

Wasa HOTLINE

APRIL 2020

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From the Executive Director



Joel Aune
WASA Executive
Director

Colleagues,

For most of you, COVID-19 is presenting challenges of a magnitude never experienced before. During the past five weeks, you have been working non-stop to manage and lead in the midst of a national

crisis. Many of the variables in play are beyond your sphere of control. You have been wrestling with challenges in a context that seems to move and change each day.

What has this time of unprecedented challenge drawn out of school leaders? What has been your response to the challenges that are emerging in your district? It is no surprise that we see school leaders providing brilliant leadership, with an unrelenting focus on the well-being of children, young people, families, and staff. This involves working 12–14 hours per day, seven days per week. It is what you do when circumstances call for leadership, and when you are at your best.

It is now clear that we are engaged in work that will extend beyond the end of this school year, and well into the fall. The duration of COVID-19 and its impact on school operations and the instructional delivery system present challenges and opportunities for a good long while. It is our current and future reality.

If you've not already done so, it is time to consider how you intend to keep yourself healthy, sharp, and energized in preparation for a longer game. Knowing many of you the way I do, self-care is a challenge. You are hardwired to think of others, the job, and the students before yourself. You tend to rely on your mental toughness, a strong internal drive, and a deep reservoir of energy to power through difficult and challenging times.

Because this particular leadership challenge may be an extended one, finding ways to take care of yourself will be critically important.

I urge you to find a way, on your own or with a friend, to develop and implement a plan that keeps you healthy and invigorated. If you can effectively manage the stress of the work, I have no doubt your leadership will take your district through this crisis to a new level of accomplishment. If you take care of your health and fitness, you will soon find some exciting opportunities embedded in this difficult and challenging work. In fact, I believe that through these challenging times, your schools will ultimately land in a place where they have become better than ever before. I am convinced your leadership, bringing out the very best in others during these difficult times, is going to produce some magnificent results.

Stay safe and healthy, friends.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G. Joel Aune". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

2020 Legislature Adjourns

The Legislature adjourned its 2020 Supplemental Legislative Session on Thursday, March 12. The 2020 Supplemental Operating Budget was adopted on the last day of the session and provides increased appropriations of \$961 million above the underlying, 2019–21 budget adopted last session. \$839 million of the total increase are Policy Level (new or expanded programs) decisions, of which approximately \$185 million is provided to K–12 education.

As the COVID-19 crisis continues, however, there is an expected major economic impact resulting in lower revenues than expected the remainder of the biennium and likely into the next biennium. Due to expected revenue losses, when the governor signed the budget, he took the step to reduce as much funding as he could, vetoing numerous new programs and cancelling most enhancements in current programs. K–12 education was not spared in the exercise. In total, the governor vetoed 147 separate expenditure items, reducing \$235 million of spending in the remainder of this biennium (ending June 30, 2021) and \$210 million of spending in the next biennium. \$83.1 million of the new or expanded K–12 education 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](#).

As school leaders deal with the coronavirus crisis and resultant school closures, legislative issues may be the last thing on your mind; however, in the short-term, you should at least be aware of three adopted COVID-19 bills that directly impact K–12 education; all three have been signed by Governor Inslee and include an emergency clause, making them effective immediately:

- **SB 6189—[amendments](#)** clarify that following the COVID-19 emergency declaration, education employees retain SEBB eligibility for the remainder of the school year even if:
(1) there are school closures; (2) the employee is quarantined or required to care for a family member; or
(3) the employee must care for a child during a school/ daycare/child care closure.
- **HB 2965—[amendments](#)** allow the State Board of Education to establish an emergency waiver program to grant school districts with flexibility from graduation requirements due to COVID-19, and adopt rules to waive provisions for private schools due to the COVID-19.
- **HB 2739—[amendments](#)** allow the use of shared leave for employees, including school employees, who are isolated or quarantined, or who have relatives or household members who are isolated or quarantined, as a result of suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infection or exposure, regardless of whether other standards for use of shared leave are met.

