

WASA HOTLINE

SPRING EDITION | APRIL 2021

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From the President



Brian Talbott
WASA President

WASA Friends and Colleagues,

Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better.

-Maya Angelou

We have entered the final lap of the most awkward, confusing, decision-driven, and strangely inspiring year in leadership. I thank you for keeping your focus on our students. You have demonstrated your tireless efforts in support of children, families, and educators throughout this monumental timeframe.

While navigating a global pandemic, each of us, to some degree, has also faced the broad and deep aspects of Equity or, lack thereof. For some, this is not a new challenge as it has been understood and embraced for some time...perhaps for a lifetime. For others, these societal concerns have reached pivotal levels where they may have otherwise been hibernating. The stark reality is that overtly or covertly, racism, inequity, and oppression exist in our communities. The question is whether or not we have recognized it. More importantly, have you/we as school leaders addressed this in a meaningful way?

While the pandemic has provided plenty for us to focus on throughout the past fourteen months, the opportunity to become uncomfortable and raw regarding Equity has also presented itself in many unfortunate and visual manners. During my year as WASA president and similarly, through our work in Region 101, I have had the opportunity to delve deeper into this important, and often uncomfortable, dialogue. While I am becoming more learned, I admittedly have a long way to go. I am only just beginning to truly understand the challenges and barriers that people of color—our colleagues, students, and families have faced throughout their lives. At the core of WASA's statewide work is our Executive Director along with the three Assistant Executive Directors. Joel, Mike,

Andy, and Dan have been courageous enough to expose their vulnerabilities while also leading, and at times deferring leadership, in an effort to better understand the plight and walk of others.

I am grateful for this poignant leadership. It would certainly be easier to solely focus on the struggles of the pandemic. Far more difficult and complex is the willingness to engage and open our hearts and minds to others who have been oppressed.

We stand at the precipice. We have the choice to either fend for ourselves or we can lock arms in reassurance that nobody falls. I choose the latter.

With much gratitude,

Brian L. Talbott

From the Executive Director



Joel Aune
WASA Executive Director

WASA Members,

Our country is at a crossroads. The ugliness of racism has become more fully exposed. Yet many still deny that racism exists. Whenever an individual or group engages in a racist act, many people on both sides

of the aisle are quick to say, "This is not America. This is not who we are." And yet I wonder if maybe this IS who we are. The term "racist" is commonly applied to an individual who actively discriminates based upon the color of someone's skin. However, racism is more than just individuals and their actions. Racism is a system.

As a school district leader, many of you began your career as a teacher. I suspect your original motivation was to help children and young people discover their potentials and realize bright futures.

Continued on next page.

From the classroom, you probably experienced a calling at some point—to step into an administrative leadership role to expand your sphere of influence on young people. To do more good.

Your school district’s statement of values, mission, and vision are likely explicit in what you and your community desire for children and young people—in large part the pursuit of dignity and equity for ALL students. But might there be systemic barriers embedded in your schools and school district that are in conflict with the foundational concept of dignity and equity for all? This is a difficult, complex, and sometimes controversial question. And yet there are most likely systemic barriers to dignity and equity, many invisible to your eye, that are in direct conflict with your school district’s mission, vision, and values. Chances are, your district aspires to a vision for children and young people to develop and grow into productive, happy, contributing members to our country’s democracy. The words may be different from district to district, but the spirit of the vision is the same.

Don’t misunderstand, I’m not pointing fingers, affixing blame, or intending to make you feel guilty. In fact, none of us should feel guilty for what has been done, or for what has been left undone. Feeling guilty is, for the most part, a waste of time and energy. What we can control however, is how we respond as leaders to that which is emerging before our very eyes. What really counts is what all of us do individually and collectively to lean into this work today, tomorrow, next week, and in the years to come.

As school district leaders, you are in different places of development in terms of your knowledge, skill, leadership capacity, and urgency to do this important work. As leaders, you are all in different places in terms of the current state of this work in your schools and school districts. Again, don’t feel guilty because of where things stand, but rather focus on where you want and need to go as a leader and as a school community.

