

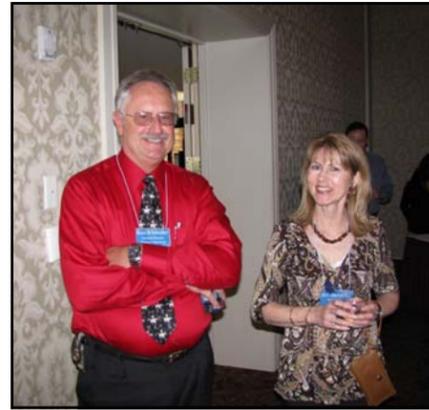
## More AESD Conference Highlights



Charlie Staadecker, Puget Sound ESD Board, visits with Bill Baumann, ESD 112 Board, at the Conference.



Assistant Superintendents Cindy Duncan from North Central ESD and Dana Anderson from ESD 113 discuss the conference schedule.



Russ Whiteaker, ESD 123 Executive Director, and Beverly Abersfeller, ESD 123 Board.



Superintendent Mike Dunn from ESD 101 shares a light moment with Board member Gary Coe.



ReNae Davis, music teacher in College Place School District, directs her "Swingin' Singers" who provided lively entertainment for the AESD Conference



Olympic ESD 114 Board member Genelle Doyle visits with OESD Superintendent Walt Bigby.

~Photos by Molly Green, ESD 123 and Eldene Wall, NCESD

### Reminder for superintendents from Jim Shoemake, Legislative Liaison:

Please complete the legislative contact survey and return to Jim in care of WASA at 825 5th St. SE, Olympia, WA 98501. If you have questions, Jim can be contacted at [jshoe@harbornet.com](mailto:jshoe@harbornet.com).

### Coming Events

AESD Board Meeting	June 30, 2009 in Spokane
AESD Board Meeting	November 18, 2009, during WSSDA Conference in Seattle
AESD Conference	April 22-24, 2010—Vancouver
AESD Board meeting	April 22, 2010, during AESD Conference.



ESD Superintendents Rich McBride (alias Lewis), Tryla Barnes (alias Sacajawea) and Bill Keim (alias Clark) shared milestones of ESDs' journey of discovery.

## AESD Dispatch\*

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

Spring 2009



[www.aesd-wa.org](http://www.aesd-wa.org)

## A Message from the AESD President



President Brad Gingerich  
ESD 123

It is an honor to be your president this year. As most of you know, this is not my first time in this position. The changes and improvements that have occurred over the years to the ESDs continue to impress me. I believe that our boards and superintendents

are special to the educational system, as are the ESDs in general.

ESDs are currently working hard to create a system that will better serve the state, the districts and the kids of Washington State. We have the responsibility to provide the best cost effective services and leadership to all of our customers. The current financial situation has put stress on all elements of education. Kudos for the hard work done by our legislative team, superintendents, board members and staff to minimize the effects of funding cuts.

ESDs are in a position to provide the services that many school districts critically need to continue to provide basic quality education to all of our kids.

Our challenge for this year is to keep our ESDs healthy so we can provide what is needed for kids. We must continue to move forward to develop our statewide networks. We all need to make contacts and work with our legislators to show we are the "best deal around." Everyone will continue to be asked to try to save and become more efficient.

The potential for ESDs to support education continues to grow, because of the hard work and dedication by all involved. It is going to be an exciting and challenging year for everyone involved with ESDs.

I hope you all have a safe and great summer!

