

AESD DISPATCH

ASSOCIATION OF
EDUCATIONAL
SERVICE DISTRICTS

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Nine ESDs. One Network.
Supporting Washington's Schools and Communities

Winter 2014



A MESSAGE FROM THE AESD PRESIDENT

Happy New Year!

It has recently been my pleasure to attend two excellent conferences.

The first one was the WSSDA Conference held in November in Bellevue. Over 1,000 people attended, which was one of the largest WSSDA conferences ever. It was difficult to choose which breakout session to attend. They were all interesting and informative. Congratulations to WSSDA on a job well done.

In December I attended the Association of Educational Service Agencies (AESDA) held in San

Antonio. This was an outstanding conference. The thing that I like most about AESA conferences is meeting board members from other states and networking with them. It is always surprising how often we share the same problems.

The newly-elected president of AESA is Dr. Rich McBride, the superintendent of North Central ESD 171 in Wenatchee. The agency couldn't be in better hands than with this hardworking, intelligent, funny and very nice man.

The next AESA conference is in San Diego the first weekend in December. If you have never attended a national conference, this would be a great year to do so. And, a great time to support the president from Washington State, Dr. Rich McBride.

Our state conference is scheduled April 10 to April 12 at the Davenport Hotel in Spokane. The host is NEWESD 101. Dr. Mike Dunn and his board and staff are preparing a great conference. Hope to see you there.

~Karen Sorger, OESD 114
2013-14 AESD President



AESD Executive Board, Front Row (l-r): Superintendent Greg Lynch, OESD 114; Vicki Asakura, PSESD (sitting in for Rob Beem); Karen Sorger, 2013-14 President, OESD 114; Brad Gingerich, ESD 123; Howard Coble, ESD 113; Superintendent Twyla Barnes, ESD 112; Dr. Richard Graham, ESD 112; Back Row (l-r): Superintendent Rich McBride, NCESD; Superintendent Mike Dunn, NEWESD101, Merle Kirkley, ESD 189, Superintendent John Welch, PSESD; Superintendent Dana Anderson, ESD 113; Superintendent Bruce Hawkins, ESD 123; Mark Grassel, ESD 105; Superintendent Steve Myers, ESD 105. Not pictured: Larry MacGuffie, NCESD; Gary Coe, ESD 101; Rob Beem, PSESD.

NEWESD 101 * ESD 105 * ESD 112 * ESD 113 * ESD 114 * ESD 121 * ESD 123 * North Central ESD * NWESD 189

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AESA Annual Conference a Hit!

One of the largest number of attendees arrived in San Antonio in December for the Association of Educational Service Agencies (AESA) Annual Conference. Keynotes Yong Zhao, Jamie Vollmer and Chester Elton, along with nearly 80 breakout sessions, kept folks busy learning and growing. This premier professional development event, just for ESA's, provided opportunities that conference goers could take home and use. "Just the kind of stuff we were looking for," commented one attendee. Another said, "We need support and new ideas. There is so much to learn not only on the conference agenda but in networking with ESA people from around the country. We will never miss another conference if we can help it!"

There is only one conference that brings together the resources that focus purely on Educational Service Agencies. Nearly two-thirds of survey respondents told us they would definitely be at the conference next year.

Next year's conference will be hosted by AESA Council President, Rich McBride, in San Diego, CA. Planning is already underway for that event and early indications are it will be another hit. Mark your calendars – December 3-6, 2014 – at the San Diego Bayfront Hilton.

~Lee Warne
AESA Executive Director



Dr. Lee Warne
AESA Executive Director



Lee Warne, AESA Executive Director (right), is pictured with Brian Talbott, retired AESA Executive Director.

2014 AESD Conference in Spokane

Never more
important
than *now*

2014
Annual Conference
April 10-12, 2014

The Davenport Hotel
Spokane, Washington

NEWESD 101 recently announced that electronic versions of both the AESD Conference registration brochure and registration form for the 2014 AESD Conference are now available. Hard copies of the brochure were distributed to ESD superintendents at the Legislative Conference. If you need additional hard copies please contact Sara Ballard directly at sballard@esd101.net

Please keep in mind that the final cutoff date for making hotel reservations at The Davenport is March 11. To make reservations please call The Davenport Hotel at 509-455-8888 or their toll free number at 800-899-1482 and ask for the "AESD Conference Rate."