If you find yourself uncertain about the realities of systemic racism and the inequities inherent in our schools and in our society, then educate yourself. Spend time delving into our country’s history—the unvarnished truth that includes the good, the bad, and the ugly. Take a deep dive into your school district’s data and ask yourself and others the hard questions about the long-standing gaps in student performance and success that appear to be based on race and socio-economic status. Then take an in-depth and honest look at the policies and systems that are in place and how they might be contributing to the success or lack thereof of students whose race or socio-economic status appears to be the partition between achievement and failure.

I encourage you to make a deliberate and continuing effort to know yourself. What are your core values? What are your implicit biases; the biases that all of us, yes all of us have when it comes to how we slot and sort people—children, young people, and their parents. Explore and reaffirm or rediscover your “Why”. Why do you come to work each day?

Begin or continue talking about race with others. These conversations are uncomfortable, messy, and at times emotionally charged. But these conversations are essential to your learning and in laying the foundation for change. Listen intently. Seek to understand. Give people grace. Challenge yourself. Know the history and the data.

My father used to say, “don’t walk by a mess.” Leaders cannot look the other way. You are a respected leader with position and power to influence and get things done. And with that position and power comes the responsibility to lead, engage stakeholders, influence, and work for change; change to bring policy and practice into full alignment with your district’s mission, vision, and stated values.

Since the advent of the pandemic and the killing of George Floyd, I have been engaged in numerous and ongoing conversations with school district leaders across our state and country concerning equity and social justice. I have learned so much from you, and during this time there have been moments when I felt inadequate or remorseful for the missed opportunities—for coming up short on my responsibilities as a leader during the course of my career as a teacher, principal, and superintendent. But those moments are fleeting, as I quickly refocus my thinking and energy to what we can do in the future—what we are called to do in making a substantive difference in the lives of young people and the future of our great country.

This is our time, and we can do this if we individually and collectively summon a relentless commitment to pursue this vision with courage, intentionality, a steady and firm persistence, and patience. This work is complex and difficult. It involves changing the culture and dismantling long-established systems that preclude equity and opportunity for all students. No one ever said it would be easy.

But if not you, then who? And if not now, then when?

WASA stands ready to support you in this important work. Thanks for all you do to lead with courage, integrity, and commitment to the students in your schools. Thanks to all of you for doing the right thing.

Respectfully,

Joel Aune



WASA Component Election Results

On March 11, President Brian Talbott verified the following WASA Board of Directors' election results. Welcome to the following new Board of Directors who will begin their terms on July 1, 2021:

Special Education Component Chair



John Sander, Executive Director Learning Support Services, Franklin Pierce School District.

John has served as the Executive Director of Learning Support Services for the Franklin Pierce School District since 2018. His administrative experience includes three years in the Kent School District as an Executive

Director of Inclusive Education (Special Education); seven years in the University Place School District as an Assistant Superintendent of Special Services, Human Resources, Maintenance and Facilities, Student Services, Executive Director of Special Services and Human Resources, and Executive Director of Special Services. And four years in the Auburn District as Director of Assessment and Federal Programs and Elementary School Principal. He also has a combined six years of experience as a School Psychologist in Auburn and Kent School Districts. John is a member of WASA and the Urban Collaborative.

Business and Personnel Administrators Component (BPAC) Chair-elect



Dr. Melissa Beard, Chief Finance and Operations, Steilacoom Historical School District

Melissa worked for the State of Washington for 18 years as a fiscal analyst for the House of Representatives, Budget Advisor to Superintendent Terry Bergeson at OSPI, and Senior Forecast Analyst at the Education

Research and Data Center at the Office of Financial Management. Melissa is also an elected school board member, serving as Board President of the Tumwater School Board. As a member of WSSDA, she serves as Vice President of the Resolutions Committee. As a member of WASBO, she serves on the Mentorship Work Group.

