From the President

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome back! I hope that each of you had a wonderful break and enjoyed special time with friends and family. Time away from our everyday tasks can be remarkably restorative.

The start of a new year provides an ideal time to reflect on where we have been and where we are heading. As we celebrate the first few months of 2020, we must recognize the heroic work that lies ahead for each of us in our respective roles, and in the communities we serve. We can also look forward to the future with excitement.

I know when I began my role as a superintendent seven years ago, I thought I knew all there was to know about the role of a superintendent. Very early during my first levy election season, I learned that all was not as I had thought. There were hidden systems of communication and expectations. I found navigating these systems to be difficult when I relied on my own stubborn methodology or insight. I realized what was needed was to be strategic, transparent, and relentless on outcomes. These experiences led to success and improved student learning. Trust was not given up front but rather earned through the experiences, the seemingly innocuous moments, and with much humility and friendship. I am extremely pleased to be able to say that we have passed all levy propositions in our districts with much humility and friendship. I am extremely pleased to be able to say that we have passed all levy propositions in our districts.

Last month many participated in the Washington State School Board Directors’ Association Annual Conference in Bellevue. It was a wonderful opportunity to learn from each other. Most districts were represented and included student representatives, new and experienced board members, and superintendents. During the shared weekend, we engaged in powerful conversations about the future of teaching and learning as it relates to public education policy and advocacy.

A collective of the three “ships”—relationships, leadership, and partnerships—were evident in the conversations and offerings at the conference. In addition, WASA’s core tenants of Leadership, Trust, and Advocacy were clearly visible. It is our overriding priority to represent all students in public education in the state, as we are positioned to make a difference at every local level and statewide initiative. To achieve this aim, we must anticipate the many legislative issues that will define this session and occupy our legislative colleagues. As we reach out this month, we must not remain silent on the impact of past legislative actions and its effect on our children in the schools they represent. You are the resident expert in pre-K–12 education in your community.

We encourage administrators to use the 2020 Session to educate legislators about school district staffing needs and build momentum for further action in the 2021 Session.

The recommendations from the OSPI Staffing Enrichment Workgroup inform our partners in the Legislature of what is needed to eliminate the opportunity gaps. The report concluded that high supports and expectations for all students are delivered by a workforce that is diverse, culturally responsive, racially literate, and aware.

In addition, the report states that Washington’s K–12 students must be served by equity-based policies that support and empower educators, families, and communities.

As reported, the workgroup’s recommendations are as follows:

1. Modify current prototypical school level sizes.
2. Meet students’ needs for safety as well as mental, social, emotional, and behavioral health.

Continued on next page.
3. Provide impactful professional development to all staff.
4. Increase flexibility with transparency and accountability.
5. Raise staffing levels to meet those set in Initiative 1351 and provide additional funds for schools in the Capital Budget.
6. Reconvene the Workgroup. The report provides a student-focused, phase-in approach over six years to address the gaps.

As you participate in both local and statewide efforts for the improvement of schools and student learning, we must collaborate and incorporate hope and positivity into our messaging.

In this last respect, WASA has comprehensive resources, so please take full advantage of the unique opportunity your membership provides.

In sum, 2020 starts with great promise of even greater accomplishments for our education community. Granted, we will always face barriers, problematic issues, and symbolic leaches and mosquitos in our respective positions. It is our ability to translate these into opportunities for action and long term change that allows us to lead as transformative leaders. And so, as we start a new year, may we contemplate and think about what might be...

Life ends when you stop dreaming, hope ends when you stop believing, and love ends when you stop caring. So, dream, hope and love—Make Life Beautiful.

Thank you for all that you do to make WASA and your communities a thriving place for children and staff.

Best wishes for a healthy and productive New Year! Let’s make 2020 great!

Krestin Bahr

**Go Paperless, Try e-Convene!**

WASA supports district efforts to go paperless in all their meetings—board, administrative, PTA, and public communications. Leveraging the power of e-Convene, districts can share important documents with the board, staff, and public. As a seamless component of the Washington State EduPortal®, e-Convene becomes a cost-effective and convenient platform for document management. Using e-Convene for your document archival system provides secure storage, convenient searching, and easy retrieval. Advantages of going paperless include:

- No more meeting packet assembling and mailing.
- Ability to revise agenda and supporting documents in real time.
- Managing board policies.
- Keeping the board, staff, and public more informed.
- Saving staff time and the district money.
- Linking your public website to e-Convene eliminates duplication and reduces webmaster time.

