



### ESD 123 honored with Washington State Teacher of the Year

The State Teacher of the Year was selected October 19 in Seattle. Laura Jones, a marketing educator and instructional coach at Pasco High School, was named 2008 Washington State Teacher of the Year. Shown above are the regional Teachers of the Year.

Standing: Ruth Lucero (ESD 171, Warden School District), Cynthia McIntyre (ESD 189, Everett School District), Darryl Elves (ESD 114, North Kitsap School District), Mark Gardner (ESD 112, Camas School District), Tammy Mendoza (ESD 101, Tekoa School District)

Sitting: Dana Persson-Zora (ESD 113, Aberdeen School District), State Superintendent Terry Bergeson, Laura Jones (Washington State Teacher of the Year - ESD 123, Pasco School District), Brenda Marler (ESD 105, Toppenish School District), Lorna Gilmour (ESD 121, Issaquah School District)

### Coming Events

WSSDA Conference	November 15-17, Seattle Westin
AESD Board Meeting	November 15, Mayflower Hotel, Seattle, 2:30—5 p.m., dinner, 6-9 p.m.
Legislative Conference	February 10-11, 2008, Red Lion, Olympia
AESD Board Meeting	February 11, noon—4 p.m., WSSDA Office
2008 AESD Conference	April 24-26, 2008, Everett Holiday Inn
AESD Board Meeting	April 24, 1—4 p.m.
AESD Board Meeting	July 1, 1 – 4 p.m., ESD 101

### AESD Meeting Highlights



Jim Shoemake (left), AESD Executive Services, is teaming up with Tom Kelly for AESD Executive Services. Jim and Tom will take on the liaison work done so capably by Norm Wisner the past few years.



ESD Superintendents Walt Bigby (Olympic ESD 114), Bruce Hawkins (ESD 123) and Rich McBride (North Central ESD) enjoy a moment together at the October 2 AESD Board Meeting.



AESD Coordinating Board Chair Howard Coble (right) discusses the ESD Audit hearing with (l-r) ESD 114 Superintendent Walt Bigby and Jim Shoemake, AESD Executive Services.

# AESD Dispatch\*

\*Dispatch: "The sending of a message with promptness and efficiency."

Fall 2007



**AESD**  
Association of Educational Service Districts  
Supporting Educational Communities in Washington State

www.aesd-wa.org

## A Message from the President



President Robert Bauer  
ESD 101

the current ESEA – No Child Left Behind – are not entirely positive. A discussion draft in the House does not make any improvements in the area of assessing students with disabilities. Instead, the drafts would codify federal regulations on the one-percent and two-percent caps to assess students with disabilities.

The draft also fails to make improvements in the assessments of English language learners. The draft document additionally contains significant new paperwork and staffing mandates for districts, without a promise of new resources.

AESA and AASA already have offered comment and feedback. The stakes are high, as the ESEA is a multi-year authorization. Now is the time for everyone at the local level to also weigh in with their own comments and suggestions, directed to our Washington congressional delegation. Grass-roots comments, received early in the process, can help defer the enactment of multi-year problems.

To start, the House and Senate are operating on such disparate tracks that it is uncertain when final action on a bill might actually occur. Some say this year; some say two years from now, following the 2008 presidential election.

Perhaps more urgent is the matter of content. Some of the proposed changes in

~Robert Bauer  
AESD President  
ESD 101

## AESD Board Retreat



Shown at the AESD Retreat (l-r) are Randy Johnston, North Central ESD; Susan Leddick; Bruce Hawkins, Superintendent, ESD 123.

The AESD Executive Board met for their retreat October 3 in Vancouver, hosted by ESD 112.

The Executive Board met to discuss the 2007-2008 WASA Professional Services Contract, the ESD Performance Audit, legislative priorities for 2007-08, the AESD Annual Conference and the proposed 2007-08 AESD Strategic Plan.

