



WASA News



April 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](#).

"Recruiting [players] is a lot like shaving. If you don't do it every day, you'll end up looking like a bum."

—Mike Price, Former Head Football Coach, Washington State University

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

On March 10, the Legislature adjourned its 2022 Regular Session, Sine Die. The session yielded a number of substantive and positive outcomes for K–12. WASA was able to exert influence to redirect or stop legislation that was problematic or even destructive to public schools. Assistant Executive Director Dan Steele is a visible and respected presence with legislators. But most importantly, WASA members were engaged and active prior to and throughout the session. In fact, your voice and subsequent impact was stronger than ever in 2022. Thanks to you, good things were realized for schools and for kids.

Here at WASA, we have already initiated preliminary work to identify legislative priorities for 2023. Another essential element of this work is to establish and strengthen relationships with lawmakers. The time **outside** of session is the best occasion to make these connections with legislators. To that end, I'd ask you to consider reaching out NOW. Invite legislators to meet with your board, leadership team, and/or students to thank them for their work last session. Get them into your schools this spring to see and experience the great work occurring there. Building relationships and telling your district's story is best done over time, well in advance of the 2023 session. Also, be reminded this is an election year. Legislators will likely be more responsive to your invitation to engage this spring and next fall.

Engaging with legislators is similar to Coach Price's view on recruiting great high school football players. To do it most effectively, making connections is a year-round effort. I hope you will carve out a bit of time this spring and again next fall to establish or strengthen your relationship with legislators. Laying a solid foundation in this regard will pay dividends as the 2023 session gets rolling next January. Your individual and collective voice can and will make a difference for your schools and the students in them—especially if you seize the opportunity to start this important work today.

Best Regards,

G. Joel Aune
Executive Director

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Women in Leadership Conference** April 30 | Lake Chelan
- **WASA Superintendents Conference** May 1–3 | Lake Chelan
- **WSACSD New Teacher Institute** May 10, 17 | 4–5:30 p.m. | Complimentary for WSACSD members!
- **WASA/AWSP Summer Conference—Celebrating 40 Years** June 26–28 | Spokane

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

GET TO KNOW YOUR PRESIDENT-ELECT CANDIDATES



Michael Green

Superintendent, Woodland SD, has 20+ years of experience as a superintendent and first grade teacher. You can hear from Michael to learn more about him and his values by viewing [this video](#).



Mike Villarreal

Superintendent, Hoquiam SD, began as a paraeducator in 1993. Discover his principles as a WASA leader with 15 years' experience as a superintendent in [Mike's video](#).



CELEBRATE WOMEN AT THE ANNUAL WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

April 30 | Lake Chelan

This year's Women in Leadership Annual Conference is in-person, at Campbell's Resort in beautiful Lake Chelan! The full day learning experience will feature two amazing women leaders: **Parvati Shallow** and **Christy Keating**. Parvati will focus on empowering your own leadership while Christy will lead a conversation in empowering the women leaders around you. Women leaders can purchase these conference tickets in conjunction with their Superintendents Conference, which takes place the next day. Find out more [here](#).



MAY 1-3
CHELAN, WA
2022

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR WASA SUPERINTENDENTS CONFERENCE

May 1-3 | Lake Chelan

The 2022 Superintendents Conference will take place at Campbell's Resort in beautiful Lake Chelan! This three-day learning experience will feature three amazing keynote speakers: **Doug Baldwin**, **Scott Barry Kaufman**, and **Peter DeWitt**. General sessions and breakout sessions will complement the keynote speakers during this conference. Register [here](#).



REGISTER FOR THE WASA/AWSP 2022 SUMMER CONFERENCE!

June 26-28 | Spokane

WASA and AWSP are excited to host the **2022 WASA/AWSP Summer Conference** held in-person at the Spokane Convention Center this year. Join us for an opportunity to network and learn with fellow school leaders. This is a year of celebration—not only because it's the **40th anniversary** of the WASA/AWSP Summer Conference—but also because school leaders like you have overcome unimaginable obstacles during the past three school years.

This year's theme is "You Belong Here." Sessions will focus on belonging, inclusion, collaboration, climate & culture, systems, and student learning. Hear from keynote speakers **Ben Nemtin**, **Shelley Moore**, and **Dr. Richard Antoine White**. You can learn more and register for the event [here](#).