WASA staff is currently working on our annual End of Session Report, which will include full details of the 2020 Supplemental Operating Budget—and the governor’s veto action—and the 2020 Supplemental Capital Budget, along with a comprehensive review of the many education-related bills the Legislature addressed this session. It will be emailed to all *TWIO* subscribers (and available on the WASA website) as soon as it is completed.

WASA Superintendent Mentor Program

WASA is committed to providing support to incoming superintendents. Whether a veteran moving to a new district or someone new to the superintendent role, today’s leaders know they have just one opportunity to make the most of those “first 90 days.” WASA recognizes how critically important it is to make a smooth and effective transition. Among the resources provided to incoming superintendents is a “mentor” relationship with a colleague in the region. WASA mentors provide a friendly and supportive contact to assist those transitioning to their new role/new district. Specifically, mentor superintendents can:

- Make introductions within the region to jump-start professional networking.
- Provide guidance in developing and implementing transition/entry plans.
- Be a source of information regarding services and resources available within the region.
- Provide confidential problem solving.
- Be a colleague committed to success.

If you are an incoming superintendent and want to further explore the WASA Mentor Program, please contact Andy Wolf at 360.489.3646 or awolf@wasa-oly.org.



ARE YOU CONNECTED TO WASA?

Be sure to follow us on Facebook and Twitter for information on upcoming conferences and workshops, legislative news and updates, and school news.

AASA CORNER

Action Alert: Congress Must Grant Narrow, Temporary IDEA Flexibility NOW

In light of the hardship districts are experiencing in trying to educate all students during a pandemic, AASA calls on Congress to provide practical, narrow flexibility in how districts meet some of the requirements under IDEA. If your district is struggling to meet IDEA mandates, we urge you 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 Rep/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](#). We urge you to make your advocacy more impactful by personalizing this email and adding a paragraph describing the issues your district is specifically facing in complying with IDEA.

WASA Honorary Awards Suspended Until Fall

The WASA Honorary Awards Committee convened to discuss Region and State Awards nominations and the cancellation of many regional award celebrations. The committee was in consensus to suspend both Region and State Awards nominations at this time. The committee will reconvene in August to revise the awards timeline to allow regions to submit nominations for the Region and State Awards to be recognized in the fall. It is the committee's hope regions can then have the opportunity to celebrate the amazing work currently being done in districts around the state this fall. Thanks to the WASA Honorary Awards Committee for their work and vision to keep member recognition moving forward in this unprecedented time.

QUICK LINKS: COVID-19 RESOURCES

[WASA Coronavirus & Pandemic Resources](#)

[AASA Resources on COVID-19](#)

[OSPI Guidance & Resources](#)

Upcoming Awards & Scholarships

PIPER SANDLER DOYLE E. WINTER SCHOLARSHIP FOR ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP IN EDUCATION

Designed to assist talented and committed educational administrators as they enhance those skills and abilities needed to serve as educational leaders in the field of K–12 public education.

Application Process: February 28–April 23, 2020

SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR

The Superintendent of the Year program is designed to recognize the outstanding leadership of active, frontline superintendents.

Application Process: May 1–October 1, 2020

To review the criteria for the various awards, visit the [WASA website](#). Watch future editions of *Hotline* for further information on award opportunities.

WASA Leaders Workshop

WASA leadership will come together in April for the annual WASA Leaders Workshop. President-elect Brian Talbott will facilitate the meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 21, 8–11 a.m., in a Zoom meeting format. An invitation with login information was sent to the WASA Board of Directors, Region Presidents and President-elect, and Standing Committee Chairs. Direct questions to [Shari Parsons](#) at 360.943.5717.

Piper Sandler Doyle E. Winter Scholarship for Administrative Leadership in Education

Applications are being accepted for the Piper Jaffray Dr. Doyle E. Winter Scholarship for Administrative Leadership in Education. A scholarship for \$1,000 to be awarded to a school administrator who is presently in or accepted into a doctoral program in education administration that has been approved by the Washington State Professional Educator Standards Board. The deadline to apply is April 23, 2020. For more information and the application, please see the [WASA website](#). For questions, contact [Shari Parsons](#) at 360.943.5717.

Event Calendar

INCLUSIONARY PRACTICES DISTRICT LEADERSHIP WEBINAR SERIES

April 20 | Zoom

WASA WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

This event has been cancelled.