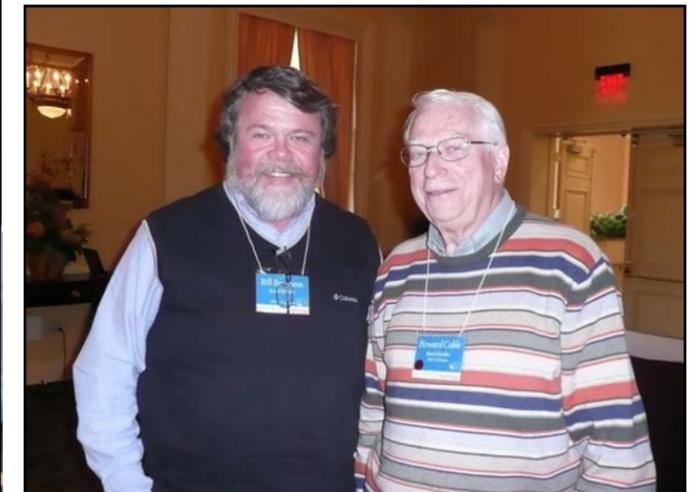
~Brad Gingerich, ESD 123  
AESD President



AESD President Brad Gingerich and Superintendent Bruce Hawkins, both from ESD 123.



ESD Superintendent President Jane Gutting, ESD 105, touches bases with Maggie Perez, ESD 105, former AESD President.



Outgoing AESD President Bill Baumann takes a moment to visit with past president Howard Coble from ESD 113.

# News from Washington State ESDs



ESD 123 Superintendent Bruce Hawkins (standing), staff and board hosted the 2009 AESD Conference. He is shown with ESD 123 Assistant Superintendent Judy Reault (left).

## AESD Conference Highlights

The 2009 AESD Conference “Beyond the Blues” was held April 16-19 in Walla Walla at the Marcus Whitman Hotel. This quality conference was well attended by ESD Board members and staff. Many of those who attended shared their experience and expertise as presenters.

Ian Jukes, a well known technology futurist, was a highlight of the conference. His keynote on “Understanding Digital Kids: Immigrants & Natives” included interesting and cutting edge information that kept the audience well engaged.

Laura Jones, 2008 Washington Teacher of the Year from Pasco, followed up the Jukes’ presentation with stories about how she uses technology in the classroom, reminding the audience of what teaching is all about—and how all areas of instruction are touched by technology.

Following Laura’s presentation, several former Teachers of the Year joined her in honoring North Central ESD Board member Charlie Beresford, long-time owner of The Beresford Company, and his wife Virginia for their contributions to the Teacher of the Year program throughout the past 15 years. Superintendent Rich McBride from North Central ESD made the presentation and Teddy Beresford, grandson of Charlie and Virginia, was there to accept the honor on their behalf. Merle Kirkley, ESD 189 Board member and Beresford Company representative, distributed books that included stories from the Washington State Teachers of the Year from the past 15 years. The book was dedicated to the Beresfords.

The next AESD Conference is scheduled April 22-24, 2010 in Vancouver and will be hosted by ESD 112. The theme is “Now is the Time.” Planning for the conference is already off to a great start and we hope you can all attend!



Keynote presenter Ian Jukes utilized active audience participation to emphasize how the human brain works.



Anna Rea (left) and Paul Whitmarsh, ESD 123 Board Members, focus on their table topic as they engage in discussions with other members of their group.



Teddy Beresford (left) and Merle Kirkley accepted the “This We Believe” Teacher of the Year book on behalf of Charlie and Virginia Beresford in honor of their support of the Teacher of the Year project throughout the years. Superintendent Rich McBride from North Central ESD (right) made the official presentation.

a bachelor’s degree in science in 1984. He then worked as a commercial fisherman in Alaska, including many years on a crabbing boat in the Bering Sea. In 1996 he graduated from the University of Maryland with a degree in dentistry and went on to purchase his uncle’s dental practice in Arlington where he currently practices.

As a retired telecommunications executive, **Darrol Haug** brings over 35 years of business management, marketing and sales experience to the board. He is a very active community volunteer in the Edmonds School District. Through his extensive involvement as a middle school math tutor, Haug realized students who were struggling in middle school math had not mastered the “basics”—multiplication and division. In an effort to help parents help their child with basic math, Haug created materials that are now posted on the Edmonds School District website. Haug continues to participate in a variety of school district committees, has assisted with the district’s latest technology levy, and serves as a math tutor in the Edmonds School District.