The e-Convene solution is less expensive than other common solutions and can be customized to fit your district needs. If you would like more information about this service or to schedule a webinar tour, contact Andy Wolf at 360.489.3646 or awolf@wasa-oly.org.

**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.

Throughout the 2020 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](https://wasa-oly.org/LegPodcast).
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.

Nominations Requested for 2020–21 WASA President-Elect

Dr. Randy Russell, WASA Past President, is seeking nominees for the 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. Information on the candidates will be presented in upcoming editions of the Hotline. Candidate brochures will be emailed to all WASA members. Also, candidate speeches to be given during the WASA Honorary Award Luncheon at the 2020 WASA/AWSP Summer Conference and posted on the website. Electronic ballots will be emailed to active WASA members 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 russell@freemansd.org.

WASA Board Minutes in Brief—December 4, 2019

The Board approved the following:

- Consent Calendar (WASA September 2019 Financials; Conference Financials; October 7, 2019, Board Meeting Minutes; and November 2019 Membership Report)

Information items included:

- Process for 2020–21 WASA President-elect Nominations
- Process for 2020–21 WASA Component Elections
- Reports by WASA Assistant Executive Directors
- Reports by WASA Liaisons
- 2020 WASA Leaders Workshop

The next WASA Board of Directors meeting is February 9, 2020, in conjunction with the WASA/WSSDA/WASBO Legislative Conference at South Puget Sound Community College in Olympia.

AASA CORNER

Public Schools Week—February 24–28

Public Schools Week is a nation-wide celebration to highlight the great things happening in public schools. Last month, WASA members received an invitation from Executive Director Dan Domenech to pledge their support for public schools through PublicSchoolProud.org. The pledge, in conjunction with Public Schools Week, is a visible show of support for public schools. All WASA members are encouraged to consider participating in the pledge, while inviting staff, students, parents, and community patrons to do the same.

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 the ACT, Social and Emotional Learning

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

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
Torrey Pines
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
Who’s Telling Your Story?

Personalized Learning in West Valley SD

Source: Dr. Mike Brophy, Superintendent, West Valley SD

The American Institute of Research with the cooperation of the American Association of School Administrators (AASA) is researching the implementation of Personalized Learning in West Valley School District for a case study. A member of the AASA Personalized Learning Cohort, West Valley was chosen to tell its story of Personalized Learning implementation. Currently at the mid-point of what they believe is a very successful implementation, West Valley is working to establish student-centered learning environments in all classrooms. “Tailoring learning to meet the individual needs of the learner” is the definition that is sought through this process.

Above is a photo of Cottonwood Elementary kindergarten teacher Abigail Ferguson presenting a badge to one of her students for his Badge Book. The Badge Book is an outstanding example of standards based grading: clearly identifying the kindergarten standards, putting them in a booklet, and making stamps/badges that students are presented upon demonstrating mastery of the standard. Students are motivated to demonstrate mastery and earn badges to put in their badge book.

Want 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.

Upcoming Awards & Scholarships

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 15–March 19, 2020

GALLAGHER HOWARD M. COBLE SCHOLARSHIP FOR UNDER-REPRESENTED EDUCATIONAL LEADERS

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

Application Process: February 19–April 1, 2020

PIPER SANDLER 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: February 28–April 23, 2020

WASA HONORARY AWARDS

STATE AWARDS

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

Application Process: March 1–May 1, 2020

REGION AWARDS

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

Application Process: March 1–May 1, 2020 (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, 2020