Washington's Schools and Communities



NEWESD 101

New members join NEWESD 101 Board

With the start of a new year, NEWESD 101 has welcomed three new members to its Board of Directors.

They are Robert Bauer, Sally Pfeifer and Lynn Trantow.

All three are well known in Eastern Washington education circles. Bauer, in fact, is a previous holder of the same seat, having served a prior 10-year stint as a NEWESD director (and member of the AESD leadership team). He follows Leroy Druffel, who recently retired from the Board.

Pfeifer worked many years in Spokane Public Schools, where her assignment included English teacher/department chair at Lewis and Clark High School. She also is the retired director of the Inland Northwest Advanced Placement Institute. She replaces Dr. Gary Livingston, who retired from the Board.

Trantow, a former director in the Central Valley School District, is a consultant/trainer for the Washington State School Directors' Association, providing leadership development for local school boards. She succeeds Ron Schmidt, who recently completed 41 years on the Board.

Bauer's director district includes Whitman County and southern Spokane County. Pfeifer represents Spokane and Trantow covers eastern Spokane County. Welcome, Sally and Lynn; welcome back, Robert.

~Steve Witter, NEWESD 101
Executive Director/Communications



ESD 105

ESD 105 launches Regional School Safety Co-op

ESD 105 and its partners in the South Central Washington STEM Network from area schools, businesses, and organizations are starting some new innovations this school year, guided under the direction of the group's business plan that was completed in April after a yearlong development.

Among those innovations: A "virtual classroom tour" project that is being created through a partnership of the private non-profit Yakima County Development Association (New Vision) and the Yakima Valley Technical Skills Center. Initial work has started to produce short videos that will showcase how science, technology, engineering, and math concepts are being applied in Yakima area businesses and industries. The videos will be made available for area teachers



Connie Davis of Sunnyside (left) and Karen Blankenship of Wapato are the newest members of the Educational Service District 105 Board of Directors. Both took their oaths of office for their new roles during the board's regular monthly meeting at the ESD 105 Student Success Center in Yakima on Tuesday, January 21.



as a way for their students to see – on a local scale – the connections between their classroom lessons and actual career-related work.

Six of the four-minute profiles are planned for this school year, with the first two expected to be ready for teachers to start using in January. Those videos will be created largely through the work of local students.

Among the other new work: ESD 105 is integrating a teacher leadership model into some of its instructional support of science educators. Plus, the SCW STEM Network is developing a website that will help schools, businesses, and communities stay connected with current STEM activities and opportunities.

Says ESD 105 Science coordinator Mike Brown: "What's most exciting about this is the interest by our business community to connect with our classrooms and help our teachers make lessons more relevant. The connections we have been building with New Vision in Yakima are really engaging the business community, and we have their

support. They want to be partners with us in this, and that's exciting."

~David Goehner, ESD 105
Public Information Officer



ESD 112

ESD 112 Research Director receives E. Robert Stephens Award

Dr. Sue Feldman, Ph.D. and Director of Research and Assessment for ESD 112, was named the recipient of the E. Robert Stephens Award for research from the Association of Educational Service Agencies (AESA). She was recognized at the AESA National Conference in San Antonio, TX in December. Through her work at the ESD she brings research and data analysis services to districts in the region.

Dr. Feldman is co-author of a paper that received an international award for "Outstanding Paper of the Year" from the Journal of Educational Administration. The paper is entitled "Managing the intersection of internal and external accountability: Challenge for urban school leadership in the United States" and is the culmination

(Continued on next page)



Pictured above are Superintendent Twyla Barnes, ESD 112 (third from left) and next to her is Dr. Feldman, their E. Robert Stephens Award winner. Also pictured are members of the AESA Executive Council and Brian Talbott, retired AESA Executive Director (second from left); and to the far right, Superintendent Rich McBride, NCESD/AESA President-Elect; and Lee Warne, AESA Executive Director.

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(Continued from page 3)

of an 18-month study of four large urban school districts and is co-authored by Michael S. Knapp from the University of Washington.