In addition to his dedicated service to the Edmonds School District, Haug volunteers on the City of Edmonds Citizens Technology Advisory Committee, City of Edmonds task forces for future development and community outreach, and has served on the board of his local homeowner’s association for 34 years.

“Education is doing a lot of things very well across the state, but sometimes it

lacks a sense of urgency—wanting to study and assess programs much longer than needed. There are a lot of best practices programs that we know are working and can be implemented in a very short time. We need to move quickly for our students,” explains Haug. “My vision for the Northwest ESD is to continue centralizing certain functions that help each school district operate in an efficient manner and work with the other ESDs in our state to coordinate services that provide a wider scope of activity without spending more resources. I bring a citizen and taxpayer perspective to the board since my career was not in education. ESDs serve a very vital function in the education process and I am excited to look at creative ways to continue to help schools serve student needs in the most efficient ways.”

Haug graduated cum laude from the University of Washington with a bachelor’s degree in Production Management in 1965 and was a drum major for the University of Washington band for four years.



### Puget Sound ESD Leadership Academy

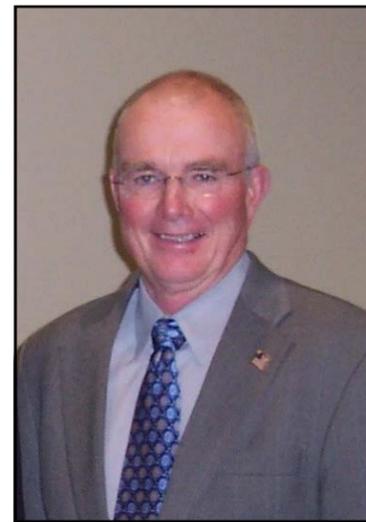
This year, PSESD launched the Leadership Academy to support leadership development of our internal

staff through a systemic and structured approach. The academy provided members, who included all staff that work in a supervisory role plus “aspiring leaders,” with the opportunity to explore broad topics and important issues in leadership, and enhance their leadership skills in a collaborative environment.

Several large group trainings were held throughout the year. Smaller “cohort groups” of staff with similar levels of responsibility were formed to further explore leadership topics. The cohort groups worked to enhance their knowledge and skills in creating and implementing a vision, leading change, building relationships and teams, and effectively supervising projects and people. Facilitated by Cabinet members, the cohorts sought to explore and resolve real-life situations in participants’ day-to-day leadership experience and offered mentoring and coaching from experienced leaders. The cohort of aspiring leaders, who were selected for the group through an application process, worked on defining their leadership philosophy, style, and skills with an emphasis on collaboration.

The Academy will continue to explore leadership topics next year to prepare our staff for larger leadership roles within the agency and region.

~Joan Tritchler  
PSESD Communications



Tom Kelly 1944-2009

We are sad to announce that Tom Kelly, former AESD Legislative Liaison, lost his battle with cancer on May 5, 2009. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Rae Ann, daughter Laura and family and son TJ and family.

Tom served in the U.S. Army for 30 years and retired in 1996 as a full Colonel of Infantry. He served in many regions of the US and in several foreign countries, including Vietnam. He earned 3 Silver Stars, 2 Legions of Merit, 3 Bronze Stars for Valor, the Purple Heart and the Combat Infantryman’s Badge.

After retirement from the Army, Tom entered K-12 education as an administrator, serving first at OSPI, then as Superintendent of North

Mason School District. Tom was AESD Legislative Liaison, along with Jim Shoemake, following Norm Wisner’s retirement.

Tom said in a final message, “I am grateful for the many opportunities the Good Lord has provided me. My life was exciting and fun. I met and enjoyed many people, from many cultures in many countries. God provided me a wonderful family who brought me great joy. My wife Rae Ann is a wonderful strong woman who is my best friend. I extend my thanks to all those with whom I have had the pleasure of being involved with over the many years. God has been good to me and my family.”

