

WASA News

AUGUST 2022



The WASA News is a monthly publication that provides key information to you in a concise, quick-read format. For those who want a bit more detail, links to additional information are embedded in the text of this publication. We hope you find WASA News to be an efficient way to keep abreast of new information, emerging issues, and timely resources. Be reminded that previous issues of the WASA News can be found on our website.

"Communicating with clarity, purpose, passion and honesty will enable you to serve others in a profound way."

— Janice Bryant Howroyd

Dear WASA Members and Friends,

I hope the summer provided opportunity for time to rest, relax, and rejuvenate your mind and body. While these final weeks of preparation for a new school year are super-busy, the energy, optimism, and anticipation provide a "juice" that is truly unique for those privileged to be leading school districts. Enjoy the ride!

I'd like to remind and reinforce that WASA has a variety of means by which we regularly communicate with you and your colleagues throughout the year:

- **WASA News:** A monthly publication that provides key information to members in a concise, quick-read format. For those who want a bit more detail, links to additional information are embedded in the text of this publication.
- **WASA Hotline:** Published 4 times throughout the year, *Hotline* provides information on the priorities and work of WASA, deliverables intended to support WASA members, news and updates from the field, and other subject matter of interest and value to members.
- **Social Media:** Follow us on **Facebook**, **Twitter**, and **Instagram** for real-time updates on WASA and its members!
- **Matters Legislative:** This Week In Olympia (**TWIO**) is WASA's weekly newsletter that communicates timely news and activity "on the Hill" to members during the legislative session. Assistant Executive Director Dan Steele also posts a brief, informative **podcast** on a weekly basis throughout legislative session.
- **WASA Website:** Redesigned in 2021, our website is a user-friendly source of information and resources for WASA members.

We hope that you will take advantage of these information sources. Our goal is to provide you with essential information, opportunities for professional growth, resources that support your work, stories from the field, emerging trends and issues, updates on the work and priorities of WASA, and highlights of our members and their work.

All the best, as you ramp up preparations for the upcoming school year.

Cheers!



Joel Aune
WASA Executive Director

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Lunch and Learn: Six Books in Sixty Minutes** | August 11 | 12–1 p.m.
- **Lunch and Learn: Who You Gonna Call** | August 18 | 12–1 p.m.
- **WASA Fall Conference** | October 2–3 | Des Moines, WA
- **Regional Equity Meetings** | October 25, 26, and 28 | 8:30 a.m.–3 p.m.

[Click here](#) to view the most recent version of the WASA event calendar.



WASA Releases First-Ever Educational Statement

On April 18, the Board adopted WASA's first-ever Educational Equity Statement. The purpose of the statement is to publicly clarify our beliefs and vision, while reinforcing WASA's

commitment to supporting you in this important work. We hope the statement will help launch or extend essential conversations in schools and districts about the kind of leadership, culture, and support needed to ensure opportunity and success for every student.

View the statement [here](#).

Time to Engage with Your Legislators!

At the end of June, WASA's Board of Directors adopted our association's **2023 Legislative Platform**. We encourage you to review the Platform—and share these priorities with your legislators. Although the 2023 Legislative Session will not convene for another six months, NOW is the time to begin your advocacy efforts. Legislators are already in the process of researching and developing their own personal and caucus priorities, so your opportunity to influence their initial thinking is diminishing. Building relationships with your legislators is essential to successful advocacy and connecting with lawmakers when the Legislature is not in session is the most effective way to begin or strengthen your relationships. During the interim, you have the opportunity to have meaningful conversations—unlike in the midst of the session when meetings are often limited to a rushed 10 or 15 minute dialogue. Also remember that this is an election year (all 98 seats in the House and almost half of the Senate's 49 seats will be on the ballot), so get to know incumbents as well as challengers.

WASA stands ready to assist you in your advocacy efforts. In addition to our Legislative Platform and our traditional in-session activities (including *TW/O*, the legislative podcast, and the annual Legislative Conference), we will be presenting a two-part advocacy "Lunch & Learn" webinar. The first part will be a complete review of WASA's 2023 Platform, including the rationale behind the positions, additional detail, and talking points. The second part will be an advocacy primer (Advocacy 101, if you will), providing you with the tools, tips, and tricks to be an effective advocate. Part One is scheduled for **September 20**; Part Two is scheduled for **November 29**. Both complimentary webinars will be held during the noon-hour; keep an eye out for registration information in WASA News and via e-mail from WASA. Whether you're an advocacy expert or a novice, you are encouraged to participate.