The paper addresses accountability systems affecting urban schools, and the role of school leadership in managing internal accountability/external accountability systems.

Feldman joined ESD 112 in 2012 and created the Center for Research on Learning and Leading which helps superintendents and school districts analyze data, design inquiries and study learning in classrooms.

"Researchers of Dr. Feldman's caliber usually work at universities," said ESD 112 Superintendent Dr. Twyla Barnes. "But our staff had the vision that schools in our region could benefit tremendously by having a high quality researcher in their court to address specific issues or areas of interest. Dr. Feldman's expertise is especially helpful to our smaller districts who can't afford to have a researcher on staff," she added.

"I'm able to help them implement a research design to understand what worked and what didn't, think about how to measure success, put an inquiry cycle into place and examine what the data is telling us. It's a different way of doing things," said Dr. Feldman.

Dr. Feldman has also been very involved in assisting school districts with implementation of the new teacher-principal evaluation process (TPEP).

You can find Dr. Feldman's article online: <http://www.emeraldinsight.com/journals.htm?show=abstract&articleid=17034561>

~Jodi Thomas, ESD 112
Public Information Coordinator



ESD 113

Building Bridges Grants: Keeping Kids in School

Capital Region ESD 113 is assisting Building Bridges grantees in their planning for keeping students from dropping out of school.

Building Bridges grants fund prevention, intervention and retrieval through direct services to students and the development of collaborative local partnerships.

ESD 113's role is to assist the eight school district grantees – West Valley, Longview, Federal Way, Kent, Renton, Evergreen, Sultan, Tukwila in identifying their specific issues related to student retention and how to address them.

As part of their grant, each recipient is required to attend three DEWIS.edu data institutes provided by ESD 113 through an OSPI contract. At the institutes, districts are learning how to develop and effectively use data, sound policy, partnerships and best practices to support every child through graduation.



Allen Jones has been appointed to the Capital Region ESD 113 Board of Directors serving District 7, Tumwater School District and North Thurston B. He has an extensive background in education; particularly in the area of finance.

The first session, which happened in mid-January, explored the core components of an effective educational support system for helping kids stay in school and graduate. The overall framework includes three key pieces:

- Effective Instruction, Content & Assessment
- School Climate
- Systems of Care

The data coaching tool-kit is one of the primary instruments used and it includes the Cycle of Inquiry. Each district team is receiving training and coaching on the cycle's stages and identifying where they are in the process. In future institutes, ESD 113 will provide district team members coaching and support for applying the data coaching protocols to their drop-out related efforts. Data coaching is also designed to expand capacity within each district for effective use of education data.

Previously, third-party evaluation of the Building Bridges program was conducted by the WSU Area Health Education Center-Spokane. Evaluations showed the Building Bridges Grant Program demonstrated statistically significant success in reducing dropout risk, academic gains and increased credits earned. It also highlighted that engaging dropouts requires distinct identification and engagement strategies outside of conventional school strategies, such as providing child care and operating community-based GED-plus programs.

At upcoming institutes, ESD 113 will work with each district's team on techniques for supporting, refining, implementing and evaluating their plan of work.

In addition to the institutes, there will be a summit on May 6, 2014 for not only grantees, but anyone interested in learning more about best practices or addressing dropout prevention and using data coach services.

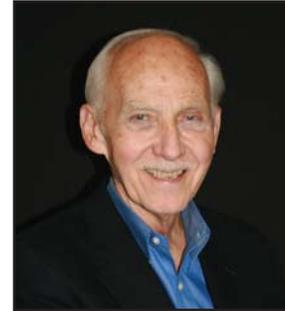
For more information on the summit, contact Capital Region ESD 113's Mike Hickman at mhickman@esd113 or 360.464.6710.

~Pam Folsom, ESD 113
Director of Communications



OESD 114

New Board Members at Olympic ESD 114



Carl Johnson

Carl Johnson serves District 3, which includes Central Kitsap. He was a member of the Central Kitsap School Board for 14 years, member of the Central Kitsap Community Council for eight years, and has served on the Board of Directors for the Better Business Bureau for Alaska, Oregon, and Western Washington. He took an early retirement from banking in 1990 and for the past 20 years has been the director of Marketplace CrossTalk. In 2009, Carl incorporated a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization known as the Kitsap Alliance of Resources for Elders (KARE) of which he serves as a member of the board and Community Relations Director.