# News from Washington State ESDs

(continued)

successful grant application tightly aligns with the regional priorities and efforts already in place and will support the key work of our Math Leadership and LASER Alliance."

Jeff Bullock, NCESD Regional Science Specialist, Dr. Janet Gordon, Data Specialist, and Mary Jane Ross, Regional Math Specialist, were the primary architects of the grant. The grant includes several key components that contribute to the development of formative math/science classroom assessments already embedded into the LASER Science and Math Leadership Alliance work that are currently operating in our region. Dr. Gordon commented, "It is exciting to have the opportunity to meet the math and science learning needs of the teachers and students in our region. It's an honor to serve them."

Bullock stated, "Receiving funding through the Math Science Partnership grant provides an excellent opportunity for the North Central Educational Service District to provide long-term professional development opportunities (with little or no cost to the school districts) for math and science educators with in our district. It also provides an excellent opportunity for us to form strong lasting partnerships with our Higher Education partners (Wenatchee Valley College, Central Washington University, and the University of Washington in Bothell)."

Ross added, "The most exciting aspect about receiving this grant is that it allows the opportunity for students, teachers, principals, college professors, pre-service teachers and ESD specialists to forge a strong regional partnership around a project that will result in an academic rich integration of science/mathematics activities that are aligned with State Standards. It is my hope that students will come out of this experience with a passion to pursue a career in the science/mathematics field."

NCESD Superintendent Rich McBride concluded, "We want to extend our congratulations to Assistant Superintendent Cindy Duncan and the entire Math/Science team, our districts, and our partners on a successful grant application. This will be another important step to improving student achievement in our region."

~Eldene Wall  
NCESD Public Relations



Jack Thompson



Darrol Haug



Alan Erickson



## NWESD 189: Three New Members Join Board of Directors

The NWESD 189 welcomes three new members to its board of directors in Regions 2, 5, and 8. Welcome Jack, Alan and Darrol!

As an educator and administrator for fifty years, education issues are not new to **Dr. Jack Thompson** who began his career as a teacher in the Renton School District from 1959 – 1971 and then served in various administrative positions within the district until 1986 when he became superintendent for the Ferndale School District.

During Thompson's career he has served as an assistant professor in Educational Leadership for Seattle University and has assisted various school districts in administrative roles, including Oak Harbor and Steilacoom School Districts. From 1998-2000 Thompson led the Snohomish School District as superintendent of schools. He has also provided leadership for school district management reviews in various districts throughout Washington State and was a school improvement consultant for the Northwest Educational Service District 189 for five years.

"I am very interested in doing all that I can to help improve student achievement for all students and ensuring full funding for our school districts," Thompson reported.

Thompson's community involvement includes serving as a board member of the following organizations: Rotary International, Salvation Army, Mount Baker Kidney Center, and St. Luke's Foundation. He has also served

as a county chairman for United Way.

Thompson earned his bachelor's degree at Western Washington University, his master's degree from Stanford University and his doctorate in Educational Administration from the University of Washington. He is a National Science Foundation Fellow in economics and a Fulbright Fellow, representing the United States in India as a trainer of teachers and school principals. During his career, Thompson has received numerous awards including Washington Association of School Administrators Leadership Award, Washington State Journalism Teachers Association Administrator of the Year, Washington State Vocational Education Association Administrator of the Year and Western Washington University's Award of Professional Excellence.

**Dr. Alan Erickson** is not an educator by profession, but he was surrounded by a family of educators. His father was a teacher, school board member, and longtime board member for the Northwest ESD 189; both grandfathers were school principals and numerous aunts and uncles were teachers.

"Teachers, schools and districts must be given the support and encouragement required to accomplish their mission effectively," Erickson explained. "My desire as a board member is to help maintain and enhance the level of service to our ESD clients. As I watch my two young children in Everett Public Schools, I personally feel a sense of urgency to do all I can to preserve the quality of education in our schools, especially in this era of severe budget cuts."

