams including superintendents or their designee; special education and teaching and learning district office administrators; and school board directors. These teams can be enhanced by including building-level and teacher leaders, and a paraprofessional who serves both special and general educations.

In Year 1 of the project, thirty (30) district teams will be recruited from across the state to engage in this work. In Year 2, those 30 teams will continue their work while an additional 60 districts will be recruited to begin the process.

The specific goals of the project are to:

- Increase district supports/resources for teachers of targeted students;
- Deepen district understanding of what is needed to implement the LRE/UDL work;
- Change the allocation of students in LRE levels 1, 2, and 3 from Spring 2019 to Spring 2021;
- Increase the percentage of targeted students placed and successfully participating in core classes from 2018–19 to 2020–21; and
- Increase students’ perceptions of feeling safe/welcomed in their school from Spring 2020 to Spring 2021.

In order to accomplish the goals listed above, WASA will engage with *Universal Design for Learning (UDL) experts*, most notably *Dr. Katie Novak*, from Novak Educational Consulting to provide direct face to face professional learning, webinars, mentoring/coaching, book studies, and online courses leading to a district implementation plan.

The Washington State School Directors’ Association (WSSDA) will lend its support to WASA’s project.

APPLICATION TIMELINE
Districts interested in participating beginning Year 1, will complete an online application.

- December 2: Application window opens
- December 12: Application window closes
- December 13: Application review and selections
- December 18: Districts notified

Districts interested in participating beginning Year 2 may provide interest via the link below (participation is not guaranteed, and districts will complete an application process in 2020.)

We are ready to begin the work now!

We are interested but are not able to commit this year.

We want to learn more.

DETAILS
Full project details are available at [www.wasa-oly.org/Inclusion](http://www.wasa-oly.org/Inclusion).
Spotlight on a WASA Diamond-Level Sponsor:

Piper Jaffray

Piper Jaffray has worked in tandem with Washington school districts for nearly 50 years. Their Washington Schools Group, led by Mr. Trevor Carlson, Managing Director, is best known for providing step-by-step strategic planning for Washington school district bond issues. What may surprise you is that Piper Jaffray is a leading investment bank and institutional securities firm, providing issuers and investors throughout the United States with the financial tools to meet their investment needs.

Founded in 1895, the firm is headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota and has 51 offices with more than 1,300 employees. Their professionals routinely provide service to state and local governments, cultural and social service nonprofits, healthcare, higher education, senior living, and, of course, school districts. It is this breadth and depth of experience that enables their team members to remain educated on current market trends and ultimately provide successful, tailored solutions for their clients.

When wading into the $3.9 trillion municipal bond market, it is important for a school district to have a partner that can navigate the ever-changing currents. Their Washington Schools Group understands the importance of the role they play in connecting local school districts to this national market. Their team believes in creating a partnership that covers the entire bond process, from pre-planning to events occurring long after a sale is completed. Examples of services they provide, specifically related to Washington school district bond issues, include:

- Levy rate planning
- Board and Staff education
- Community communication
- Bond Rating acquisition
- Bond structuring and timing
- Disclosure preparation
- Post-Issuance Compliance

Further, they recognize their actions have an impact throughout the communities they live in and work with. As ambassadors for the clients they serve, Piper Jaffray has developed a set of core values that each and every team member takes pride in championing:

- Always place our clients' interests first.
- Conduct ourselves with integrity and treat others with respect.
- Work in partnership with our clients and each other.
- Attract, retain and develop a diverse group of the best people in a high-quality, inclusive environment.
- Contribute our talents and resources to serve the communities in which we live and work.

Piper Jaffray is committed to serving the needs of WASA members and is proud to support WASA’s mission of providing excellence in student learning.

For more information, please visit [www.piperjaffray.com](http://www.piperjaffray.com).

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Highline PS Superintendent Susan Enfield Named a Finalist For National Award


Highline Superintendent Susan Enfield is one of three superintendents who are finalists for the 2020 Women in School Leadership Award. The award is given annually by AASA, the School Superintendents Association.