SUMMER CONFERENCE GOLF TOURNAMENT

June 26 | 8 a.m. Shotgun Start | Liberty Lake Golf Course

Reserve your place now! The registration fee is \$85 per golfer and includes green fees, cart, lunch, and prize contributions. To join the fun, register via email to Jeff Jurgensen at jjurgensen@oacsvcs.com and include any foursome requests. Payment will be made onsite at the registration table prior to the 8 a.m. shotgun start. The registration table opens at 7 a.m. at Liberty Lake Golf Course.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

The Legislature adjourned its 2022 Session on March 10, after successfully adopting the largest Supplemental Operating and Supplemental Capital Budgets in state history, along with a slew of policy bills. K–12 education achieved several major successes, including enhanced staffing ratios in the Prototypical School Funding Model. A long-time priority for WASA, funding is provided to begin a three-year phase-in of additional state-funded staff allocations for physical, social, and emotional support staff (such as nurses, counselors, social workers, etc.). This initial step to increasing staffing ratios to a more realistic level is the most positive outcome of the session; however, we will use this as a launching pad to continue pressing for needed enhancements across the Model in 2023 and beyond. Additional big wins include funding for Enrollment Stabilization; providing additional financial support for 230 school districts that continue to deal with student enrollment declines; and pupil transportation funding to assist districts transporting special passengers. This funding will serve as a jump-start as we advocate for a more comprehensive overhaul of the current STARS funding formula next session.

Although administrators successfully advocated for some big ticket items in the budget, there were also disappointments. Perhaps the greatest disappointment is the Supplemental Operating Budget's net reduction in education funding, even though the Legislature had a significant and historic budget surplus of more than \$12.0 billion. As the Legislature attempted to comply with the Supreme Court's McCleary decision in the 2017–2019 biennium, K–12 funding rose to encompass 52 percent of the state's Operating Budget. Following the adoption of the 2022 Supplemental Operating Budget, K–12's percentage of the overall budget plummeted to 43 percent. Normally, this would simply mean that other areas of government are increasing funding at a greater rate than K–12; however, this year, K–12 funding actually went down. Administrators have our work cut out for us in the coming years as we continue to advocate for needed supports for our students, staff, and programs.

There are other budget details and many, many bills adopted this session that will impact school districts. WASA staff are in the process of producing our annual End of Session Report, which will include full details of the 2022 Supplemental Operating and Capital Budgets, along with a comprehensive review of the many education-related bills the Legislature addressed this session. It will be emailed to all **TWIO** subscribers as soon as it is completed. Additionally, keep your eyes open for an invitation to **WASA's 2022 Legislative Session Wrap-up webinar**. This complimentary event is open to all administrators and is scheduled for **Thursday, April 28**.



WELCOME WASA'S NEWEST TEAM MEMBER—KALEY!

We are pleased to announce WASA's newest team member, **Kaley VonVolki**, who began her role as our Accounting Assistant this March. Kaley grew up in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, but left Idaho four years ago for the rainy weather of western Washington. Previously, Kaley worked as an Accounting and Card Servicing Specialist, where she grew her professional skillset. She is scheduled to graduate with her bachelor's degree later this year. We are thrilled to have Kaley's experience and passion and look forward to her growth in this role.

Welcome, Kaley!

COMPONENT ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations to **Sarah Thornton**, Pasco, SD, **Linda McKay**, NCESD 171, **Matt Yarkosky**, Bethel SD, and **Mary Templeton**, Washougal SD, who were recently elected to serve on the WASA Board of Directors!



Sarah Thornton,
BPAC Component Chairs-elect



Linda McKay,
IPAC Component Chair-elect



Matt Yarkosky,
Principal Component Chair



Mary Templeton,
Superintendent Component Chair-elect



JOIN THE DISCUSSION

AASA's Live Well Lead Well Discussion Series is taking place each month through October. The next session is a "Student Care Guided Discussion" on April 26. Register [here](#)!



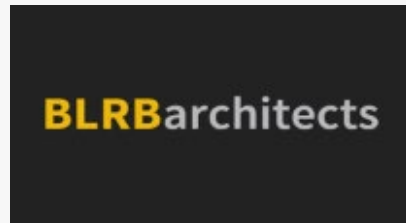
CELEBRATING WASA AT 50

Did you know?

Since the early days of WASA, corporate sponsors have been a valued partner of our association. The **WASA Corporate Partners Program** was originally initiated to provide opportunities and enhance services to our membership. The program is set up with a four-tier structure offering Diamond, Platinum, Gold, and Silver Partner levels of support. WASA has 15 Diamond, seven Platinum, seven Gold, and one Silver—a total of 30 sponsors in all!