Fall Conference

Student Voice as a Lever for Excellence and Continuous Improvement

Four Points Sheraton

OCTOBER 2, 2022 **OCTOBER 3, 2022**

4:00 PM - 8:30 PM 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Leading
DEEP
for Equity

It is not enough to simply listen to student voice. - Adam Fletcher

Save The Date: WASA Fall Conference

Come join us for **WASA's Fall Conference** as **Dr. Tammy Campbell**, CEO of The Scholar First, facilitates a variety of learning opportunities that will focus on *Student Voice as a Lever for Excellence and*

Continuous Improvement. Through content and student and district panels, Dr. Campbell will moderate how school systems can build processes and procedures for incorporating student voice in leading district work. Register today!



Michael Green

WASA
EQUITY
WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

**TIME TO VOTE FOR YOUR
2022-23 PRESIDENT-ELECT!**

The deadline to vote is August 15.
Check your email to vote.



Mike Villarreal

Learn About Your 2022-23 President-Elect Candidates

WASA has worked to create an easy-to-read brochure with photographs, past experience, and a personal letter to WASA leaders from each president-elect candidate. The president-elect candidates have also created a third video, focusing on goals, priorities, and visions, should they be elected as WASA President. You can see this video and others on the WASA website under the **President-elect Campaign!**

Sexual Health Reporting Deadline Approaching

Beginning after the 2021-22 school year (no later than **August 31**), all schools must report annually to OSPI on the following:

- Identify any curricula used to provide comprehensive sexual health education during the current/most recent school year
- Describe how classroom instruction aligns with the requirements of RCW 28A.300.475

To assist schools in meeting this requirement, OSPI has provided a **reporting survey**. Schools must use the online reporting survey provided.

Office of Education Ombuds

The Office of the Education Ombuds (OEO) was established in 2006 to share information about the public school system with families, educators, and other community stakeholders; facilitate productive communication between schools and families to help resolve conflicts and concerns; and identify and recommend strategies to reduce opportunity gaps. Learn more about OEO [here](#).

Applications Open for Washington's 2023 Superintendent of the Year

Applications are being accepted to select Washington's Superintendent of the Year. Those making nominations are strongly encouraged to reach out to their candidate to make them aware of the nomination and to submit an application. Candidates must complete an online application to the **AASA website** by **October 1, 2022**. For further information or questions, **contact Shari Parsons**.



Celebrating 50 Years

2021-22 was WASA's 50th Anniversary Year. Chartered as a non-profit in 1972, WASA has been a strong and unyielding advocate for public education in Washington State from its earliest beginnings. To learn more about WASA's proud history, **visit our website**. A **Memory Book** was also published last June, hard copies of which will be available for purchase later this week.

THERE'S STILL

TIME TO JOIN WASA INITIATIVES!

Please see links below to register:

- **ILN**
- **WSLA**
- **IPP**
- **WASA PLC at Work**



WASA ASPIRING SUPERINTENDENTS ACADEMY

Calling All Experienced District, Building, And Teacher Leaders Who Aspire To The Role Of Superintendent

Whether you have already attained your superintendent certification or are thinking of entering a certification program, this professional learning opportunity will energize you around the possibilities! The 2022–23 Aspiring Superintendents Academy is being led by current WASA Professional Learning Coordinator and former Rochester Superintendent **Kim Fry**. Click [here](#) for more information.



WASA SPECIAL EDUCATION DIRECTOR ACADEMY

Be a Part of WASA's Special Education Director Academy

Join WASA in another year of Special Education Director Academy, hosted by **Jennifer Traufler**, Chief of Student Support, Renton SD. All sessions take place on Zoom and last through June 2023. Find out more [here](#).

Women in Leadership Needs Assessment

Deadline: **August 15**



Women in Leadership – Your input is being sought to assist in developing meaningful activities for the 2022–23 school year. Please complete [this survey](#) to let us know the support you're seeking!

If you have any questions, please contact **Kim Fry** at kfry@wasa-oly.org or 360.239.6225.



ASPIRING CENTRAL OFFICE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Aspiring Central Office Leader Academy Is Now Open For Registration For 2022–23

WASA members, please consider encouraging a building principal to join our Aspiring Central Office Leadership Academy. This academy focuses on authentic learning conversations in supporting the transition from a building leader to a district leader. Please contact **Mike Nelson** with questions or click [here](#) for more information. WASA is wanting to build a strong pathway to district office positions!