Elizabeth Drew

Elizabeth Drew serves District 1, which includes South Kitsap. She was a member of the South Kitsap School Board for two years and then seven years as a Special Education teacher and School Counselor in the district. She then served 14 years in the North Mason School District as a School Counselor, Curriculum & Instruction Director, and Principal of Belfair Elementary School. Elizabeth retired in 2000 and continues to serve education needs by supervising practicum students/student teachers through Western Washington University's Teacher Education Off-campus Program at Olympic College. Elizabeth became a founding board member of the Maasai Women Education and Empowerment Program (MWEEP) to help support young Kenyan women acquire a secondary boarding school education.

~Wendy McComb, ESD 114
Learning & Teaching Assistant

Washington's Schools and Communities


ESD 123

ESD 123 Executive Director announces retirement

After nearly ten years committed to supporting and growing the Instructional Support department at ESD 123, Mark Muxen is preparing to retire from the education world. The ESD 123 Board of Directors accepted Mark's resignation and retirement at their December 2013 Board meeting. Mark's retirement is effective June 30, 2014; opening a unique position in the agency with some big shoes to fill.

When Mark came to work for ESD 123 in 2004, the Director position was much different than what it has evolved to today. As Executive Director of Instructional Support, Mark began supervising health services, technology programs, the Instructional Resource Center (media services), prevention services, the education programs at the Walla Walla Juvenile Justice Center, and a variety of educational support initiatives. Mark still oversees these many programs today. The program for which Mark is likely most known, however, is the 21st Century Community Learning Centers.

At the time that Mark began working at ESD 123, only one cohort of 21st Century sites existed. Since then, there have been four of these five-year grant programs, partnering with 19 schools. Mark has been responsible for securing the 21st Century grants while at the ESD; the awards totaling over \$9.6 million. Most importantly, says Mark, are the significant relationships that have been established with school staff and the community collaborations serving hundreds of students as a result of the 21st Century Program.

Another grant secured under Mark's leadership was the Math Science Partnership Grant. This five-year grant included two school districts partnering with Washington State University, Columbia Basin College and LIGO (Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory). In addition to serving approximately 100 teachers, the MSP grant helped to solidify the ESD Math and Science Coordinator positions and established partnerships with higher education and industry.

The position of Executive Director of Instructional Support has seen many changes over the last decade, and the ESD Superintendent and Board anticipate continuing shifts in the work of this role in the coming years. To reflect some of these changes, Mark's soon-to-be-vacated position has been posted with the new title of Assistant Superintendent, Instructional

Support. A new expectation for this position will be to lead the development of resource acquisition and extend new enterprises. The ESD expects that the chosen candidate will explore inter-district cooperative ventures and expand the agency's marketing capacity.

While new expectations for this role have been stipulated, many of Mark's current responsibilities will continue under the direction of the new Assistant Superintendent. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and implementation of district-level state and federal programs within the ESD region, along with overseeing the myriad programs that currently fall under Mark's management.

"For me, the relationships with people, both inside the ESD and in the districts and community, outweigh the challenges of supervising a multitude of programs," Mark said. "I have enjoyed developing new programs and services, but I also know the successes of the efforts are only possible through the hard work and talents of many people."

Currently posted on the ESD 123 employment webpage, the Assistant Superintendent position will close February 12, with a candidate selected by the end of March. The individual selected for this position will begin July 1, following the retirement of Mark on June 30.

The innumerable contributions and legacy of Mark Muxen leave behind a daunting role to fill. However, the road that lies ahead is also filled with exciting opportunities and unforeseen possibilities for our One Team.

~Molly Curtiss, ESD 123
Communications & Graphics Coordinator



Terry Pottmeyer Elected to the Puget Sound ESD Board of Directors



Terry Pottmeyer, chief executive officer for Friends of Youth, has been elected to the Puget Sound ESD Board of Directors. Ms. Pottmeyer (above) was sworn in at the regularly scheduled January 14 board

meeting. She replaces David Okimoto, who recently retired, in the District Director 3 seat.