To review the criteria for the various awards, visit the WASA website at http://bit.ly/2q3DV0W. More information will be included in future editions of Hotline.
## Event Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INCLUSIONARY PRACTICES STATEWIDE CONVENING</td>
<td>January 16</td>
<td>SeaTac</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASA WINTER CONFERENCE</td>
<td>January 28</td>
<td>Crowne Plaza, SeaTac</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASA SPECIAL EDUCATION ACADEMY COHORT II</td>
<td>January 28–29</td>
<td>Crowne Plaza, SeaTac</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASA/WSDDA/WASBO LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE AND DAY ON THE HILL</td>
<td>February 9–10</td>
<td>South Puget Sound Community College and Capitol Campus</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASA MENTOR ACADEMY SESSION TWO</td>
<td>February 23–24</td>
<td>Four Points by Sheraton Seattle Airport South</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASA EARLY CAREER SUPERINTENDENT ACADEMY SESSION TWO</td>
<td>February 23–24</td>
<td>Four Points by Sheraton Seattle Airport South</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASA SPRING CONFERENCE FOR SMALL SCHOOLS LEADERS</td>
<td>March 9–10</td>
<td>Wenatchee Convention Center</td>
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<td>WASA SPECIAL EDUCATION ACADEMY COHORT II ZOOM MEETING</td>
<td>March 17</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASA SPECIAL EDUCATION ACADEMY COHORT I ZOOM MEETING</td>
<td>March 17</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASA EARLY CAREER SUPERINTENDENT ACADEMY ZOOM MEETING</td>
<td>March 25</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASA WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE</td>
<td>April 25</td>
<td>Campbell’s Resort, Chelan</td>
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<td>WASA SUPERINTENDENT CONFERENCE</td>
<td>April 26–28</td>
<td>Campbell’s Resort, Chelan</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASA EARLY CAREER SUPERINTENDENT ACADEMY ZOOM MEETING</td>
<td>May 18</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASA/AWSA/WSSDA EQUITY CONFERENCE</td>
<td>May 20</td>
<td>DoubleTree by Hilton, SeaTac</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASA SPECIAL EDUCATION ACADEMY COHORT I ZOOM MEETING</td>
<td>May 27</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASA SPECIAL EDUCATION ACADEMY COHORT II ZOOM MEETING</td>
<td>May 27</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td>WSLA SUMMER STATEWIDE WORKSHOP</td>
<td>June 26</td>
<td>Davenport Grand Hotel, Spokane</td>
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<td>WASA/AWSA SUMMER CONFERENCE</td>
<td>June 28–30</td>
<td>Spokane Convention Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASA INCOMING SUPERINTENDENT CONFERENCE</td>
<td>July 20–21</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASA/OSPI SPECIAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE</td>
<td>July 30–31</td>
<td>Hotel Murano, Tacoma</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASA FALL CONFERENCE</td>
<td>October 6</td>
<td>Four Points by Sheraton Seattle Airport South</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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.
There is still time to register!

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 now at https://wasa-oly.org/Spring20.

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 for housing and full conference details.

Conference registration and housing open January 27! Watch your email for details.
The Third Annual 2020 ERNN Regional Workshops are designed to provide information to people who will be involved in their district’s bargaining process. The workshops are one-day events that will be repeated at three locations across the state. Districts are encouraged to bring their entire bargaining team to this valuable training.

The goal of this workshop is that each participant will understand current issues, and learn strategies that will help them guide their district toward a positive conclusion of the bargaining process. Along with general information about what happened at tables last year, the workshop will focus on salary negotiations, SEBB, Student Discipline/Employee Safety, Paraeducator Training/Certification, and more.

The Employee Relations Negotiations Network (ERNN) is an association of school districts in Washington with the sole purpose of providing member districts information about collective bargaining.

Click here to view dates/locations and registration.

Registration is open for the 2020 WASA Spring Conference designed for small schools leaders. Register now at www.wasa-oly.org/spring20.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Kevin Honeycutt
Small Schools, Big Hopes, Big Dreams, Big Futures

Peg Portscheller
Shaping a Proud Legacy

Sean Covel
The Word That Shapes our World

In addition to keynote speakers, the conference will host a panel comprised of recent small school/district graduates who will share how their school/district helped prepare and propel them forward.

Concurrent sessions will include by-size discussion groups, and sessions highlighting best practices related to one the following topics:

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

The conference will host 30 exhibitors—their support is vital to the success of our event. Time will be allotted to provide everyone the opportunity to stop by each exhibit and thank them for their support.

Steve Webb of Vancouver PS to Receive Humanitarian Award at AASA’s 2020 National Conference on Education

Steve Webb, superintendent of Vancouver Public Schools, and Joe A. Hairston (posthumous), former associate professor at Howard University and co-founder of the AASA/Howard University Urban Superintendents Academy, will be recognized as Dr. Effie H. Jones Humanitarian Award recipients at the opening general session of the National Conference on Education, February 13, 2020, in San Diego, California.

