

# WASA NEWS

June 2021—Edition 1



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 2021 WASA/AWSP SUMMER CONFERENCE: JUNETASTIC

#### **Instructional Leadership:**

- **Leading Impact Teams: Build a Culture of Efficacy:** Dr. Paul Bloomberg & Gina Burt, June 4, 8:30–10 a.m.
- **Instructional Leadership: Creating Practice Out of Theory** June 8, 8:30–10 a.m.
- **PLCs Districtwide:** Janel Keating June 9, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

#### **Equity:**

- **Envisioning a School Where Everyone Belongs:** Dr. Floyd Cobb & John Krownapple June 17, 4–7 p.m.
- **Black Magic: Chad Sanders** June 22, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

#### **Social Emotional Learning:**

- **Marisol Rerucha: Leading Restorative Practices** June 11, 8:30–10 a.m.
- **UW SMART Center Part 1: Interconnected Systems Framework: School Mental Health and MTSS\*** June 14, 8:30–10:30 a.m.
- **UW SMART Center Part 2: Leading for Well-Being: Using MESS to Build a Culture of Wellness for ALL\*** June 21, 2–4 p.m.
- **UW SMART Center Part 3: School Mental Health Research, Best Practices, and Resources\*** June 24, 8:30–10:30 a.m.

\*Registration can occur separately, or as a package.

- **D.J. Batiste: Power of Engagement** June 29, 8:30–10 a.m.

Click [here](#) to learn more and register.

*Teacher Efficacy is the collective belief of teachers in their ability to positively affect students. With an effect size of  $d=1.57$  Collective Teacher Efficacy is strongly correlated with student achievement.*

—John Hattie

WASA Friends,

Earlier this week, the keynote launch of the [WASA/AWSP Virtual Summer Conference](#) featured Dr. John Hattie, who spoke of one of the most powerful influences on student learning: Collective Teacher Efficacy. Dr. Hattie provided a thought-provoking start to what we believe will be a stellar *Junetastic* conference experience for school district leaders.

During the past year, so much of your time and energy has been focused on “managing” the complexities, politics, and logistics of operating schools amidst the pandemic. Our month-long summer conference virtual event will help leaders refocus on the core work of schools—teaching and student learning.

This year’s conference has been transformed with a structure specifically designed for school district leaders as they bring the 2020–21 school year to a close while looking toward next year and the fresh start that will come with it. The content for the summer conference has been thoughtfully developed with the future in mind, as WASA and AWSP endeavor to support school district leaders in their efforts to reimagine schools and the school experience for the students under their care.

The *Junetastic* events have been intentionally designed to support district and building leaders as they prepare for fully opening their schools to students in September. The month-long learning series is built upon three foundational elements:

- **Research-Based Instructional Improvement Efforts** (John Hattie, Peter DeWitt, Janel Keating, and Paul Bloomberg)
- **Social-Emotional Learning** (Marisol Rerucha, Jeffrey Binney, Smart Center, and Viewing of Screenager)
- **Equity** (John Krownapple, Floyd Cobb, Chad Sanders, and D.J. Batiste)

These are some of the greatest minds and biggest hitters in the field of K–12 education, and we are excited about all they have to offer district and school leaders in our state.

The 2021–22 school year provides a unique opportunity to reset the school experience for the students in your schools with an eye toward a fresh and aspirational future. We urge you to take advantage of the outstanding professional learning opportunities in this year’s WASA/AWSP Summer Conference!

See you on the Zoom!

**WASA Inclusionary Practices** will hold a required meeting August 2, from 8:30–9:30 a.m., for districts interested in starting the journey or those wishing to continue. Contact [Helene Paroff](#) with any questions. Detailed information about the project and application process will be sent to all districts.

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The 2021 Legislature adjourned, and the dust is starting to settle. As you craft your local school district budgets and begin to look toward the 2021–22 school year, use WASA’s recently completed [End of Session Report](#) to review exhaustive details about the new 2021–23 Operating and Capital budgets. Additionally, use the report’s comprehensive review of education-related bills to stay up to date on new requirements—and opportunities. The report has been e-mailed to all *TWIO* subscribers and is archived on the WASA website. Click [here to view](#) the report.

## UPDATE ON JUNETEENTH HOLIDAY

One of the many bills adopted during the 2021 Legislative Session makes June 19, also known as “Juneteenth,” a state legal holiday (effective July 25, 2021). SHB 1016 did not amend the state statute that governs school holidays (RCW 28A.150.050). Because the Legislature failed to address this school-specific statute, there is some confusion about the impact of Juneteenth on school districts and whether or not this may become a bargaining issue. Districts should not automatically assume they need to engage in mid-term bargaining over this new law. Instead, you are encouraged to consult with legal counsel about whether you may be making a decision that actually changes the status quo. For example, if your district is not closing schools on June 19, then it would appear you are not making any decisions that would trigger an obligation to engage in mid-term bargaining.

## LEARN TO RETURN

The DOH-funded *Learn to Return* COVID-19 testing program is available through July 2022 to all Washington school districts. School districts enrolled in the program gain access to free COVID-19 testing, hands-on consultations from the Health Commons Project, and communication resources that engage school communities. Summer is a great time to pilot testing strategy and prepare for Fall 2021! Email [Health Common Project](#) to enroll. Not ready to enroll yet? They want to understand the barriers to offering school-based COVID-19 testing so they can improve the program to meet your needs! Click to take the [anonymous three-minute survey](#).

## AASA CORNER

- **Superintendent of the Year** Nomination/Application forms are now available. Visit the [AASA website](#) to apply by October 1. The Washington State Superintendent of the Year will move on to consideration for the AASA National Superintendent of the Year.
- [AASA Dr. Effie H. Jones Humanitarian Award Application](#)
- [AASA Educational Administrators Scholarships](#)

## LONG-TERM CARE TRUST

In 2019, the Legislature established the Long-Term Services and Supports Trust Program to provide long-term services and support benefits to persons who have paid into the Trust Program for a specific amount of time and who have been assessed as needing a certain amount of assistance with daily living activities. The WA Cares website has put together a general overview of the [WA Long-Term Care Trust](#). A description of the HB 1323 (Long-Term Care Trust) with notes of interest were included in the End of Session Legislative Session Report, click [here](#) to view.

## QUICK LINKS

- [Options for Instructional Funding Models 2021–22](#) (OSPI)
- [2021 MTSS District Implementation Application](#) (OSPI)
- [ESSER Use of Funds FAQ From Federal Department Now Posted](#) (OSPI)

## INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

**Equity:** For information and resources, click the [link](#) on the WASA website. The following resources were recently uploaded:

- Research Brief: [Improving Outcomes for English Learners](#) (Hanover)
- [Restorative Justice](#) (Hanover)
- [‘A Conspiracy of Silence’ Tulsa Race Massacre Was Absent from Schools for Generations](#) (edweek.org)

### Other:

- Hanover Research: [Supporting Employee Health and Wellness](#) (Hanover)
- [Well-being Teacher Training Guide](#) (Hanover)
- [We Asked Teachers How They Want to Be Appreciated. Here’s What They Said](#) (Education Week)
- [Mental Health Problems Loom for the COVID Generation. Here’s What Schools Can Do](#) (edWeek.org)

## SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT!

This month’s Sponsor Spotlight features WASA’s Diamond-level sponsor—



[Washington Schools Risk Management Pool](#)

**Contact:** [Deborah Callahan](#)

We are grateful for their unwavering support of our members and programs! Click their links to learn more about our sponsor.