WASA SUPERINTENDENT CONFERENCE

This event has been cancelled.

INCLUSIONARY PRACTICES STATEWIDE DISTRICT TEAM CONVENING

May 20–21 | Virtual Event: Details coming soon.

WASA EARLY CAREER SUPERINTENDENT ACADEMY ZOOM MEETING

May 18 | Zoom

WASA EARLY CAREER SUPERINTENDENT ACADEMY ZOOM MEETING

April 15 | Zoom

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

April 17 | Zoom

Watch your email for details.

WASA/AWSP/WSSDA EQUITY CONFERENCE

This event has been cancelled.

WASA SPECIAL EDUCATION ACADEMY COHORT I ZOOM MEETING

May 27 | Zoom

WASA SPECIAL EDUCATION ACADEMY COHORT II ZOOM MEETING

May 27 | Zoom

INCLUSIONARY PRACTICES DISTRICT LEADERSHIP WEBINAR SERIES

June 22 | Zoom

WSLA SUMMER STATEWIDE WORKSHOP

June 26 | Davenport Grand Hotel, Spokane

WASA/AWSP SUMMER CONFERENCE

June 28–30 | Spokane Convention Center

Registration and housing are open [here](#).

WASA INCOMING SUPERINTENDENT CONFERENCE

July 19–21 | TBD

WASA/OSPI SPECIAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

July 30–31 | Hotel Murano, Tacoma

INCLUSIONARY PRACTICES YEAR 1 STATEWIDE DISTRICT TEAM CONVENING

August 12 | TBD

INCLUSIONARY PRACTICES YEAR 2 STATEWIDE DISTRICT TEAM CONVENING

August 12–13 | TBD

WASA FALL CONFERENCE

October 6 | Four Points by Sheraton Seattle Airport South

WASA WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

December 6–7 | SeaTac Location TBD

DON'T FORGET TO COMPLETE THE 2020 CENSUS!



It has never been easier to self-respond on your own—whether online, over the phone or by mail—without ever having to meet a census taker.

Now more than ever, a complete and accurate census count is essential to ensure that Washington State receives appropriate legislative representation and federal funding. The results of the 2020 Census will have a 10-year impact on funding for things like:

- Schools and education
- Health care facilities
- Housing assistance
- Child and adult food assistance programs
- Assistance for people transitioning out of homelessness
- Career and technical education grants
- Public transportation

Complete the census at 2020census.gov

Professional Learning and Academies Updates

As you are likely aware, several upcoming events have been cancelled in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are working to find alternate avenues for delivering our Professional Learning over the coming months and look forward to connecting with you again soon. Following are our available updates. Stay tuned for more information coming in the near future.

Please contact Helene Paroff at 509.953.9512 or hparoff@wasa-oly.org, or Jamie Chylinski at jchylinski@wasa-oly.org with academy or professional learning questions.

Professional Learning

WASA WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The April 25 conference has been cancelled and rescheduled. Registration refunds are being processed now. Registrants will be invited via email to join us on April 17, 9–10 a.m. for a Zoom with our conference speaker, Molly Carroll.

We are happy to announce we have rescheduled the 2020 Women in Leadership Conference for December 6–7, 2020 at a TBD SeaTac location. Stay tuned for more details, but mark your calendars now!

WASA SUPERINTENDENT CONFERENCE

The April 26–28 conference has been cancelled and registration refunds are being processed now. We will continue to look to the needs of our superintendents for future virtual meeting planning. Mark your calendars now for the 2021 WASA Superintendent Conference being held May 2–4, at Campbell's Resort, Chelan.

WASA/WSSDA/AWSP EQUITY CONFERENCE

The May 20 conference has been cancelled and refunds are being processed now. Mark your calendars now for the 2021 WASA/WSSDA/AWSP Equity Conference being held May 19, at DoubleTree Seattle Airport.

WASA/AWSP SUMMER CONFERENCE

Currently, we are still looking forward to this annual gathering and registration remains open. However, alternate delivery models are being reviewed should we be unable to gather face-to-face this June. We will continue to monitor the situation and will keep you informed of any changes.