Friends of Youth, based in Redmond, operates overnight youth shelters on the Eastside, offers youth development initiatives, parent education, youth and family counseling, substance abuse counseling, therapeutic foster care, and transitional housing for homeless young people and teen mothers. The non-profit agency is dedicated to supporting youth and their families in King and Snohomish counties.

"The Board of Directors joins me in welcoming Terry to our organization," said PSESD Superintendent John Welch. "We are fortunate to have someone of Terry's caliber join the board as she has extensive experience and passion for serving youth and young adults in challenging circumstances while providing leadership that will strengthen our agency's work."

The Board also said thank you and farewell to Charlie Staadecker, representing District 2. He recently resigned after six years of service to the agency and region. He and his wife have relocated to Naples, Florida to enjoy retirement. We wish them well!

Puget Sound ESD Launches New Brand



Puget Sound ESD is pleased to share our new agency brand. Over the next few weeks, we will be finalizing our website and marketing materials. Our goal is to accomplish this transition by February 3. We'd like to share some insight into the meaningful design behind our new brand.

The agency's acronym, PSESD, creates a natural ambigram (a typographical artwork from the latin ambi: both + gram: letter) that reads the same upside down. The agency's trademark is a custom, text-based ambigram used to represent equity, unity and responsive service. It is at the center of our new identity.

Our new tagline, "Excellence and Equity in Education," expresses the agency's commitment to success for each child and eliminating the opportunity gap. We are also committed to becoming an Anti-Racist Multicultural Organization in order to eliminate the opportunity gap.

Finally, the water drop is used as a key visual element. It represents not

(Continued on next page)

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(Continued from page 5)

only the geography of our region, but as one drop of water is an individual, it can also be part of a larger body of water. This represents diversity and unity. And as rain, it communicates the synergy of the ripple effect and how one drop (person) can affect the whole body of water (society).

Thank you to the many internal and external stakeholders who participated in the process. We'd also like to acknowledge the outstanding work of ESD 112 who guided the process and provided the creative genius.

~Peter Daniels, PSESD
Communications Manager



North Central ESD

North Central ESD co-hosts Regional Legislative Meeting

On January 27, 2014, North Central ESD, at the invitation of Senator Linda Evans Parlette, hosted a regional legislative meeting in the Senate Majority Caucus Room following the WASA/WSSDA Legislative Conference. Administrators and Board members had the opportunity to communicate with legislators regarding their

educational concerns.

Superintendents and board members from the North Central ESD region were invited to pose for a photo on the Senate floor following the meeting (pictured below). Representatives from Bridgeport, Manson, Entiat, Quincy, Grand Coulee Dam, Waterville, Tonasket, Pateros, Oroville and Moses Lake school districts attended this important meeting

Senator Parlette, Senator Dansel, and Representatives Kretz, Hawkins, Warnick and Short all listened attentively to educators' concerns.

Superintendents and board members expressed their appreciation to Senator Parlette for hosting this valuable opportunity to dialogue with legislators.

~Eldene Wall, NCESD
Public Relations Specialist



NWESD 189

The NWESD is pleased to announce that Mark Venn has been elected to the NWESD Board of Directors, representing Director District 3, which encompasses all of Skagit County.

Mark began his career in education



Mark Venn

in the early 1970's, and spent 41 years working in the public school system. His most recent positions include Assistant Principal and Principal in the Nooksack Valley School District, Assistant Superintendent in the Mount Baker School District, and Superintendent for the Sedro-Woolley School District.

In addition to his dedication to education, Mark spent countless hours volunteering for numerous non-profit organizations in the area. His involvement includes time on the Skagit County Boys and Girls Club Board, the Skagit County United Way Board, and as a Rotary member, just to name a few.

We are excited for Mark to bring his experience and expertise to the NWESD Board of Directors, and look forward to his contributions to this important work.

~Rachael Woods, NWESD 189
Communications Specialist



Washington State School Nurse Corps Programs Honored

The School Nurse Corps Coordinators from all nine ESDs gathered at OSPI in Olympia on November 22 as the Warren Featherstone Reid Award for Excellence in Healthcare was formally presented to the Washington State School Nurse Corps.

