Friends and Colleagues,

For nearly eight weeks, the COVID–19 Pandemic has been the preeminent factor in your workflow and the priorities upon which you focus each day. The Pandemic has also required you transform your work environment and alter how you interact with staff and colleagues. Zooming six to seven hours per day, and then spending another two to three hours catching up on email can take its toll. In the April Hotline, I challenged you to give consideration to keeping yourself healthy, sharp, and energized. How are you doing with this challenge?

As we continue to spend significant amounts of time working from home, it might now be appropriate to reflect a bit more deeply about how to make this model work best for you and your family. To start, I’d recommend you eat a healthy breakfast, put on some pants, carefully adjust your chair to ensure you stave off back pain, stiff neck, and eye strain. Seriously, if you’ve not already done so, conduct a little research on the topic of “working from home,” to develop a plan, and establish routines that will keep you healthy and productive.

This working-from-home thing is a massive change from the work habits and behaviors you routinized over the course of your career. We are living in a different world, with a new set of norms, formidable challenges, and unique opportunities to transform public education in this country. I have no doubt our schools will be better than ever before, when this worldwide calamity is finally in the rearview mirror.

So get up, get dressed (that includes pants), designate an office or work space, define work hours, schedule breaks into your day, eat regularly, go for a walk, make time to socialize with family and friends, and shut off the computer at the end of your workday.

Many of you are predisposed to burning the candle at both ends. Please be sure you are not burning it in the middle as well!

Stay healthy,

Joel

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **WASA’s Brown Bag Lunch Series**
  Fridays, May 8–June 5
  11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.
  Cost: $250, full series; or $65 per session.
  Visit for further information. Contact Lisa Gehman with questions. Click to register.

- **Labor and Management: Coming Together to Further Outcomes for All Students Online Learning Sessions**
  May 19, morning and afternoon sessions.
  Space limited to 200 participants each session.
  Three clock hours provided.
  For questions contact Nasue Nishida at CSTP. Click to register in advance of this Zoom meeting.

**AASA GOVERNING BOARD POSITIONS**

Nominations are open for the AASA Governing Board elections to be held in early June. Two positions will be open—one eastside and one westside. If you are interested in filling either of these AASA Governing positions or nominating someone, please contact Executive Director Joel Aune.

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**2020–21 WASA PRESIDENT-ELECT CANDIDATES**

Candidates for 2020–21 WASA President-elect are Jeff Davis, superintendent of Onalaska School District, and Aaron Leavell, superintendent of Bremerton School District. Watch for information about both candidates in the next issue of the WASA Hotline. Congratulations to both Jeff and Aaron!

**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.
COVID–19 INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

The following resources and information have been recently added to our website listing of COVID–19 Resources:

- **WASA Budget Panel**: A recording of the panel discussion featuring superintendents Kevin Chase (ESD 105), Gene Sementi (West Valley, Spokane), and Art Jarvis (Peninsula) has been uploaded to the WASA website (members only access), along with a summarization of the discussion.

- **Communications Resources**: Don’t forget that WASA has **Budget and Bargaining Communications Resources** that includes a Communications Toolkit. If you have sample materials for budget and bargaining communications that could be shared with WASA members, please send them to Shari Parsons and we will upload them to our website (members only access). We hope you will share your good work so that others might benefit!

- **Resources from Hanover Research**: Hanover has been working to develop resources that support the work of school districts during these extraordinary times:
  - Crisis Management FAQ
  - Learning Loss Discussion Guide
  - Lessons from the Field: Leadership in Times of Uncertainty (Interview with Susan Enfield)
  - Lessons from the Field: Planning Ahead in Times of Crisis

- **OSPI Student Learning and Grading FAQ**: OSPI has developed an FAQ that answers many of the questions school leaders have raised since the release of their guidance document.

- **Tracking Public Perceptions**: Be reminded 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.

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**AASA CORNER**

- **AASA Resources on COVID–19**

- **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](#)