Instructional Program Administrators Component (IPAC) Chair-elect



Dr. Jenny Rodriquez, Executive Director Teaching & Learning, Pasco School District

Jenny currently serves on the WSU Tri-Cities College of Education Supervisory Board, WSU GearUp Board, WA CareerConnect Tech pilot project team, and

WASA. Her community engagement experience includes service to the Mid-Columbia STEM Collaboratory Council, Washington State STEM Education Foundation, and numerous speaking engagements including, the Association of Washington Business—Workforce Training Summit, Leadership Tri-Cities—Education Day, American Petroleum Institute—Women in STEM Summit, and other regional community presentations (Boys and Girls Club, United Way Community Forum, Pasco Sunrise Rotary, Delta Kappa Gamma, and Kiwanis Club).

Superintendent Component Chair-elect



Dr. James Everett, Superintendent, Meridian School District

James is currently the Region President in 108. Since 2013, he has been a member of WASA and AASA, and the WWU PEAB since 2014. His community engagement experience also includes the Northwest Career & Technical Academy (NWCTA),

Administrative Council President (2020–21), Association of Washington School Principals (2009–15), WASSP Board and Communications member (2012–15), and NCCE (1994–06 & 2007–12).

WASA would like to thank these individuals for their willingness to serve our members.



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.

2021 WASA Honorary Awards Nominations are Now Being Accepted

The 2021 WASA Honorary Awards nomination process is underway. [State](#) and [Region](#) Honorary Award Nomination forms are available on the [WASA website](#).

This year's State Awards will be presented virtually at the 2021 WASA year end celebration on June 28, 2021, at 11:45 a.m.–1:15 p.m. Awards to be presented at the celebration event include the Golden Gavel, D.A. Davidson Barbara Mertens Legacy, Service to WASA, and WASA Leadership awards.

To access this event, click [here](#) to register. A Zoom link and log-on information will be sent to registered attendees. Everyone is welcome to attend.

New Award Introduced

The WASA Honorary Awards Committee introduced a new award to the list of Region Awards available for presentation this year, the "WASA Student Leadership Award." The WASA Student Leadership Award recognizes outstanding student leaders who have created or played a significant leadership role in initiatives or programs that promote inclusivity, access, equity, or social justice in their school and community.

Region awards will be presented at either region award celebrations or district presentations. These awards include the Student Achievement Leadership, Award of Merit, Community Leadership, new WASA [Student Leadership](#), Twenty-Year, and Retiree awards.

More than ever, this is an excellent opportunity to acknowledge colleagues and community members who are making an extraordinary contribution to K–12 education.

Contact Shari Parsons at 360.489.3641 for further questions.

Piper Sandler Doyle E. Winter Scholarship for Administrative Leadership in Education

Applications are now being accepted for the Piper Sandler Dr. Doyle E. Winter Scholarship for Administrative Leadership in Education. A \$1,000 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 20, 2021. For more information and the [application](#), please see the [WASA website](#).

WASA
LEGISLATIVE
PODCAST
with Dan Steele

Throughout the 2021 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>.

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 www.wasa-oly.org/twio.

AASA CORNER

AASA Governing Board Nominations Open

Nominations are open for one east-side and one west-side representative to the AASA Governing Board. Both terms (Krestin Bahr west-side and Michelle Price east-side) are set to expire on June 30, 2021. Elections for the three-year term positions will be held in mid-May.

Contact [Joel Aune](#) for further information or to self-nominate. The deadline to submit interest in serving on the AASA Governing Board is April 24, 2021.

AASA Educational Administration Scholarship

AASA's Educational Administration Scholarships were created in 1949 to provide incentive, honor, and financial assistance to outstanding graduate students in school administration who intend to make the school superintendency a career. The seven top graduate students in educational administration receive a scholarship from AASA, the School Superintendents Association. The scholarships are given in honor of AASA's former executive directors—Worth McClure, Finis E. Engleman, Forrest E. Connor, Paul B. Salmon, Richard D. Miller, and Paul D. Houston.

