



WASA News

June 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](#).

"While we are living in the present, we must celebrate life every day, knowing that we are becoming history with every work, every action, every deed."

—Mattie Stepanek

Dear %%Lisa%%,

It's June, which marks the busiest of times as the 2021–22 school year comes to a close. The past two years have presented unimaginable challenges. Those challenges have put immense stress on the system and the people in it—school district leaders, principals, teachers, support staff, parents, and students—for an extended period of time. The honest truth is many of you are dead-tired.

June has traditionally been a time of celebration in schools. End of year celebration is embedded in school and school district culture, as attention is drawn to the accomplishments of the children and young people under your care. You also celebrate the dedication and excellence of the staff, from the part-time custodians to teachers, principals, and district level leaders.

Many will say, "I just want to celebrate surviving the school year." And while that is the feeling many (maybe you, as well?) are experiencing at the moment, don't sell yourselves short.

What has been accomplished during the past year is more than survival. Schools and school districts have been a place where parents and students could find a sense of normalcy, safety, and routine amidst a world turned upside down. Schools have been hubs of response and recovery. Schools and school districts have provided a place for kids to resume learning, reconnect with their classmates, and restore relationships with caring and loving adults—a place to rebuild togetherness. Has it been fully "normal?" Has it been perfect? Of course not. But it HAS BEEN pretty darn good. In fact, if you take time to pause and reflect on what has been accomplished amidst exceedingly difficult circumstances, I believe you will see that schools have done some of their finest work ever, during the past two years. You've done so much more than simply survive.

As you celebrate during the month of June, seize opportunities to go a bit deeper this year. While the past year has been a rough and thorny journey, there is more to celebrate now, than ever before. Call out the work and accomplishments, with specificity, of staff, students, parents, and the selfless community partners who have come forth to help the past two years. There are amazing stories to be told publicly, as well as privately and quietly.

While the current climate is politically charged and deeply divisive, remember that the loudest voices often do not represent the community's position or attitudes about schools and the people leading them (you need to hear this; your staff need to hear it). I know it seems as if every issue is shrouded in controversy, that norms for appropriate discourse have been compromised, and people are constantly at one another's throats. Don't allow this to overshadow the effort and excellence that the past year has brought out in you and those you lead. You have, and will continue to, rise above it in courageously doing what is best and right for kids.

That, my WASA friends, is honorable work and it should be celebrated.

Respectfully,



G. Joel Aune
Executive Director

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **WASA Inclusionary Practices Informational Session** June 16 | 12–1 p.m. | Virtual
- **WASA|AWSP Summer Pre-Conference** June 25–26 | 9 a.m.–4 p.m. | Spokane
- **WASA|AWSP Summer Conference—Celebrating 40 Years** June 26–28 | Spokane
- **Special Ed Preconference** July 28–29 | Des Moines
- **WASA RULER Training** August 2–3 | Des Moines
- **MTSS Integrated Systems Conference** August 4 and 5 | 8:30–11:30 a.m. | Virtual

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

VIEW THE 2022–23 PRESIDENT-ELECT BROCHURES

WASA has worked to create an easy-to-read brochure with photographs, past experience, and a personal letter to WASA leaders from each president. The Presidents-elect 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**! You can see these at wasa-oly.org, or click on the buttons below!



Michael Green

Superintendent, Woodland SD

[View Michael's Brochure](#)

[View Michael's Video](#)



Mike Villarreal

Superintendent, Hoquiam SD

[View Mike's Brochure](#)

[View Mike's Video](#)



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 | 8:00 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 the Liberty Lake Golf Course.

NEW PRINCIPALS AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS TRAINING!

June 25–26 | 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

OSPI will be offering Stage I training in the three instructional frameworks **during the pre-conference weekend (June 25–26) of the WASA/AWSP Summer Conference**. There will also be a session on conducting Learning Focused Conversations; this session provides a great foundation for learning skills that support the kind of growth-focused conversations needed to use the revised Student Growth Goal rubrics.

Trainings offered by ESDs in the Leadership and Instructional Frameworks can be found on OSPI's TPEP website under "**Framework Trainings**;" select the appropriate framework from the menu on the left-hand bar.



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Special Education Directors Preconference

JULY 28 1:00-9:00
JULY 29 8:30-3:00 | **2022**

Four Points Sheraton Des Moines, WA

JOIN OUR SPECIAL EDUCATION DIRECTORS PRECONFERENCE!

July 28, 2022 | 1:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

July 29, 2022 | 8:30 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

This in-person conference will take place in Des Moines, WA and will provide information needed to be successful in the education system. With Keynote speakers **Shelley Moore** and **Alex Lee**, topics of the preconference include: operationalizing MTSS, dyslexia research, organization, and personal experiences from veteran directors and early career directors. Find out more and register [here](#).