AASA 2023 Dr. Effie H. Jones Humanitarian Award

Deadline to Nominate: **October 21, 2022**

The Dr. Effie H. Jones Humanitarian Award is directly related to the AASA equity goal regarding vulnerable children and superintendent pipeline issues. The Award honors leadership in educational equity and excellence. [Click here](#) to learn more about this prestigious award.



Who Do You Think Should Be Washington State's Next Principal or Assistant Principal of the Year?

Deadline to nominate: **September 12, 2022**

It's been an exceptionally challenging time in the world of education the last few years, and this is a perfect opportunity to recognize a principal and/or assistant principal that has met the challenge and has excelled in their position. Please take this opportunity to nominate someone you know who has created a culture that sets up their students, staff, community, and themselves for great success in their district and as global citizens.

[Nominate now](#) or [learn more](#) about the process and timelines.

AASA Women in School Leadership Award

RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING WOMEN LEADERS

AASA Recognizes Outstanding Women

Deadline to nominate: **September 9, 2022**

Deadline to apply: **October 7, 2022**

Designed to recognize the exceptional leadership of active, front-line female leaders who make a difference in students' lives every day, the AASA Women in School Leadership Award program offers two awards. The Superintendent Award is for a female superintendent who's been in a superintendent position for two years or more. The Central Office/Principal is for a female central office or building level leader. [Click here](#) to learn more about these awards, make a nomination, or submit an application.

Apply Now For UW Online Certificate In Native Education

Program starts: **Autumn 2022**

UW College of Education and UW Professional and Continuing Education will be offering the Native Education Certificate program for the next cohort with hybrid learning opportunities beginning Autumn 2022. This two-year 10-credit program is designed to cultivate educators' abilities to create meaningful and effective relationships and partnerships with Native American students, families, and communities through community-based pedagogies.

[Learn more here.](#)

HOTLINE

Have You Read the Newest *Hotline*?

The **WASA Hotline**, published four times each year, provides key information and subject matter of interest to WASA members. A good share of the content is written by WASA members and school district leaders—past and present. Check out the most recent issue of **Hotline**, featuring award recipients, photos from the 40th Annual Summer Conference, outgoing message from President Aaron Leavell, and welcoming of our newest WASA members!

Communication Tools: Pediatric Medicine

From OSPI: The Department of Health has created toolkits for healthcare providers and for schools to help them communicate about the vaccine to parents and guardians. The links are listed below:

- [What Parents/Guardians Should Know About Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccine \(PDF\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccines: Pediatric Vaccine Toolkit for Providers \(PowerPoint\)](#)

RESOURCES

WASA has developed a storehouse of resources for you. This month's featured resources include a focus on Student Voice. The following have been recently uploaded to our [website](#):

EQUITY

- [Elevating Student Voice in Education](#) (Center for American Progress)
- [Student Voice: How to Listen and Learn From Your Students](#) (American School Board Journal)
- [Establishing Structures for Student Voice](#) (Hanover Research)
- [Systematizing Climates that Elevate Student Voice and a Sense of Safety and Belonging](#) (Hanover Research)
- [Best Practices for Equitable Advanced Course Participation and Supports](#) (Hanover Research)

OTHER

- [Staff Well-Being Check-In Toolkit](#) (Hanover Research)
- [Create a Growth Culture, Not a Performance-Obsessed One](#) (Harvard Business Review)
- [Teaching Resilience Aids Students in Navigating Difficult Times](#) (K-12 Dive)
- [Schools Can Do More Than 'Return to Normal.' Here's How](#) (Education Week)



SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT!

This month's Sponsor Spotlight features WASA's Diamond-level sponsor—**OAC**. We are grateful for their unwavering support of our members and programs! Click their link to learn more about them.

OAC

OAC

Contact: **Jeff Jurgensen**

AASA CORNER

- Register Early and Save—AASA National Conference on Education | **February 16–18, 2023** | San Antonio, Texas. [Click here](#) to find out further information.
- The start of a new school year is a critical time for the K-12 community. In addition to the typical academic and administrative challenges a new school year can present, the K-12 community must also contend with evolving school safety and security issues and potential threats. We encourage you to [reference and share this infographic](#) with your members, stakeholders, networks, and schools in your communities ahead of the first day of school. You can find more information by visiting [SchoolSafety.gov](#).
- The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) has released updated school **Behavior Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM)** resources, including a detailed guide of **best practices considerations for K-12 schools** to support BTAM

- training, and **guidance to uphold student civil rights** throughout behavior threat assessment.
- AASA has released a **toolkit** aimed at supporting all providers of early learning, especially school districts, as they embrace the significant responsibility of providing early childhood education.



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