Colleagues,

With Governor Inslee's announcement and proclamation earlier this month, school districts have made a full and permanent pivot to a remote learning model for the remainder of the year. Accordingly, this issue of WASA News is exclusively focused on COVID–19.

The challenges presenting themselves to you are complex and formidable. The opportunities embedded in these challenges are unique and potentially transformative for schools. As you manage the difficulties of the present, continue to keep an eye on the future. Leaders identify and leverage opportunities amidst challenges and crises. Once COVID–19 is in the rearview mirror, I believe your schools will be better than ever before in educating students and meeting the needs of students and families.

Thanks for your incredible leadership,

Joel

April 2020
Edition 2

UPCOMING EVENT

Servicing Students with Disabilities Amidst School Closures, Session 2
April 22, 12–1 p.m.
Click to register in advance for this Zoom meeting.

HONORARY AWARDS

The WASA Honorary Awards Committee recently decided to suspend the Region and State Award nominations until next fall due to the COVID–19 pandemic. The committee will reconvene in August to revise the timelines for Region and State Awards. Recognition will be rescheduled for the Fall of 2020. It is hoped there will be an opportunity at that time to celebrate the amazing work happening in districts around the state. Questions may be directed to Shari Parsons.

COVID–19 INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

During the past two weeks, the following resources have been added to our website listing of COVID–19 resources:

- **Hanover Research Resources**: Hanover Research has been working to develop resources that would support the work of school districts in their efforts to deliver online learning:
  - Summer Learning Loss Literature
  - Non-Ed Services
  - SEL Student Support
  - SEL Family Support

- **Sample MOU (WASA Members Only)**: A sample PSE MOU drafted by Paul Clay of Stevens Clay, is now available.

- **SBE Emergency Graduation Waiver**: The Emergency Waiver Video and PowerPoint Deck is available. Click here for more specific guidance on Competency/Mastery Crediting.

- **Paraeducator Certificate Program**: See details concerning funding revisions to the paraeducator Certificate Program.

- **Class of 2020 College Admissions**: See two statements from our state’s higher education institutions regarding admissions and academics for the Class of 2020.

- **Tracking Public Perceptions**: The Center for Educational Effectiveness (CEE) is offering school districts access to information to gauge community sentiments and inform your planning. Check out the links to the survey, as well as feedback from your particular community.

- **USED Releases Guidance Documents Related to Perkins CTE**: Two different Q&A documents related to implementation of Perkins CTE, released March 31 and April 10, are available. You can find them here and here.
**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Following the adjournment of the 2020 Legislative Session, with expected major economic impacts from the ongoing COVID–19 crisis, significant new funding was vetoed by the Governor before he signed the budget. 147 separate line items were eliminated, reducing $235 million of new or expanded spending in the remainder of this biennium (ending June 30, 2021). $83.1 million of additional K–12 funding adopted by the Legislature was eliminated, including new funding for school counselors ($31.8 million), paraeducator training ($14.4 million), and pupil transportation ($29.5 million). Further budget details (prior to the governor’s vetoes) and a brief review of the close of the session is available in the *Sine Die Edition* (March 13) of *This Week in Olympia*. A quick overview is also available in the *Sine Die Update* (March 16) of WASA’s Legislative Podcast.

**WASA/AESD ASPIRING SUPERINTENDENT ACADEMY**

The application process for the WASA/AESD Aspiring Superintendent Academy will be open from May 1 through May 29. More details to follow.

**INCLUSIONARY PRACTICES PROJECT (COHORT 2)**

The application process for the WASA Inclusionary Practices Project (Cohort 2) will be open from May 15 through June 12. More details to follow.

**2020 CENSUS**

The 2020 Census count matters for schools, students, and children. The census is a driver for federal funds that pay for programming and services such as Special Education, Head Start, and After-School Programs. Funding for meals, including free and reduced-price lunches, as well as maternal and child health programs, are also impacted by the census count. For more information, including how schools can get involved to help promote the importance of the 2020 Census, visit [Why 2020 Matters for Schools](#). Completing the [Census survey](#) is quick and easy.

**QUICK LINKS**

- [Piper Sandler Doyle Winter Scholarship](#)

**INCLUSIONARY PRACTICES HANDBOOK 2020 SURVEY**

OSPI is collaborating with education partners to develop a technical assistance handbook to support educators with the implementation of inclusionary practices in schools for students with disabilities. Input on the first phase of the handbook, *An Instructional Guide for Educators*, can be provided by completing this survey: [Inclusionary Practices Handbook 2020 Survey](#).

**AASA CORNER**

- [AASA Resources on COVID–19](#)
- **IDEA Flexibility**: WASA members are encouraged to take a moment to email the education staff on Capitol Hill and ask them to ensure the next COVID–19 relief package contains sensible flexibility for IDEA. Please send an action alert to your full Congressional delegation today using [AASA’s Action Alert System](#). You simply input your address, and they will direct you to the appropriate Representatives and Senators for you to email and supply a template email for you to use. Or you can download a list of all the education staffers for your Congressional delegation and email them individually [here](#).

- **Tracking COVID–19 Waivers**:
  - [Education Spending Waivers](#): The CARES Act gave the U.S. Department of Education the ability to quickly waive some rules that limit the use of federal education funding, freeing up states to spend that money on needs that have emerged as they've closed schools in response to the Coronavirus pandemic.
  - [ESSA Testing Waivers](#)
  - [USDA Foods State by State COVID–19 Waivers](#)