These partners support WASA through sponsorship of special activities, awards, and scholarships. They also provide support through more traditional avenues, such as sponsoring speakers and dinners for professional learning events, enabling us to offer superior professional learning opportunities at an affordable price for WASA members.

Our Diamond Level Partners:





COMPLIMENTARY WEBINAR

April 5 | 10 a.m.–12 p.m.

Join **Foundation for Child Development** on for its "Scholars of Color" webinar, dedicated to the work of **Dr. James P. Comer**. Dr. Comer is the Maurice Falk Professor of Child Psychiatry at Yale Child Study Center. The Comer School Development Program fosters collaboration of parents, educators, and community to shape learning environments. Register for the complimentary webinar [here](#).

WEBINAR

**Dr. James Comer:
His Work & Relevance for Today**

Tuesday, April 5, 2022 | 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT



The Foundation for Child Development's Scholars of Color Series highlights the contributions of scholars of color in the early care and education field and the vital relevance of their work in improving the lives of young children today.

Learn More and Register Now
[Discoverjamescomer.org](#)
@jcomer

ANNUAL AWARD NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

Piper Sandler | Doyle E. Winter Scholarship

\$1,000 scholarship designed to assist a talented and committed educational administrator who is presently in or will begin a doctoral program in K–12 Public Education in 2022.

Deadline: April 21, 2022

State Honorary Awards | Deadline: May 3, 2022

Note: Please input nominations as soon as possible for best consideration.

- **Golden Gavel Award** The recipient shall be an individual, group, association, or firm that has made an outstanding contribution to public education in the state of Washington.
- **D.A. Davidson Barbara Martens Legacy Award** \$1,000 gift presented to an individual/group who has had a significant impact on Washington's public education.
- **Service to WASA Award** The recipient shall have made contributions at the state level toward the goals of WASA.
- **WASA Leadership Award** Recipient is a WASA Active Member who demonstrates and exemplifies outstanding leadership abilities and who has made significant contributions to the field of education statewide.

Region Honorary Awards | Deadline: Varies

Note: Region award links are dependent on your region. Contact the Region President/**Honorary Awards Committee Chair** for deadlines in your region.

- **WASA Student Achievement Leadership Award** Recognizes innovative programs that promote access, equity, or social justice for the improvement of student achievement.
- **Award of Merit** Recipients recognized for promoting access, equity, and social justice for students, as well as making a significant contribution to WASA.

- **Community Leadership Award** Recognizes a non-WASA member for outstanding contributions to education.
- **WASA Student Leadership Award** Recognizes outstanding **student leaders** who have created or played a significant leadership role in initiatives that promote access, equity, or social justice in their school and community.
- **Twenty-Year Award (self-nomination)** Recognizes individual's service to education. This award is granted to a school administrator who served as an administrator for 20 years in public school districts.
- **Retirement Award (self-nomination)** Honors service to profession. Recipient must be retiring from their administrative responsibilities and no longer eligible for active WASA membership.

For more information, please contact **Shari Parsons** at 360.489.3641.

ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY GRANTS AVAILABLE

Is your district already planning for outdoor learning, especially to support Title 1, Title 3, Title 6, IDEA and 504 qualifying students? The **Pacific Education Institute (PEI)** is accepting applications, and the first round review begins **March 31**. Reviews will continue until all funds are allocated. If interested, visit the **Environmental Literacy Grant webpage** to learn more.

COMMUNICATION TOOLS: PEDIATRIC VACCINE

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 related to the **pandemic and equity**. The following have been recently uploaded to our **website**:

PANDEMIC-RELATED RESOURCES

- **What Can Schools Do as Trauma Continues to Rear its Ugly Head?** (Education Week)
- **Mental Health Crises are Bombarding Our Schools. Here's What We Can Do** (Education Week)
- **The Teaching Strategies Educators Say Will Outlasts the Pandemic** (Education Week)

EQUITY

- **Districts Dig Into Data Seeking Solutions for Inequity** (K-12 Dive)
- **Navigating Diverging Approaches to Equity Work** (Hanover)
- **Making Strides in Your District's Equity Journey** (Hanover)

OTHER

- **Tips for Building Strong Principal-Superintendent Relationships** (Education Week)
- **Considerations for Post Secondary Success: Supporting Transitions from High School to College** (Hanover Research)

- **Toolkit for Behavior Problem-Solving Teams** (Hanover Research)



SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT!

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



Gallagher

Contact: **Charlie Isaacs**

AASA CORNER

- 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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