The annual award was created by the Washington Legislature in 1994 to recognize cost effective and quality healthcare services. Recipients are chosen by the governor in conjunction with the state secretary of health and an advisory board.

Governor Jay Inslee's award letter said: "The SNC program's innovative service delivery model reaches over one million students with a special focus on rural settings and has high customer satisfaction scores among parents and school staff."

~David Goehner, ESD 105
Public Information Officer



Front row (l-r): Judy McCrudden, OESD 114; Leslie Stahlnecker, ESD 123; Lorali Gray, NWESD 189; Back Row (l-r): Lynn Nelson; ESD 113; Gail Park Fast, ESD 105; Sally Logue, ESD 112; Mona Miles-Koehler, NCESD; Julie Schultz, NEWESD 101; Rebecca Cavanaugh, PSESD and Interim OSPI Health Services Program Manager.

Washington's Schools and Communities

2013 AESA Conference in San Antonio, Texas



Si Bautista, NCESD Board Chair, and Rich McBride, AESA President-Elect.



ESD and OSPI Assistant Superintendents presented workshops at the AESA Conference. Pictured (l-r): Jessica Vavrus, OSPI; Helene Paroff, NEWESD 101; Cindy Duncan, NCESD, and Julie Rolling, Puget Sound ESD.



Puget Sound ESD Assistant Superintendent Julie Rolling (left) and staff presented a workshop at the conference.



Larry MacGuffie, NCESD Board; Superintendent Rich McBride, NCESD; and Merle Kirkley, ESD 189 Board.



Washington State was well represented at the AESA Conference held December 4-7, 2013, in San Antonio, TX. Pictured above are ESD Board members and staff who attended.

AESD Executive Board Meetings



Pictured above at the AESD meeting on November 21, 2013, held in conjunction with the WSSDA Conference, are WSSDA Policy Assistant Megan Simmons and AESD Executive Board President Karen Sorger, OESD.



Superintendent Dana Anderson (left), ESD 113, hosted the January 27 AESD Executive Board Meeting. Marcia Fromhold and Jim Shoemake brought a legislative update. Brad Gingerich, ESD 123, is shown on the right.



Taking a moment together at the November AESD Executive Board meeting are Superintendent Twyla Barnes, ESD 112, and Superintendent Mike Dunn, NEWESD 101.



AESD Executive Board member Mark Grassel, ESD 105; Don Gant, retiring ESD 105 Executive Board member; and Superintendent Steve Myers, ESD 105, are pictured at the November AESD Executive Board meeting.



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Editor, Eldene Wall, North Central ESD ~ eldenew@ncesd.org

AESD Executive Board

AESD Board and Legislative Representatives

ESD 101 - Gary Coe glcoe@aol.com
 ESD 105 - Mark Grassel magrassel@gmail.com
 ESD 112 - Dr. Richard Graham samgouche@yahoo.com
 ESD 113 - Howard Coble hcoble48@msn.com
 ESD 114 - Karen Sorger, President karenfnred@msn.com
 ESD 121 - Rob Beem robbeem@comcast.net
 ESD 123 - Brad Gingerich bradlisagingerich@msn.com
 ESD 171 - Larry MacGuffie lhmacguffie@homenetnw.net
 ESD 189 - Merle Kirkley, Past-President merlek@chberesford.com

ESD Superintendents

ESD 101 - Dr. Mike Dunn mdunn@esd101.net
 ESD 105 - Dr. Steve Myers steve.myers@esd105.org
 ESD 112 - Dr. Twyla Barnes twyla.barnes@esd112.org
 ESD 113 - Dr. Dana Anderson danderson@esd113.org
 ESD 114 - Greg Lynch glynch@oesd.wednet.edu
 ESD 121 - Dr. John Welch jwelch@psesd.org
 ESD 123 - Bruce Hawkins bhawkins@esd123.org
 ESD 171 - Dr. Rich McBride richm@ncesd.org
 ESD 189 - Dr. Jerry Jenkins jjenkins@nwesd.org