Individuals must be recommended by the School of Education chair in which the applicant is currently enrolled. Only one application may be submitted from each college or university campus. All nominations shall have been received at AASA Headquarters **no later than September 30, 2021**. All late entries shall be rejected, and a written notification of that action shall be sent to the nominator.

Visit the [AASA website](#) for further information or to download an application form.

If you have any questions, contact Gabriela Iturri at giturri@aasa.org or call 703.875.0731.

AASA Women in School Leadership Awards

The AASA Women in School Leadership Award program is designed to recognize the exceptional leadership of active, frontline female leaders who make a difference in students' lives every day.

Two awards are available:

- The Superintendent Award—female superintendents who have been in the superintendent position for two or more years, can apply for this award.
- The Central Office/Principal Award—awarded to a female central office or building level leader. Equivalent job titles may include assistant superintendent, central office administrator, or school-based principal/assistant principal can apply for this award.

Application and Procedure:

- Click here to [make a nomination](#) by September 10, 2021.
- [Applications](#) must be submitted online.
- Completed applications must be received online at AASA by October 8, 2021.
- Finalists are announced on November 15, 2021.
- Winners announced February 17–19, 2022.

For further information on the selection criteria and process, visit the [AASA website](#).

WASA Board Minutes in Brief— February 22, 2021

The Board approved the following:

- Consent Calendar
- December 2020 Comparative Membership Report
- WASA Board Meeting Minutes (December 2020)
- Conference and Workshop Financial Reports
- December 2020 Income Statement and Balance Sheet

The Executive Director's Report included:

- Awards and Scholarship Opportunities
- Region Leadership for 2021–22
- WASA Facilities Update
- Equity and Social Justice

Presentation/Discussion Items:

- Leaders Workshop

Action Items:

- WASA President-elect Candidates for 2021–22
- Proposed 2021–22 WASA Board Meeting Schedule

The WASA Assistant Executives Provided Reports on:

- What's Next in Professional Learning
- SIRS
- Management Reviews
- Professional Assistance
- Negotiation Assistance
- Legislative Session Update
- Legislative and Finance Committee
- WASA Resources

The next WASA Board meeting will be held by Zoom on April 19, 2021, 3–5 p.m.

2021–22 WASA PRESIDENT-ELECT CANDIDATES' BIOGRAPHIES

HENRY STROM

Superintendent | Grandview School District



PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2016–Present Superintendent, Grandview School District
 2011–16 Superintendent, Mt. Adams School District
 2007–11 Exec. Director of Teaching and Learning, Mt. Adams School District
 2003–07 Middle School Principal, Mt. Adams School District
 2000–03 Elementary Principal, Mt. Adams School District

EDUCATION

2005 Superintendent's Credential Seattle Pacific University
 1998 Principal Credential Central Washington University
 1995 Masters of Education City University
 Emphasis: Curriculum & Instruction
 1987 Bachelors of Arts in Education
 Central Washington University

WASA SERVICE

2020 WASA Executive Committee, Treasurer
 2018–Present WASA Board Member, Region 105
 2020–Present Eastern Washington Supt. Representative on State Covid Safety Panel
 2020–Present WASA Governor's K–12 Panel
 2020 WASA Listening Sessions with Leaders of Color-participant
 2018–19 WASA Region 105 President
 2018–19 WASA Honorary Awards Committee
 2017–18 Howard M. Coble Scholarship Committee
 2017–18 WASA Director Hiring Committee
 2014–Present WASA Region 105 Membership Officer
 2007–Present WASA Member