Read more: [https://aasa.org/content.aspx?id=44304](https://aasa.org/content.aspx?id=44304).
Spotlight on a WASA Diamond-Level Sponsor

The Beresford Company is a leading provider of quality floor coverings to Washington Education including K–12, Community Colleges, and higher education organizations throughout the Pacific Northwest. For over 55 years, they have built their success on their unparalleled ability to deliver only the highest quality products with the lowest possible lifecycle cost, with expert installations and a professional consulting team.

Charlie Beresford and his wife Virginia founded the Beresford Company in 1958. Over the years, both remained actively involved in their local school district in Manson, Washington. In addition, Charlie served on the board of the North Central Educational Service District 171 until his passing in 2011. Currently, Merle Kirkley serves on the Northwest Educational Service District 189. This commitment to service and integrity continues today through the family as well as the dedicated Beresford employees.

The Beresford team remains actively involved in numerous educational organizations including WASA, WAMOA, WASBO, WSSDA, OSPI, AESD, and the Washington Chapter of A4LE—all while carrying out the Beresford mission of quality, integrity, and service.

The Beresford Company mission: To deliver the highest quality products and utmost level of integrity combined with expert service so that every project is complete with a satisfied and pleased customer. This mission is carried out every day by their dedicated team, thereby living their values:

- Provide high performance, low maintenance products with the lowest lifecycle cost
- Address indoor air quality to create a healthy and safe learning environment
- Deliver solid maintenance plans with hands-on demonstrations and assessments
- Facilitate accountable supplier-customer partnerships
- Work with the school district to ensure environmental stewardship

As a premier provider of flooring solutions to the education market, Beresford has worked with over 200 school districts in the states of Washington and Oregon. WASA appreciates the ongoing support of The Beresford Company to its membership.
Region Events—January & February

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

REGION 101
President—Rob Roettger
January 16, 8:30 a.m.–12 p.m.
Lunch and Learn Sessions, 12–1:30 p.m., NEWESD 101, Talbott Event Center, Spokane
February 20, 8:30 a.m.–12 p.m.
Lunch and Learn Sessions, 12–1:30 p.m., NEWESD 101, Talbott Event Center, Spokane

REGION 105
President—Roger Trail
January 16, 8:00–11:30 a.m.
Topic: Engineering Improvement in Your Schools, NOW! ESD 105, Yakima
February 20, 8:00–11:30 a.m.
Topic: Relationships Across the District—Heart Venture, ESD 105, Yakima

REGION 110
President—Donna Colosky
January 17, 12–1 p.m.
PSESD 121, Renton

REGION 111
President—Marc Shepard
January 17, 7:30–8:30 a.m.
General Member Meeting, Topic: Navigating Implications of Legislative Changes for Special Education, Fife Administrative Center, Fife

REGION 112
President—Mark Ross
January 24, 10 a.m.–12 p.m.
General Member Meeting, ESD 112, Vancouver

REGION 113
President—Jeff Davis
January 22, 9:30 a.m.–12 p.m.
SAC Meeting, Capital Region ESD 113, PAC/ GH/ T Room, Tumwater
February 26, 8 a.m.–9:30 a.m.
General Member Meeting, Topic: Celebrating School Board Leadership (Board Chair Recognition) Capital Region ESD 113, PAC/ GH/ T Room, Tumwater

REGION 114
President—Diane Reaume
January 31, 9 a.m.–12 p.m.
SAC Meeting ESD 114, Room 202, Bremerton
February 28, 9 a.m.–12 p.m.
SAC Meeting ESD 114, Room 202, Bremerton

REGION 123
President—Wade Smith
February 13, 12–3 p.m.
SAC Meeting, ESD 114, Room 202, Bremerton

REGION 171
President—Barry DePaoli
January 16, 9:30 a.m.–2 p.m.
SAC Meeting, NCESD 171, Cottonwood Retreat Center, Wenatchee
February 20, 9:30 a.m.–2 p.m.
SAC Meeting, NCESD 171, Cottonwood Retreat Center, Wenatchee

Contact WASA

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360.943.5717 / 800.859.9272

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- Andy Wolf, Assistant Executive Director awolf@wasa-oly.org

2019–20 WASA Officers
President: Krestin Bahr, Eatonville
President-elect: Brian Talbott, Nine Mile Falls
Past President: Randy Russell, Freeman
Secretary: Jennifer Bethman, Bethel
Treasurer: Corine Pennington, Puyallup