The awards recognize the exceptional leadership of active, frontline female administrators who are making a difference in the lives of students every day and pay tribute to the talent, creativity, and vision of outstanding women educational administrators in the nation’s public schools, according to AASA.

“True leadership—the kind that energizes and excites people—is a very rare quality. Susan Enfield is the type of leader who not only attracts quality people, but causes those around her to rise to heights they had not imagined,” said Highline School Board President Bernie Dorsey.

Candidates are judged on leadership in meeting the learning needs of students, personal and organizational communication strength, constant professional improvement of knowledge and skills, and active community involvement.

Award winners will be announced in February at the AASA national conference in San Diego.

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UPLOAD YOUR MEMBERSHIP PHOTO!

If you haven’t already, please help us keep our membership directory up to date by taking a moment to upload your photo to your WASA member profile page. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Tricia McCosh at [pmccosh@wasa-oly.org](mailto:pmccosh@wasa-oly.org).
Region Events—December & January
Many WASA regions conduct monthly gatherings and/or provide activity reports in conjunction with ESD meetings (not listed below).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGION 101</th>
<th>PRESIDENT—ROB ROETTGER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 5, 8:30 a.m.–12 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch and Learn Sessions, 12–1:30 p.m., NEWESD 101, Talbott Event Center, Spokane</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 16, 8:30 a.m.–12 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>REGION 105</td>
<td>PRESIDENT—ROGER TRAIL</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 19, 8–11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Topic: Special Education: Hot Topics, ESD 105, Yakima</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 16, 8–11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Topic: Engineering Improvement in Your Schools, NOW!, ESD 105, Yakima</td>
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<tr>
<td>REGION 108</td>
<td>PRESIDENT—WHITNEY MEISSNER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 10, 12–1 p.m.</td>
<td>NWESD 189, Anacortes</td>
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<tr>
<td>REGION 110</td>
<td>PRESIDENT—DONNA COLOSKY</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 17, 12–1 p.m.</td>
<td>PSESD 121, Renton</td>
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<td>REGION 111</td>
<td>PRESIDENT—MARCI SHEPARD</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 13, 7:30–8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>General Member Meeting, Topic: Legislative Session Preview, Fife Administrative Center, Fife</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 17, 7:30–8:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>REGION 112</td>
<td>PRESIDENT—MARK ROSS</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 24, 10 a.m.–12 p.m.</td>
<td>SAC Meeting, ESD 112, Vancouver</td>
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<tr>
<td>REGION 113</td>
<td>PRESIDENT—JEFF DAVIS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 4 (Breakfast)</td>
<td>Topic: Launching the Legislative Session, Panel Presentation/Discussion, Capital Region ESD 113, PAC/GH/T Room, Tumwater</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 22, 9:30 a.m.–12 p.m.</td>
<td>SAC Meeting, Capital Region ESD 113, PAC/GH/T Room, Tumwater</td>
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<tr>
<td>REGION 114</td>
<td>PRESIDENT—DIANE REAUME</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 13, 9 a.m.–12 p.m.</td>
<td>SAC Meeting ESD 114, Room 202, Bremerton</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 31, 9 a.m.–12 p.m.</td>
<td>SAC Meeting ESD 114, Room 202, Bremerton</td>
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<tr>
<td>REGION 115</td>
<td>PRESIDENT—WILLIAM MARCHISHOWSKY</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 9, 12–3 p.m.</td>
<td>SAC Meeting, ESD 123, Pasco</td>
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<tr>
<td>REGION 117</td>
<td>PRESIDENT—BARRY DEPAOLI</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 16, 9:30 a.m.–2 p.m.</td>
<td>SAC Meeting, NCESD 171, Cottonwood Retreat Center, Wenatchee</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Contact WASA

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President-elect: Brian Talbott, Nine Mile Falls
Past President: Randy Russell, Freeman
Secretary: Jennifer Bethman, Bethel
Treasurer: Corine Pennington, Puyallup