WASA INCOMING SUPERINTENDENT CONFERENCE

Conference planning for July 19–21 continues. Registration will open in late May. Watch your email for future communications from the WASA team.

WASA/OSPI SPECIAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

We continue to hold hope that our conference will proceed as scheduled July 30–31, at Hotel Murano, Tacoma. The Call for Presenters (C4P) would typically open in April but given the ever-changing landscape of the COVID-19 crisis, we will postpone the C4P until mid-May.

Academies

WASA EARLY CAREER SUPERINTENDENT ACADEMY

Early career superintendents will gather again on April 15, for continued hot topics discussion. Watch your email for the Zoom invitation.

WASA SPECIAL EDUCATION ACADEMY

The Special Education Academy Cohorts will convene by Zoom on May 27.

On March 17, our Special Education Academy participants, along with our Special Education Component members, were invited to participate in a Zoom meeting presented by Glenna Gallo, OSPI [regarding serving students with disabilities amidst school closures](#).

Based on the overwhelmingly positive response to this offering, WASA will again facilitate another Zoom with Glenna Gallo. We are working to secure a date now, so stay tuned. We are also happy to announce that our Zoom participant capacity has been increased to accommodate all Special Education Directors in this upcoming meeting.

WASA/AESD/AASA ASPIRING SUPERINTENDENTS ACADEMY

The application window for applying to the Aspiring Superintendents Academy has been postponed to May 1–29. The application link and academy details will be posted to the WASA website.

Inclusionary Practices

WASA INCLUSIONARY PRACTICES PROJECT

Work continues, albeit at a different pace, or with a different delivery. The May 20–21 Statewide District Team Convening will now be provided virtually. Details will be provided to district team facilitators soon.

The application window for Cohort 2 has been postponed to May 15–June 12. Details will be posted to the Inclusionary Practices site at www.wasa-oly.org/Inclusion.

Around the State: Celebrating Great Work in School Districts

AUBURN SD



FREEMAN SD



BETHEL SD



GRAHAM-KAPOWSIN HIGH SCHOOL BAND PERFORMS SOCIAL DISTANCING CONCERT



LA CONNER SD



MOSSYROCK SD



OAKSDALE SD FIRESIDE CHAT WITH SUPERINTENDENT JAKE DINGMAN





TONASKET SD

TENINO SD



YELM SD



Region Events—April & May

Many region events are rescheduled as Zoom meetings or being cancelled due to the coronavirus. For the most up-to-date information regarding scheduled regional meetings and events, contact your ESD or Region President.

REGION 101

May 21, 8:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

PRESIDENT—ROB ROETTGER

Lunch and Learn Sessions, 12–1:30 p.m. NEWESD 101, Talbott Event Center, Spokane

REGION 112

May 22, 9 a.m.–12 p.m.

PRESIDENT—MARK ROSS

Regional Superintendents Meeting, ESD 112, Vancouver

REGION 105

April 16, 8:00–11:30 a.m.

PRESIDENT—ROGER TRAIL

Zoom Meeting

REGION 113

April 24, 9:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

PRESIDENT—JEFF DAVIS

SAC Meeting, Capital Region ESD 113, PAC/GH/T Room, Tumwater

REGION 108

May 8, 12–1 p.m.

PRESIDENT—WHITNEY MEISSNER

NWESD 189, Anacortes

REGION 114

May 29, 9 a.m.–12 p.m.

PRESIDENT—DIANE REAUME

SAC Meeting ESD 114, Room 202, Bremerton

REGION 110

May 15, 9–11 a.m.

PRESIDENT—DONNA COLOSKY

PSESD 121, Renton

REGION 111

May 15, 7:30–8:30 a.m.

PRESIDENT-ELECT—KATHI WEIGHT

Fife Administrative Center, Fife

Contact WASA

GENERAL INFORMATION

360.943.5717 / 800.859.9272

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2019–20 WASA OFFICERS

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President-elect: Brian Talbott, Nine Mile Falls
Past President: Randy Russell, Freeman
Secretary: Jennifer Bethman, Bethel
Treasurer: Corine Pennington, Puyallup