Consultant Susan Leddick, recommended by AESA, talked about meeting Goal 3 of the draft AESD Strategic Plan: "Further the development of ESDs as an effective statewide system of regional support."

The ESD Coordinating Board met in the afternoon for a public hearing via video-conference regarding the ESD Performance Audit.

AESD Dispatch is a newsletter for directors of ESDs in Washington State, published quarterly during the year, circulation 100.

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- ESD 113 - Howard Coble, *Past-President* (360) 943-6652
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See the AESD Website [www.aesd-wa.org](http://www.aesd-wa.org) for the calendar of events and other AESD information.

Editor, Eldene Wall, North Central ESD ~ [eldene@ncesd.org](mailto:eldene@ncesd.org)

# News from Washington State ESDs



ESD Superintendents (l-r): Bill Keim, ESD 113; Rich McBride, North Central ESD; Jerry Jenkins, ESD 189; Bruce Hawkins, ESD 123; Twyla Barnes, ESD 112; Monte Bridges, Puget Sound ESD; Walt Bigby, ESD 114; Terry Munther, ESD 101; Jane Gutting, ESD 105.

## ESDS launch one-stop website for purchasing education resources and materials

The state's nine educational service districts have successfully launched a new "one-stop" website that provides teachers, parents and students access to thousands of educational resources, materials and products - at a significant cost savings over what schools could obtain individually.

Named the Washington Learning Source (WLS), the project is a collaborative effort, guided by representatives from each of the educational service districts. The site, [www.walarningsource.org](http://www.walarningsource.org), is designed to provide a central location for valuable educational resources that enhance learning opportunities and provide greater variety of curriculum to students regardless of their location - urban or rural, or in large or small schools.

"We want to ensure that all districts - students, parents and teachers - have equal access to educational tools, in-

formation, products and services," said Anne Allen, Executive Director of WLS. Allen said WLS significantly expands and enhances the statewide purchasing program previously run through the Ed Tech Support Centers at each ESD, giving access to resources that improve teaching and learning through a regionally supported delivery model.

Schools can purchase products like software, online resources and equipment, with the advantage of a simple shopping cart interface. Thanks to statewide-negotiated agreements, the site offers the best available prices. "Educators anywhere can take advantage of the most requested and in-demand commercial products and services on the market," explained Allen. "But beyond that, valuable support services are offered by the ESDs in tandem with the products to assure positive outcomes and continued success for students and teachers," she added.

To be eligible for purchasing, school districts complete an Access Subscription Agreement to establish a membership account, enabling members to take advantage of bids conducted by the WLS. The form is available on the website.

Contact Info: Anne Allen at (425) 917-7939 or email [aallen@walarningsource.org](mailto:aallen@walarningsource.org).

## Legislative Agenda Defined

At their October 3 meeting, the AESD Executive Board approved the legislative agenda for the upcoming 2008 Supplemental Session. The following five actions were named as priorities:

1. **Core Funding – ESD Staff Allocation Formula:** Develop and promote a budget request to define an adequately funded staff allocation formula for the FTE's allocated to the ESDs in the 2007 legislative session. The intent is to adequately fund existing allocations as was accomplished for the math specialists.
2. **Fiscal Technical Assistance:** Develop and promote a plan for additional resources and an expanded role for ESDs to provide proactive fiscal assistance to school districts. This would define the capacity within core funding for provision of assistance to districts in maintaining strong fiscal positions.
3. **Dropout Prevention / Intervention:** Develop and promote a plan for a regional based system from dropout prevention and intervention operated by each ESD in collaboration with local school districts. A component of this proposal will address ESDs awarding high school graduation credits for dropout retrieval programs with the approval of the school districts within their region.
4. **Capital Funding Study:** Cause action to be taken to fund a study which would consider public funding for ESD facilities. This action follows comments in the Performance Audit.
5. **Statutory Change Certification Fee:** Seek change to RCW 410.060 language to allow a portion of certification fees to

● sharing  
● connecting  
● engaging

ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICTS  
2008 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**SOARING TO SUCCESS:  
ESD FLIGHT PLAN**

ENVISIONING PROACTIVE STRATEGIES TO MEET SCHOOL DISTRICT NEEDS

Soar to Success at the Association of Educational Service Districts' 2008 Annual Conference in Everett, WA. You will be inspired by top-notch guest speakers, enjoy professional growth opportunities at our breakout sessions, and come away energized and motivated by what you will see and learn. Fun activities and area tours will be offered for spouses during the conference. This will be a great three-day event, so circle the dates—April 24-26, 2008!