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

2016–Present WASA/OSPI/Superintendent Roundtable Member
 2020–21 University of Washington, Superintendent/Doctoral Program Field Supervisor/Mentor
 2019 ESD 105 WASA Award of Merit
 2014–Present Heritage University Board of Directors
 2014 ESD 105 WASA Award of Merit
 2012–Present United Schools Insurance Pool (Clear Risk), Board Member
 2011–16 National Association of Federally Impacted Schools, Board Member
 2011–16 National Indian Impacted Schools Association, Board Member

MICHELLE WHITNEY

Superintendent | Pasco School District



PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2014–Present Superintendent, Pasco School District
 2013–14 Exec. Director of Teaching and Learning, Pasco School District
 2011–13 Director of Human Resources, Pasco School District
 2006–11 Principal, McLoughlin Middle School
 2004–06 Assistant Principal, McLoughlin Middle School
 2001–04 Counselor/Librarian
 2000–01 Librarian/Technology Facilitator
 1998–00 Fourth Grade Teacher
 1996–98 Kindergarten Teacher
 1995–96 Substitute Teacher

EDUCATION

2016 Washington State University: Superintendent Certification
 2004 Washington State University: Principal Certification
 2001 Washington State University: Master's in Education
 ESA Certification | Emphasis in psychology and counseling theory
 1995 Washington State University: Bachelor's in Education
 Graduated Summa Cum Laude
 Endorsement in Elementary Education K–8
 Endorsement in English as a Second Language K–12
 1993 Columbia Basin College: Associate of Arts Degree
 Emphasis in science and business

WASA SERVICE

2010–Present Superintendent Mentor
 2020–21 WASA Region 123 Membership Committee Representative
 2020–21 WASA Region 123 Professional Learning Committee Representative
 2018–19 Conference Presenter
 2019–Present Region 123 President
 2018–19 Region 123 Vice-President
 2020–21 WASA/OSPI Superintendents Roundtable
 2020–21 Student Learning Advisory Workgroup

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

2016–Present Kiwanis Club of Pasco, Member
 2018–Present Tri Cities Regional Chamber of Commerce: myTRI Education Council
 2019–Present Boy and Girls Club of America Board
 2011–Present Washington Association of School Administrators
 2012–16 Leadership Tri Cities Board of Directors
 2012–13 President of Leadership Tri-Cities Class 18
 2016–19 AASA, Member
 2015–16 Tri City Herald Editorial Board Community Reader Representative
 1996–Present Golden Key International Honor Society Alumn

Professional Learning Updates

We miss being face to face but as we navigate the pandemic, our events will continue virtually until we know it is safe to come together again. Plans are underway to host our 2021 Incoming Superintendent Conference and the 2021 WASA Fall Conference in person so stay tuned!

Please contact Mike Nelson at mnelson@wasa-oly.org or Jamie Chylinski at jchylinski@wasa-oly.org with academy or professional learning questions.

[View/download our event calendar.](#)

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Registration is Open!



There is still time to register to participate in the 2021 WASA Women in Leadership Conference being held virtually on April 30, 8:30–11 a.m.

WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE

All current and aspiring women leaders. Please share with your colleagues!

ABOUT

You know her best, perhaps through this bit of a poem, “Courage doesn’t always roar. Sometimes courage is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying, “I will try again tomorrow.”

For decades Mary Anne Em Radmacher has been weaving her word craft with form and color and sending it around the world to warm hearts and lift spirits. She comes to our gathering of school leaders, all women, with a message that begins:

BE YOU. THE MORE YOU THE BETTER.

Some of you have followed a career path to your position you currently hold with plan, purpose, and a consistent vision. Others have said an open-hearted yes to unanticipated paths and opportunities that crossed your way. In those instances, and so many others, it is your unique synergy of skills, talents, and abilities that have forged your road. In an industry marginally populated by women, you have stood up, spoken up, and refused to have your commitment to growth and excellence and lifelong learning stilled by any restrictions or expectations. And yet...the road to leadership in a world governed by male counterparts is not simple. Or easy. And sometimes it’s tempting, in order to smooth a way, to give up defining parts of yourself in order to be more collegial. To be more like everyone else.

