

WASA News

May 2022



The WASA News is a monthly publication that provides key information to you in a concise, quick-read format. For those who want a bit more detail, links to additional information are embedded in the text of this publication. We hope you find WASA News to be an efficient way to keep abreast of new information, emerging issues, and timely resources. Be reminded that previous issues of the WASA News can be found on our [website](#).

“The more things change, the more they stay the same.”

*—Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr
19th Century French Critic, Journalist, and Novelist*

After 28 long months, mired in a world-wide pandemic, there is now a growing sense of hope. Most would agree, the world will never be the same—we, will never be the same. So much for the old saying, the more things change, the more they stay the same.

And yet, through our year-long effort to look back at WASA’s first 50 years through the eyes of some legendary school district leaders, I have been reminded that in many ways, the more things change the more they REALLY DO, stay the same. This year’s editions of the WASA Hotline have featured recollections and reminiscences of those leading our schools through five decades of challenge, success, and accomplishment. One such example is clearly evident in excerpts from former Superintendent **Janet Barry**, the National Superintendent of the Year in 1996:

- *...As I arrived in the state, basic funding for schools had shrunk while national anti-tax sentiment powered up. The fiercely conservative 1994 Contract with America fueled devastating “no” votes on Washington school levies. My own district—Central Kitsap—lost three votes in a row and took \$10M in cuts. At the same time, pop-up public forums on vouchers and charter schools played a troubling counterpoint to our legislative push for simple majority levy approval.*
- *...as State Superintendent of the Year and [named] by AASA as National Superintendent of the Year, and those dual honors widened my leadership lens. I spoke in Washington and around the country on a theme of “leading and serving in angry times,” and those late-90’s experiences set the table for more critical work in the next decade.*
- *...In 2002, the compounding impacts of belt-tightening and lagging salaries merged with hard, new academic and structural demands on teachers fed union frustrations, threatened multiple teacher strikes, and ripened into a protracted strike in Issaquah.*
- *...Across my career as a superintendent, I have reflected on the culture of collaboration I have found among our state’s educational leaders.*

There is no doubt, the past two years have presented monumental challenges for school district leaders and the communities they serve. There have been setbacks, deep conflict, an erosion of norms for civil engagement, politicization of school boards, and in some cases the most unfortunate development—career casualties.

Janet Barry's words, however, provide hope. Janet and her communities not only survived those darkest of days; they actually flourished. Her story, while honest and inspiring, is not particularly unique. There are countless others who came through extraordinarily difficult times to thrive and achieve new heights as a leader, and for their school districts.

I am confident that as we emerge from the dark days of the pandemic, you are poised to flourish. The experience, no matter how stressful and taxing, has made you a better leader. In fact, you are a much better leader today, than you were in December 2019 before all hell broke loose. The challenges that tested your resilience to the extreme and beyond, have made you stronger, smarter, and more competent.

The post-pandemic will present a generous portion of difficult and complex challenges. However, the future is also ripe with opportunity. You are not only poised to tackle the challenges before you, but also positioned to take advantage of the opportunities presenting themselves to you. How do I know this? Because **"the more things change, the more they stay the same."** If you don't believe me, check out the reflections and reminiscences, in this year's **Hotline publications**, of those who have traveled, struggled, and thriven before us.

In looking to the future—to the next 50 years of WASA—we begin a new era with an assemblage of extraordinary leaders who are tested and steeled by the events of the past two years. Our school districts could not be in better or more capable hands.

Best Regards,



G. Joel Aune
Executive Director

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **WSASCD New Teacher Institute May 10, 17 | 4–5:30 p.m. | Complimentary for WSASCD members!**
- **WASA|WSSDA|AWSP Equity Conference May 18 | 12:00 p.m.**
- **WASA|AWSP Summer Conference—Celebrating 40 Years June 26–28 | Spokane**
- **WASA Back to School Rally July 31–August 1 | Des Moines**
- **WASA RULER Training August 2–3 | Des Moines**

[Click here](#) to view the most recent version of the WASA event calendar.