**JOIN US APRIL 24-26, 2008**  
at the Holiday Inn—Downtown Everett  
in EVERETT, WASHINGTON  
Visit [www.esd189.org](http://www.esd189.org) for more info.

Northwest Educational Service District 189  
Together We Can  
Hosted by  
Northwest Educational Service District 189 Board of Directors

cover expenses of operating ESD certification offices.

The Executive Board also identified several items of interest that will be monitored during the session. These items of interest include: possible legislative action in response to the Performance Audit (district boundary disputes and code of conduct investigations), bills involving the tiered intervention model promoted by the State Board last session, support for the ESD school improvement efforts using

the tiered model, and use of the K – 20 system for program delivery.

The AESD legislative team, composed of Jim Shoemake and Tom Kelly, are now engaged in efforts laying the ground work pursuing these agenda items. Since this is a supplemental session, major initiatives are not likely but, nonetheless, it remains important to keep ESD concerns and priorities known to the legislature.

~Jim Shoemake and Tom Kelly  
AESD Executive Services



Norm Wisner and his wife Carol were honored at a special reception following the ESD Superintendent meeting in Seattle August 20. Norm retired after many years of faithful service as AESD liaison.



The AESD Coordinating Board prepares for a global public hearing, which was held October 3 in conjunction with the AESD Board retreat at ESD 112 in Vancouver. Each ESD participated via videoconference.

# News from Washington State ESDs

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North Central ESD Superintendent Rich McBride commented, "We are very excited about the potential of the Math Leadership Alliance. It is responding directly to the needs identified by teachers across our region. It is leading edge, innovative and replicable...but most importantly, it has deep buy-in from our local districts, not only financially, but also has the significant advantage of leveraging staff training dollars, aligning materials and power standards across an entire region – actions we believe will save significant local taxpayer dollars across the over the next ten years."

"We've also taken it one step further as a region to begin deeply imbedding our English as a Second Language, Migrator and Bilingual strategies into the Math Alliance as we already know that the strategies that help teachers reach these children are the same strategies that can help teachers with all kids," added ESD Assistant Superintendent Cindy Duncan.

This is further leveraged by key work building parent capacity, as well as the addition of "graduation specialists" in two of our districts as a pilot project specifically targeted at increasing graduation rates within this demographic. This foundational work in the area of mathematics will develop as an important template that we can adapt to our future work in Science, as well.

~Eldene Wall, Public Relations  
North Central ESD



## Student Diversity Summit: "Closing the Opportunity Gap"

On September 29, Puget Sound ESD hosted the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Student Diversity Summit: Closing the Opportunity Gap" at Camp Berachah in Auburn. This three-day event brought together teams of students, administrators, staff and school board members from 14 of

our regional state high schools to give students voice and direction in closing the opportunity gap.

Through interactive breakout sessions, facilitated dialogues and team-building exercises, students learned how discrimination and prejudice may impact their school environments and how to design action plans to address those identified issues. Students will return to their schools to implement these plans.

Students attending the Summit had the opportunity to view a wide array of presentations and activities designed to ignite their passion and interest in diversity issues. Presentations included: Common Action "Ten Ways to Change Your School;" Institute for Community Leadership; Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network (GLSEN), "Understanding Anti-Gay Harassment and Violence in Schools;" Youth for Human Rights; American Lung Association, "Tobacco Prevention Media Literacy;" National Guard, Drug Demand Reduction Ropes Activities; The Seattle Public Schools Equity Council, "A Glimpse of Privilege;" and The Coyote Soldier Boys, Native American Drumming Circle.