Erickson brings a level of "professional diversity" to the NWESD 189 Board of Directors. He graduated from the University of Washington with

## ESD101

### ESD 101's Ramsay honored by NCCE

Deb Ramsay, ESD 101's chief information officer and director of technology services, has been presented the coveted *Making It Happen* award from the Northwest Council for Computer Education (NCCE). She received the award at the council's 38<sup>th</sup> annual conference in Portland.

*Making It Happen* is an internationally recognized awards program for educators in the field of educational technology. The program identifies and rewards educational leaders for their commitment to technology integration in K-12 schools.

Ramsay was specifically cited for her innovation and leadership in developing a regional Internet safety program.

"Deb has successfully worked with educators, parents, school resource officers, political leaders and students to bring awareness of online safety issues and the risk students take," said NCCE Executive Director Heidi B. Rogers. "No one can connect the dots to organize and reach a large audience better than Deb Ramsay."

NCCE is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting effective uses of technology in education. Each year, it hosts the largest educational technology conference in the Pacific Northwest.

~Steve Witter, ESD 101  
Executive Director  
Telecommunications  
Public Affairs, Grants



### ESD 105 School Nurse Corps leader named "National School Nurse Administrator of the Year"

Gloria Hilsinger, School Nurse Corps coordinator for the ESD 105 region for the past 10 years, is the 2009 National School Nurse Administrator of the Year selected by the National Association of School Nurses.

Gloria travels to Boston to officially receive her big honor during the June 25-28 conference of the National Association of School Nurses. The award recognizes her work in expanding and strengthening communication among the nearly 50 school nurses throughout south central

Washington, helping launch a mentoring program for new school nurses, strengthening the consistency of nurse practices, and developing an innovative guidebook for school health services.

Gloria was notified in February of the national honor, for which she became a finalist after being selected as last year's Washington State School Nursing Administrator of the Year by the School Nurse Organization of Washington.

Gloria has led the region's School Nurse Corps since it started in 1999. She had retired from her position at ESD 105 in July of 2008 before deciding to come back this past September for one more year.

ESD 105 Superintendent Jane Gutting lauded the national recognition for the region's school nurse leader, saying: "Gloria is an exemplary public health professional who knows how to engage students, parents, and educators in meaningful dialog about sensitive issues so that students remain safe and healthy. This national honor is well deserved because health of the whole child is Gloria's first priority and is the heart of her work."

### Digital Storytelling program brought to incarcerated juveniles

For three days in March, ESD 105 partnered with Allied Arts of Yakima and the Yakima County Juvenile Corrections Facility to bring a combination of academic lessons, technical skills, and some personal hope to 10 incarcerated teenagers.

The Digital Storytelling workshop –

which ESD 105 has earlier offered as a professional development training to educators – helped the selected lower-risk confined youths to put their thoughts on paper, record their stories in computer microphones, select music, and use audio and video editing software to document their life experiences.

ESD 105 had suggested bringing the arts-based program to the teens as a way to help them discover positive personal skills and to think more about themselves and the power of their personal stories. The youths' final products were then presented by Allied Arts of Yakima as part of its Latino Cultural Film Series in April.

~David Goehner  
Public Information Officer  
ESD 105



### ESD 112 Truancy Project helps keep kids in school

It's a typical morning, and 16-year old Danielle once again has slept through half of her school day. When the letter arrived from the Juvenile Court telling Danielle and her mother that she was now in violation of the Washington state truancy law known as the "Becca Law," and they could face fines of \$25 day and possible detention, Danielle woke up.

Danielle was referred to the ESD 112 Truancy Project. The Truancy Project has run for a dozen years in Clark County (with financial support from the Juvenile Court and school districts), and is in its

(Continued on next page)

*AESE Dispatch* is a newsletter for directors of ESDs in Washington State, published three times during the year, circulation 100.

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See the *AESE Website* [www.aesd-wa.org](http://www.aesd-wa.org) for the calendar of events and other *AESE* information.