All those “everyone else’s” cannot do justice to the HOW of WHO you are. Uniquely, and in a remarkably short period of time that is both fun and challenging, Radmacher will help you dig deep to identify those quintessential qualities that make YOU so very you.

In a proprietary process she calls, “You’ve got this,” she will take you on a journey that will send you home with a deeper appreciation for, and a greater clarity around those things that are ineffably YOU. You’ll return to the challenges awaiting you with a stronger embrace of the extraordinary intentions that have guided you so profoundly through your career. So YOU—so deeply engrained in your leadership DNA—that you may have forgotten to greet them and count them among your greatest abilities.

THIS? This is not about empowering women in leadership. Radmacher suggested that as a woman she was getting a little weary of that word. What she offers is an excavation of sorts. A romp through some of the proudest moments of your career and helps you hold up a mirror to more clearly see the capacity that is there, serves you at every turn, so naturally, it almost goes unnoticed. Not after this!

In an industry that experiences the contradiction of conformity of necessity and elevation of individuality... come learn what Radmacher invites you to do: BE YOU, THE MORE YOU THE BETTER. In these moments together virtually you will use reflection, narrative, storytelling, mapping, and art. Mary Anne Em Radmacher surprises audiences around the country with her humor, sensitivity, and depth of reach.

Come. Be surprised. Walk away with a different mirror and a fresh, perhaps deepened view of your capacity, that capacity that is made all the better by owning every ounce of YOUR. YOU.

JOURNAL

Registrants will receive a journal featuring a custom poem and art created by Mary Anne Em Radmacher with pen, colored pencils, and a template. Journals will be mailed weekly on Fridays and will be mailed to your attention to the address listed in your registration.

REGISTRATION

Learn more or register now at www.wasa-oly.org/WIL21.



Incoming superintendents, new to the superintendency, or new to a district, register now for the 2021 WASA Incoming Superintendent Conference. This conference provides a unique and invaluable opportunity for first-time and seasoned incoming superintendents to network and focus on their leadership and goals on the first 90 days of superintendency.

The conference features keynoter Houston Kraft, “Deep Kindness.” All registrants will receive a copy of this thought-provoking book!

A sampling of our program topics include:

- Entry Planning/Your First 90 Day
- Strategic Planning
- District Finance
- Legal Issues
- Board Relations
- Communications

Register and learn more at www.wasa-oly.org/Incoming21.



May 18–19, 2021 | 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Daily via Zoom

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

District, ESD, and state agency leaders. Team participation is strongly encouraged.

PROGRAM

Check out this program lineup:

- Microaggression & Implicit Bias in Curriculum Design
Mirko Chardin, Novak Educational Consulting
- Equity by Design
Mirko Chardin and Dr. Katie Novak, Novak Educational Consulting
- Indigenous Knowledges, Decolonization, & Collective Action: Leading with Futurity in Mind
Dr. Anthony Craig, University of Washington
- “Learning Found”: Leading with (not for) Youth, Families & Communities towards Educational Justice
Dr. Ann Ishimaru, University of Washington
- The History We Didn’t Learn: Washington State’s History Through a Racial Equity Lens
Mary Fertakis, WSSDA
- The Search for the Holy Grail: Engaging White Men in Equity Work
Jeff Broome, Tumwater SD and Ted Dezember, King County Housing Authority
- Advancing an Equity Policy in a School District
Gloria Henderson, Lake Washington School District
- Our Words—Our Stories: The Power of Student Voice
AWSL Student Equity Cohort Members

LEARN MORE AND REGISTER

www.wasa-oly.org/Equity21



Calling all superintendents! Register now to participate in the 2021 WASA Superintendent Conference. Registration is open to sitting and named incoming superintendents.

This year’s conference features keynoter Timothy D. Kanold. On Monday, he will lead us through a journey of Heart & Soul.