These presentations had a positive impact! But perhaps the most powerful activity was the student fish bowl. Students gathered in a circle, as the adults silently witnessed, and discussed their personal experiences with discrimination and bias. Not only did students have the opportunity to voice their concerns, but they received strong support from their peers. Program Manager Melia LaCour can be reached at (425) 917-7848 for more information on this exciting program.

~Melia LaCour  
Program Manager  
Equity in Education, PSESD

## Partnership Activities



The AESD is well integrated and actively participating with OSPI in establishing an inclusive state-wide Professional Development Council (PDC). The AESD team, consisting of Superintendents Bill Keim and Monty Bridges, ESD Assistant Superintendents Ian Grabenhorst (105) and Dana Anderson (113), as well as the AESD Liaison Tom Kelly, is actively engaged in this effort. The result of this work is envisioned to be a powerful, collaborative, and coherent system that will align and guide mathematics and science instruction and learning for all students and teachers in the state of Washington.

Membership of the Council includes AESD, staff from each of the ESDs, OSPI, representatives of higher education, private sector representatives, education associations, other state agencies and other stake holders. The full Council has conducted two full-day meetings which have established good communications and begun pursuit of an agreed important agenda.

Each PDC meeting is preceded by multiple meetings of the PDC Liaison Team which is charged by Terry Bergeson and the ESD Superintendents to guide the PDC process. The AESD team (defined above) participates with Kathy Davidson, OSPI Chief of Staff, and her key administrators in this steering committee. These meetings have been very productive in establishing good working relationships between OSPI and the ESDs.

~Jim Shoemake and Tom Kelly  
AESD Executive Services



## AESD Conference/ News from N.W. ESD 189



The NWESD enjoys twin excitement this year. **First**, we are busily planning for an exciting **AESD Annual Conference at the Everett Holiday Inn on April 24-26!** The Conference theme **Soaring to Success: ESD Flight Plan** will focus on ways the system of ESDs can support school districts, primarily in the areas of mathematics and science learning. The conference will include shuttle transport to the Future of Flight center at Boeing Field, where former astronaut and researcher Dr. Pinky Nelson will present a summary of his research related to effective science education programs and implications for ESDs.

And **secondly**, we are excited to be supporting our member districts through several innovative and well received programs:

- the 10th cohort of School Improvement Planning Technical Assistance Project (SIP/TAP) schools, including the 72nd school;
- the ninth cohort of Continuous Improvement Techniques (CIT)—Classroom Level, including the 324th teacher;
- expanding the Classroom Based Assessment (CBA) Cooperative;
- adding, in partnership with OSPI,

and adding English Language Learner (ELL) professional development opportunities for mathematics educators.

~Jerry Jenkins  
ESD 189 Superintendent



## Early Learning Initiative

The public information phase of the East Yakima Early Learning Initiative launched in August with the first in a series of full-page color informational ads appearing in the *Yakima Herald-Republic* and the Spanish language *El Sol de Yakima* newspapers. The ads feature profiles of area parents and community leaders addressing the benefits of early education, as well as helpful tips and facts on preparing children for entering school. This promotional series is serving as a precursor to the early learning demonstration site being developed in Yakima through the primary funding of Thrive By Five Washington and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

ESD 105 is serving as the lead agency in the community-wide pro-

**Thrive by Five Washington**  
—Yakima—  
Legends Begin Here! Los Niños

**Early Learning update**  
SEPTEMBER 2 • 2007

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**FACT:** 80% of the children living in Yakima, Thrive by Five Washington member areas are 5 years old or younger.

**FACT:** Our children are learning. Around 10 months of age, children start to recognize letters, sounds, and patterns (a), helping them to lay their minds after the learning process begins.