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

# News from Washington State ESDs

third year in Cowlitz County (with financial support from the Juvenile Court, the Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee and the Safe Schools/Healthy Communities project), and is the go-between with the 14 school districts in the two counties, and the Clark and Cowlitz Juvenile Courts.

Nearly 700 students a year, from first graders to seniors in high school, are referred for attendance issues by the school districts and the courts, to the staff members at the two Truancy Projects. Together, the student and the staff member (and family members if applicable) sit down to get to the root of the problem about why the student is missing school, and what steps can be taken to get the student back on track. This is in lieu of lengthy court process and possible detention.

It's a simple idea that was championed by now-retired Clark County Juvenile Court Administrator Ernie Veach-White. "What good does it do to lock up a student for not going to school?" asks Veach-White. "We don't need to put these students in detention to spend time with other youth that are in for serious crimes. Plus, it's an expensive solution when you look at what it costs the courts and the juvenile facility for a problem that isn't going to be fixed by locking up a young person."

The six Truancy staff members – three in each county, act as case managers for the students referred to the Truancy Project. Their goal is to look at the issues

and offer options and solutions for the student.

Danielle and her Truancy Specialist sat down and talked about everything from lifestyle and sleep habits to interest in school to long-term goals. After looking at some options, Danielle decided that she would be more successful in her district's alternative high school. She has a more flexible schedule, still with a time structure, but tackles class work at her own pace. It took three months of effort on her part, along with encouragement from her Truancy Specialist and mother, but Danielle is now attending school on a regular basis and on her way to graduating.

For more information on the Clark and Cowlitz Truancy Projects, see [www.esd112.org/truancy](http://www.esd112.org/truancy).

~Lori Williams  
ESD 112 Deputy Director  
Public Information Cooperative



## New programs to help youth in ESD 113

ESD 113 Youth Programs has recently added two exciting endeavors to its list of services: summer jobs for low income and at-risk students and counseling for boys leaving a state juvenile correctional facility.

"We have approximately \$1 million to provide 500 summer jobs for young

adults who are 14 to 24 years old," Lee Buscko, ESD 113 director of youth programs, said. "We're lining up jobs in Grays Harbor, Mason, Pacific and Lewis counties with such organizations as schools, parks, fairgrounds and non-profit agencies."

The jobs are happening thanks to federal stimulus money being channeled through ESD 113 and the Pacific Mountain Workforce Development Board. The money is part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) passed by Congress.

To be eligible for the jobs, students must be low income or meet other criteria for at-risk youth, such as being in a drug or alcohol treatment program, having gone through counseling, being in foster care or having a physical or learning disability. These students will also be eligible to take a number of classes for high school or college credit at no cost.

ESD 113 Youth Programs is also working with Maple Lane High School, a state juvenile correctional facility for boys in the Rochester School District, on a 6-month pilot project to provide a counselor who will work with students getting ready to leave the correctional facility and return to their home communities. The program is funded by a grant from OSPI.

Jennifer Bennett, a trained counselor, has been hired by ESD 113 to work with each student to help assure he has lined up the resources needed when he leaves the structured environment of Maple Lane. She will assist with activities such as school enrollment, mental health counseling and medication, employment training and finding housing. The goal is to support these students so that they don't reoffend and end up back in an institution. She expects to work with approximately 75 young men during the six month pilot project.

This project is in addition to providing Jim Dailey, an ESD employee, to teach a work readiness class at Maple Lane. This class also helps the students prepare for the transition to living back in their communities.

For addition information, contact Bucsko at [lbucsko@esd113.k12.wa.us](mailto:lbucsko@esd113.k12.wa.us) or (360) 464-6850.

~Judy McDaniel  
ESD 113 Communications



Young Writers having fun as they work.



Author Ron Hirschi joins a table of writers as they all work together.