Tuesday features Legislative Updates, Bargaining Updates, and Hot Topics for Superintendents. Superintendents registering have the opportunity to register two staff guests to participate on Tuesday for the Legislative and Bargaining Updates.

Learn more and register now at www.wasa-oly.org/Supt21!



Your Junetastic Learning Adventure Awaits!

Are you ready for your learning adventure? Our 2021 WASA/AWSP Summer Conference registration is open!

We are bringing keynoters and headliners to lead you in learnings through the month of June that are relevant to you in your role as district or building administrator. We’ve focused on three strands: Instructional Practice, SEL for Staff and Students, and Equity to bring you the content you need to come through the COVID-laden year and to move you forward into next year.

HOW IT WORKS

You design your adventure by picking the sessions you would like to attend. With a multitude of sessions available throughout the month of June, we are sure you will find at least one that speaks to you. Register for one session or more, the choice is yours!

[Watch the promo video.](#)

CHOOSING YOUR SESSIONS

To help you navigate the new offerings and prepare for registration, we have compiled a “learning destination map” and key to all the sessions—complete with speaker names, session titles, and descriptions.

[Click here to view/download the Junetastic Learning Adventure map.](#)

TAKE A PEEK

Here are just a few of the learning destinations offered in registration:

- Collaborative Impact: Dr. John Hattie
- Black Magic: What Black Leaders Learned through Trauma and Triumph, Chad Sanders
- Leading Restorative Practices: Marisol Quevedo Rerucha
- Envisioning a School Where Everyone Belongs: Dr. Floyd Cobb and John Krownapple

[Click here](#) to view all the destination sessions and session details.

LEARN MORE AND REGISTER

Visit www.wasa-oly.org/Summer21 for full details and to reserve your place now.

Upcoming Awards & Scholarships

PIPER SANDLER DOYLE E. WINTER SCHOLARSHIP FOR ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP IN EDUCATION

Designed to assist talented and committed educational administrators as they enhance skills and abilities needed to serve as educational leaders in the field of K–12 public education. Click [here](#) to view the application form.

Application Timeline: March 2–April 23, 2021

WASA HONORARY AWARDS

* STATE AWARDS

The state awards include the Golden Gavel, D.A. Davidson Barbara Mertens Legacy, Service to WASA, and WASA Leadership. Click [here](#) to submit a nomination.

Application Timeline: February 22–May 3, 2021

* REGION AWARDS

These awards are managed at the region level and include the Award of Merit, WASA Student Achievement Leadership, Twenty-Year, Retirement, WASA Student Leadership, and the Community Leadership. Click [here](#) to submit a nomination.

Application Timeline: February 22–May 2021 (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 Timeline: May 1–October 1, 2021

To review the criteria for the various awards, visit the [WASA website](#). Watch future editions of *Hotline* or the *WASA News* for information on award opportunities.

Welcome New Members!

Kristina Allen, Summit Valley SD
Amity Butler, Northshore SD
David Engle, Chimacum SD
Janell Ephraim, Vancouver PS
Nathan Fitzpatrick, Bainbridge Island SD
Brian Fox, Chehalis SD
Matt Galley, Nooksack Valley SD
Jessica Granger, Renton SD
Marilee Hill-Anderson, Sumner-Bonney Lake SD
Mychael Irwin, Vancouver PS
Eric Johnson, Palisades SD
Joseph Martin, Muckleshoot Tribal School
Tessa O'Connor, Everett PS
Inger Owen, Olympia SD
Eric Patton, Steptoe SD
Jane Pryne, Sequim SD
Suzanne Savall, Orchard Prairie SD
Lance Young, Orondo SD



Do you know someone who wants to join WASA? Tell them to visit [online](#) and sign up



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 Sheila Chard at schard@wasa-oly.org.