WASA
presents



RULER

Training featuring *Dr. Marc Brackett*

AUGUST 2-3, 2022

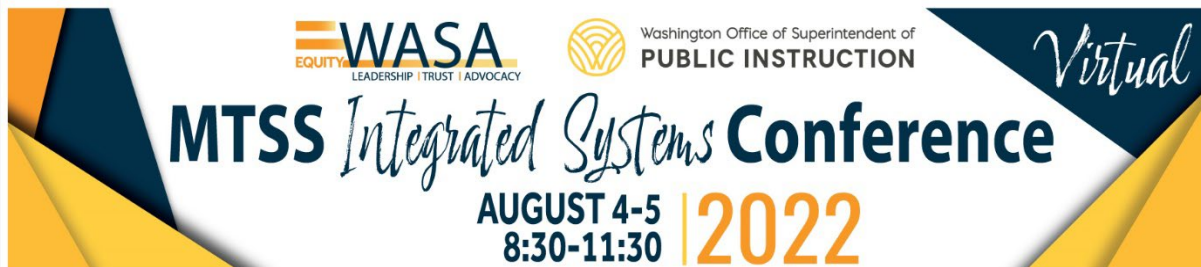
DEVELOPED AT THE YALE CENTER FOR EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING WITH YALE'S RULER TRAINING

August 2–3 | Four Points by Sheraton Seattle Airport South

Discover how to implement emotional intelligence by Recognizing, Understanding, Labeling, Expressing, and Regulating. Join WASA and guest Speaker, **Marc Brackett, Ph.D.**, in **the first RULER training hosted in Washington State**. Dr. Brackett is an author and director of the **Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence**, which focuses on Social and Emotional Learning (SEL). Our professional development for district leaders starts with an interactive, two-day institute where district leaders can begin the work to support thoughtful and systemic SEL implementation. Superintendents, SEL directors, and other district-level administrators can expect to: understand the science of emotions; learn emotional intelligence skills; plan and devise ways to implement district and school-wide approaches to SEL; and brainstorm with like-minded district leaders.

Register today with your district team of three.



MTSS INTEGRATED SYSTEMS CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPEN

August 4–5 | 8:30–11:30 a.m. | Virtual

You may have known of it as MTSS Fest in the past; this year's conference will be an MTSS Integrated Systems Conference, as systems continue to get aligned. By integrating our efforts, we increase the efficiency and effectiveness of our resources to better support staff and students. We're excited to continue learning together about how we can ensure our systems work for EACH and EVERY student from preschool through graduation. Registration opens later this month, but you can view information about this complimentary event

[here](#).



LEARN ABOUT INCLUSIONARY PRACTICES 2022–23

June 16 | 12-1 p.m. | Virtual

Please join the WASA team and Dr. Katie Novak for an informational session about the WASA 2022–23 Inclusionary Practices Project, its activities, and requirements. This is appropriate for both those districts considering applying and those continuing.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4047706067>

Questions: Please contact [Helene Paroff](mailto:hparoff@wasa-oly.org) at hparoff@wasa-oly.org or 509.953.9512.

HAVE YOU READ THE NEWEST HOTLINE?

The **WASA Hotline**, published six times during the year, provides key information and subject matter of interest to WASA members. A good share of the content for the Hotline is written by WASA members and school district leaders—past and present. As part of WASA's 50th Anniversary this year, each issue of the *Hotline* also takes a walk back in time to revisit our proud history. Check out the most recent issue of the **Hotline**, as well as other issues published during the past year.



EDUCATIONAL EQUITY STATEMENT



WASA RELEASES FIRST-EVER EDUCATIONAL EQUITY STATEMENT

Last month, our new **Educational Equity Statement** was shared with the WASA membership. Adopted by the Board on April 18, 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 start 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. If you've not yet reviewed the statement, please visit the **WASA website**.



CELEBRATING WASA AT 50

Did you know?

WASA is currently 1,982 members strong!

- Membership 2011–12: **1,465**
- Membership 2016–17: **1,748**
- Membership 2021–22: **1,982**

Members are classified into 5 “Components”

- Business and Personnel Administrators (BPAC)
- Instructional Program Administrators (IPAC)
- Principals
- Special Education (SPED)
- Superintendents

WASA's Projected Revenues for 2021–22 are \$4.6 million, from the following sources:

- Professional Learning: 52 percent
- Member Dues: 29 percent
- Grants/Projects/Contracts: 13 percent

- Other: six percent



JOIN THE DISCUSSION

AASA's **Live Well Lead Well Discussion Series** is taking place near monthly through October. The next session is a "Leadership Change Expert Forum" on **July 26**. Register [here](#)!

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 \(PowerPoint\)](#)

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.](#)

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, with a deadline of **July 15, 2022**. Reviews will continue until all funds are allocated. If interested, visit the [Environmental Literacy Grant webpage](#) to learn more.

RESOURCES

WASA has developed a storehouse of resources. The following have been recently uploaded to our [website](#):

EQUITY

- [Benchmarking Equity KPIs](#) (Hanover Research)
- [Inclusivity Spotlight—Seven Strategies](#) (Education Week)
- [What is Culturally Responsive Teaching?](#) (Education Week)

OTHER

- **Fostering Safe and Inclusive Workplace Communities** (Hanover Research)
- **Program Planning Guide: Social Emotional Learning** (Hanover Research)
- **SEL for School Staff—Seven Mindsets** (Education Week)
- **How School Counselors Can Banish Burnout** (K-12 Dive)



SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT!

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

Washington Schools Risk Management Pool

Contact: **Charles Upchurch**

AASA CORNER

- After 13 years, AASA Executive Director, **Dan Domenech** has announced his plan to retire following AASA's 2023 National Conference, next February. Dan's stellar leadership has been transformational for AASA. We offer congratulations and wish Dan the very best in his well-deserved retirement.
- 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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