**FACT:** 40% of the families living in Yakima, Thrive by Five Washington demonstration areas are still new to the community. This is why it is so important to have a strong foundation for all children. Can be as hard as it sounds, but it's worth it. 20% to 30% of the families living in...

**Parents Working with Teachers**

**When we as parents are better equipped to work with teachers to support learning, our children are more likely to be successful in school.**

**Getting Parents Involved**

**Parents are the most critical role in helping children learn, especially when it comes to reading. It is important to be involved in your child's education and to be a role model for your child. Parents can help their children learn by reading to them every day, talking to them about their day, and encouraging them to share their thoughts and feelings.**

**ESD 105**

ject. After months of preparation, ESD 105 and the community stakeholders presented its proposed 2007-2017 business plan for the project to the Thrive By Five Washington Board on September 6. The plan outlines proposed programs, facilities, staff, fundraising, and evaluation for the project.

## New Teaching and Learning programs

Among several new programs the ESD 105 Teaching and Learning department is launching this year are the ESD 105 Literacy Cadre and initial use science kit trainings for middle school teachers.

The ESD 105 Literacy Cadre will be helping K-12 teacher-leaders and reading coaches boost learning leadership within their own school districts through modules focusing on the five components of reading: phonics, phonemic awareness, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. This new program provides local teachers a more geographically convenient alternative to the statewide Literacy Leadership Cadre.

Our Science department's initial use trainings for middle school inquiry-based science kits expand on similar kit trainings that ESD 105 has provided for K-6 teachers. The recent addition provides group trainings for teachers from 16 regional school districts that are currently use the middle school kits.

~David Goebner  
ESD 105 Communications



## ESD 112 receives grant to step up prevention services for Cowlitz County youth and families

The Safe Schools/Healthy Students (SS/HS) Grant will provide \$1,421,284 each year for the next

# News from Washington State ESDs

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four years. The cooperative effort includes several partnering agencies throughout the county, including school districts, the health department, human services, public mental health, juvenile justice and local law enforcement. ESD 112 was one of 27 organizations throughout the nation to receive the grant, but the only agency to receive the funds in the state of Washington.

While ESD 112 will serve as the lead agency in administering the grant, officials are quick to point out that the endeavor is highly collaborative and guided by the efforts of several knowledgeable and experienced community partners.

"We are pleased to be a partnering agency in this project and we look forward to engaging in the work ahead. We know this is a very significant and meaningful opportunity for all of us working with children in Cowlitz County," said ESD 112 Superintendent Dr. Twyla Barnes

Sandy Mathewson, ESD 112



Sandy Mathewson, ESD 112 Director of Prevention and Intervention Services, receives a check representing the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Grant.

Director of Prevention and Intervention Services, will serve as the SS/HS project lead. "The opportunity to work with such great community partners certainly stands out as a highlight of the project," she said. "It's through their expertise that we'll be able to enhance resources, create opportunities and offer services for children and families in Cowlitz County."

Mathewson said the plan will focus on five elements:

- Safe school environments and violence prevention activities.
- Alcohol and other drug prevention activities.
- Student behavioral, social, and emotional supports.
- Mental health services.
- Early childhood social and emotional learning programs.

"Our goal is to provide schools, students and families with a network of valuable services. We will make every effort to offer the support they need and facilitate a variety of activities that promote positive and healthy living," she said.

Part of the broader effort is to help develop an infrastructure that sustains the program components long after the federal funding has ended. While the SS/HS Initiative draws on the best practices of education, justice, social services, and mental health systems, the ultimate goal is clear: "We want schools and communities that are safe, disciplined, and drug-free. Funding this grant is a big step toward accomplishing that goal in Cowlitz County," said Mathewson.

Mark Hottowe, Executive Director of Student Services and Human Resources for the Kelso School District, said the grant is a wonderful opportunity to collaborate with administrators from other county organizations whose work will be significant in making the project successful. "We're all really excited about the healthy programs that will be developed as a result of the grant resources," he said.