GET TO KNOW YOUR PRESIDENT-ELECT CANDIDATES

While online voting will not take place until August 2023, there is plenty of time to learn more about WASA's President-elects! You can view their information at wasa-oly.org, or view their videos below, telling their story.



Michael Green
Superintendent, Woodland SD

[View Michael's Video](#)



Mike Villarreal
Superintendent, Hoquiam SD

[View Mike's Video](#)

The banner features a grid of 24 diverse, stylized human icons in various colors and poses. In the center of the grid, the text "You Belong Here" is written in a white, cursive font. To the right of the grid, the logo for the Association of Washington School Principals (AWSP) is displayed, featuring a stylized flame and the text "ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON SCHOOL PRINCIPALS". Below the logo is the WASA logo, which consists of three horizontal lines of varying lengths followed by the text "WASA LEARNING • TRUST • RESPECT". The main text on the right side of the banner reads "AWSP/WASA 2022 SUMMER CONFERENCE" in large, bold, white and yellow letters, with "June 26-28 | Spokane" below it. At the bottom right, a red banner contains the text "CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF LEARNING TOGETHER" in white capital letters.

REGISTER FOR THE WASA/AWSP 2022 SUMMER CONFERENCE!

June 26–28 | Spokane

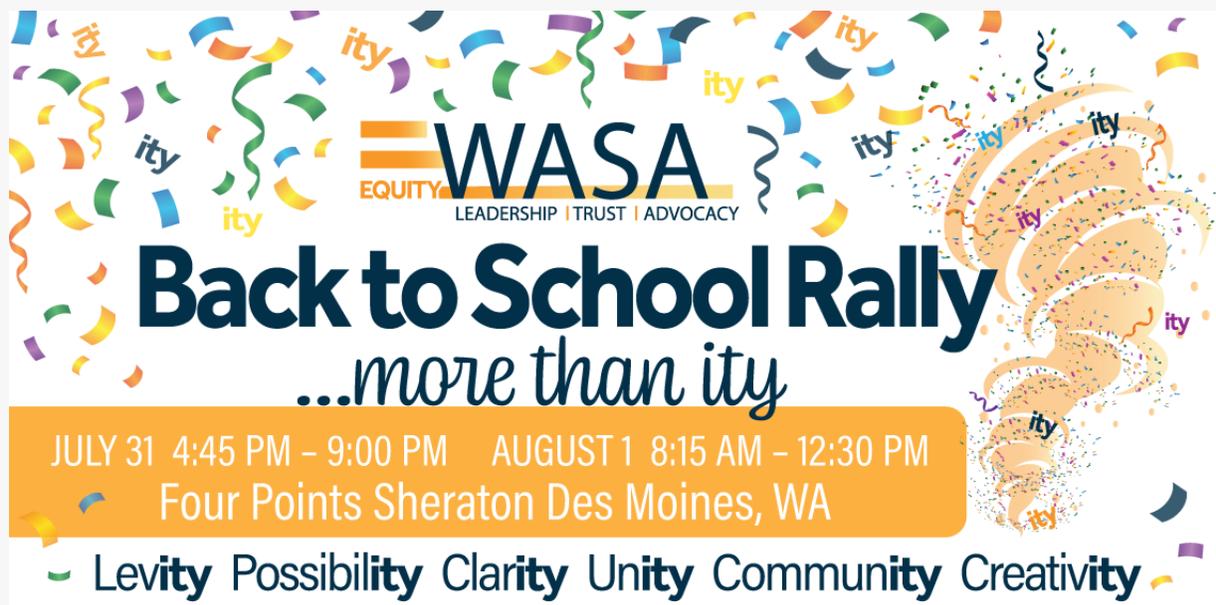
WASA and AWSP are excited to host the **2022 WASA/AWSP Summer Conference** held in-person at the Spokane Convention Center this year. Join us for an opportunity to network and learn with fellow school leaders. This is a year of celebration—not only because it's the **40th anniversary** of the WASA/AWSP Summer Conference—but also because school leaders like you have overcome unimaginable obstacles during the past three school years.