## OESD #114: Authors Share Enthusiasm with Young Writers at OESD Annual Conference

Over 300 exemplary student writers from 21 area schools had the opportunity to attend the annual Young Writers Conference hosted by OESD 114 at Olympic College in Bremerton on March 26. A similar conference occurred that same week for Port Angeles-area students.

The young writers came to the day-long conference ready to learn, to share their manuscripts and perhaps most important, to revel in their enthusiasm for writing. Chosen by their teachers, these kids had already demonstrated their talents in the classroom. Coming to the conference underscored their identity as writers and provided an extra-fun way to continue down the writing path.

The day's agenda included multiple group sessions hosted and presented by a pair of published authors, George Shannon, children's author and storyteller ([georgeshannon.org](http://georgeshannon.org)), and Ron Hirschi, wildlife author and scientist ([ronhirschi.com](http://ronhirschi.com)). Both offered students a double dose of encouragement inspired by their own experiences in the world of publishing.

Hirschi's session required active participation and the kids got right down

to business.

"We're all writers so we're going to write one of the coolest books together and by the time we're done, you are all going to be contributing and collaborating authors," said Hirschi. The over-sized handfolded book he unfolded stretched across the room like a giant accordion, each page a colorful illustration of scenery waiting for something to happen. When the students wrote vignettes about their own dogs or pets and attached them to a blank page of scenery, it created a collaborative effort with a doggy theme.

A group of Orchard Heights Elementary students talked about the conference over lunch. "I learned that it's important to make the character suffer between the beginning and the end of your story, because that generates reader interest," said 6<sup>th</sup> grader Alex Thorpe. Alex enjoyed the conference "because writing is fun and it helps me improve my skills."

Parent volunteer Mark Pacheco was impressed when author Shannon told the kids that "no idea is a dumb idea" and "there's no such thing as writer's block." Shannon advised students to keep a notebook and jot down ideas as they come for future use in writing.

For more information about the Young Writer's Conference, contact Sarah Freitas, OESD Instructional Resources Coordinator, at (360) 405-5832.

~Pamela Merrill  
ESD 114 Writing & Design



## ESD 123: Dr. Judy Reault Honored

ESD 123 Superintendent, Bruce Hawkins, began his introduction speech at the Crystal Apple Awards with deliberate vagueness. His intention was to prolong the revelation of the Special Achievement recipient's identity as long as possible. After a short while, however, Mr. Hawkins asked Dr. Judy Reault to step forward to receive her well-deserved award. The expression on Dr. Reault's face said it all.

On March 19, Dr. Judy Reault reluctantly slipped away from one of her many annual conferences in order to attend the Tri-City Crystal Apple

Awards as she does each year. Many of Dr. Reault's colleagues were in on the "little white lie" she had been told in order to get her to the ceremony. She was under the impression that a dear friend and colleague was going to be honored with the Special Achievement Award this year. Therefore, Dr. Reault was more than stunned when Mr. Hawkins called her name.

"The thought actually ran through my mind, 'Oh no, Bruce! You've said the wrong name!'" Dr. Reault said.

Mr. Hawkins most certainly did not call the wrong name. After years in education, Dr. Judy Reault was honored for her dedication and for the



Dr. Judy Reault (right) is pictured with "Walla Walla Revitalization" panel member Dr. Ellen Wolf at the AESD Conference.

contributions she has made to education throughout the region.

The Crystal Apple Awards are an annual event led by a local committee whose goal is to celebrate local educators and community members who have made a difference in the lives of our students.

Dr. Reault retires from ESD 123 this year after serving in education many years.

~Molly Green  
ESD 123 Desktop Publisher



## North Central ESD Receives Math/Science Partnership Grant

North Central ESD Assistant Superintendent Cindy Duncan recently announced the NCESD Math/Science Team received notification that they are one of ten successful recipients of a three-year \$750,000 Math/Science Partnership (MSP) Grant. Duncan noted, "This



AESD 2008-09 President Bill Baumann (second from left) made it a point to visit board meetings for all nine ESDs. He is shown visiting the North Central ESD Board in May.