For additional information, contact Sandy Mathewson, Director of Prevention and Intervention, [sandy.mathewson@esd112.org](mailto:sandy.mathewson@esd112.org) or call (360) 750-7500, ext. 262.

~Lori Williams, Deputy Director  
ESD 112 School/ Agency Operations



ESD 113 has been awarded two, two-year LASER (Leadership & Assistance for Science Education Reform) grants. The mission of these grants is to help districts implement an ongoing, research-based K-8 science program aligned with the Washington State EALRs.

The first of the two LASER grants enables the ESD to create the Mountain to Harbor LASER Alliance which will provide no-cost science professional development and greater access to K-8 science materials to member districts.

The second of the two grants,

in cooperation with ESD 112, will provide funding to conduct on-going training opportunities for teachers who wish to grow professionally to become science trainers within the region. The largest activity of this grant will allow for a five-day intensive summer institute.

ESD 113's LASER Alliance Director is Craig Gabler, Math and Science Content Specialist. Craig can be contacted at [cgabler@esd113.k12.wa.us](mailto:cgabler@esd113.k12.wa.us) or (360) 464-6703.

~Judy McDaniel  
ESD 113 Communications



Olympic ESD's Donna Chavez, an ECEAP assistant teacher, dealt with the reality of the war when her husband, Sabino, a navy reservist, was sent to Iraq. His separation was eased, somewhat, by cards and gift boxes he received from friends and family. But he was saddened by the fact that many of his fellow reservists seldom received packages or letters from home.

Olympic ESD staff filled several boxes with magazines, cards, juice, snacks, and personal items, which were mailed to Sabino for distribu-

tion. They arrived in time for Christmas.

Thereafter, we received a US flag that was flown in Iraq in our ESD's honor and a certificate commemorating and certifying the flag. A note from Sabino read, "Thank you all on behalf of NMCB-18. The box filled with goodies arrived just in time for Christmas and definitely brought with it the holiday spirit! Last, but not least, thank you for the support you've given my wife! With our sincere gratitude, SW1 (SCW) Dagoberito "Sal" Chavez/family and NMCB-18."

There are surely bigger stories about this war that could be told, about the profound sacrifices that are made by the brave and dedicated men and women who have served our nation in Iraq. This is a small story about how individuals at Olympic ESD, committed to serving others, responded to a need—and it deserved to be shared.

~Sidney Michael  
ESD 114 Special Services/  
Communications



ESD 123 continues to work on developing and implementing a



ESD 114 staff receives a flag from Sabino Chavez that was flown in Iraq in their ESD's honor.

metaphor to explain to the public what ESDs do. Having such a metaphor in place will help ESD 123 establish new relationships and identify potential partnerships.

ESD 123 has been working with using a hub as the metaphor. The hub is in the center of a wheel. In a car, the hub connects the wheel to the power train and braking system. Just as the hub of a wheel is a key point of connection, the ESD is a key point of connection. ESDs connect people to a wide variety of services that can be delivered regionally.

ESDs also connect people to other partners within their own school systems and communities, as well as other school systems in the region and other ESDs throughout the state.

~Jamie Evans  
ESD 123 Customer Service Specialist



**North Central ESD:** The start of a new school year is exciting enough... but it's even more exciting this year as teachers and administrators from across the region have joined together to form and finance a major math initiative called the Math Leadership Alliance.

The MLA initiative is a direct result of key feedback from teachers, teacher leaders, and administrators asking for a much clearer focus and aligned professional development programs for mathematics. Following several months of planning this past spring, twenty-two of the twenty-nine districts have agreed to formally collaborate on improving student achievement in mathematics. Led by Superintendent John Adkins of Soap Lake, the Alliance is funded entirely by its member districts, with the intent of leveraging and sharing staff (both local and ESD expertise), and teacher training, with the goal of improving mathematics achievement by 20% across all student demographics over the next three years.