Contact WASA

GENERAL INFORMATION
360.943.5717 / 800.859.9272

EXECUTIVE OFFICE
360.489.3641 / 360.352.6873 (fax)

- Joel Aune, Executive Director
jaune@wasa-oly.org
- Shari Parsons, Executive Assistant
parsons@wasa-oly.org

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
360.489.3642

- Dan Steele, Assistant Executive Director
dsteale@wasa-oly.org
- Sheila Chard, Administrative Assistant
schard@wasa-oly.org

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING
& MEMBERSHIP SERVICES
360.489.3640 / 360.352.6873 (fax)

- Mike Nelson, Assistant Executive Director
mmnelson@wasa-oly.org
- Jamie Chylinski, Professional Learning Coordinator
jchylinski@wasa-oly.org
- Lisa Gehman, Professional Learning/ Membership Assistant
lgehman@wasa-oly.org

ACCOUNTING
360.489.3643 / 360.352.6873 (fax)

- Eve Johnson, Accountant
ejohnson@wasa-oly.org

MEMBER SUPPORT &
ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS
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- Andy Wolf, Assistant Executive Director
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2020–21 WASA OFFICERS

President: Brian Talbott, Nine Mile Falls
President-elect: Aaron Leavell, Bremerton
Past President: Krestin Bahr, Eatonville
Secretary: Jennifer Bethman, Bethel
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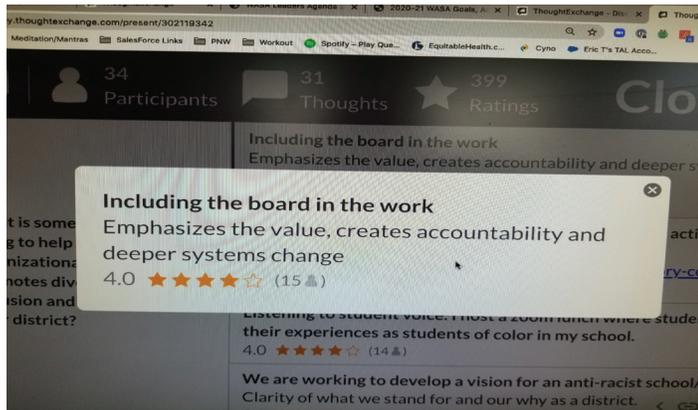
The 2021 WASA Leaders Workshop

WASA leaders from across the state Zoomed in on April 20, to participate in the 2021 WASA Leaders Workshop. The annual event brings together WASA Board members and region leaders to engage with one another and the WASA executive staff to review association accomplishments and set priorities for the coming year.

During this year’s workshop, WASA leaders received a status report on current-year goals and priorities, as well as incoming President Aaron Leavell’s vision and priorities for 2021–22. WASA leaders provided the WASA Executive Team with input and perspective through two Thought Exchange engagement activities.

WASA leaders also received an introduction to the book *Black Magic*, the author of which will be a keynote speaker in WASA’s Summer Conference Program. Assistant Executive Director Dan Steele provided a legislative update, and the workshop concluded with set-aside time for region leadership teams to initiate planning for region programming next year.

Each year, the Leaders Workshop serves as a springboard for WASA’s focus, priorities, and work plan. Thanks to our WASA leaders for their time and commitment to setting the stage for next year in support of superintendents and school district leaders across the entire state.



Dr. Michelle Reid Selected National Superintendent of the Year



On Michelle Reid, superintendent of the Northshore School District, was named the 2021 AASA National Superintendent of the Year®. The announcement came at the (virtual) National Conference on Education, hosted by AASA, The School Superintendents Association, on February 18.

Reid says this really is a team effort and a team award, “I want to thank our community, our students, our staff, our elected board of directors, our families, and our community partners. This is really a great recognition for the Northshore School District and the community at large.” She added that she was honored to be among such an impressive cohort of finalists for the award.

The other National Superintendent of the Year finalists were:

- Bryan Johnson, Hamilton County Schools, Chattanooga, Tenn.
- Khalid Mumin, Reading School District, Reading, Pa.
- Christy Perry, Salem-Keizer Public Schools, Salem, Ore.