This year's theme is "You Belong Here." Sessions will focus on belonging, inclusion, collaboration, climate & culture, systems, and student learning. Hear from keynote speakers **Ben Nemtin, Shelley Moore, and Dr. Richard Antoine White**. You can learn more and register for the event [here](#).

SUMMER CONFERENCE GOLF TOURNAMENT

June 26 | 8:00 a.m. Shotgun Start | Liberty Lake Golf Course

Reserve your place now! The registration fee is \$85 per golfer and includes green fees, cart, lunch, and prize contributions. To join the fun, register via email to Jeff Jurgensen at jjurgensen@oacsvcs.com and include any foursome requests. Payment will be made onsite at the registration table prior to the 8 a.m. shotgun start. The registration table opens at 7 a.m. at Liberty Lake Golf Course.

A vibrant graphic for the WASA Back to School Rally. At the top, the WASA logo is displayed with the tagline "EQUITY LEADERSHIP | TRUST | ADVOCACY". Below the logo, the text "Back to School Rally" is written in a large, bold, dark blue font, followed by "...more than ity" in a smaller, cursive font. The background is white with colorful confetti and streamers. At the bottom, an orange banner contains the event dates and times: "JULY 31 4:45 PM – 9:00 PM AUGUST 1 8:15 AM – 12:30 PM" and the location "Four Points Sheraton Des Moines, WA". Below the banner, the words "Levity Possibility Clarity Unity Community Creativity" are listed in a bold, dark blue font, with "ity" in a smaller font size for the words "Possibility", "Clarity", "Unity", "Community", and "Creativity".

WASA
EQUITY LEADERSHIP | TRUST | ADVOCACY

Back to School Rally

...more than ity

JULY 31 4:45 PM – 9:00 PM AUGUST 1 8:15 AM – 12:30 PM
Four Points Sheraton Des Moines, WA

Levity Possibility Clarity Unity Community Creativity

WASA'S FIRST EVER BACK TO SCHOOL RALLY

July 31–August 1 | Des Moines

It's time to recapture the joy of being an educational leader and prepare to launch the 2022–23 school year with enthusiasm! WASA's first ever "**Back to School Rally**" will overflow with **creativity, community, levity, clarity, possibility, and unity**. Sunday evening and Monday morning will be filled with speakers in a Ted Talks-style forum and engaging opportunities. YOU had the heart, courage, and wisdom to lead through the experiences of the last two years. Let's now use these attributes as we welcome our students and staff to the school year ahead! You can sign up for this celebration [here](#).

WASA
presents



RULER

Training featuring *Dr. Marc Brackett*

AUGUST 2-3, 2022

DEVELOPED AT THE YALE CENTER FOR EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING WITH YALE'S RULER TRAINING

August 2–3 | Des Moines

Discover how to implement emotional intelligence by Recognizing, Understanding, Labeling, Expressing, and Regulating. Join WASA and guest Speaker, **Marc Brackett, Ph.D.**, in **the first RULER training hosted in Washington State**. Dr. Brackett is an author and director of the **Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence**, which focuses on Social and Emotional Learning (SEL). Our professional development for district leaders starts with an interactive, two-day institute where district leaders can begin the work to support thoughtful and systemic SEL implementation. Superintendents, SEL directors, and other district-level administrators can expect to: understand the science of emotions; learn emotional intelligence skills; plan and devise ways to implement district and school-wide approaches to SEL; and brainstorm with like-minded district leaders.

Register today with your district team of three.



END OF SESSION REPORT FINALIZED

The End of Session Report by **Dan Steele** includes full details of the 2022 Supplemental Operating Budget and the 2022 Supplemental Capital Budget, along with a comprehensive review of the many education-related bills the Legislature addressed this session. WASA's 2022 End of Session Report has been completed and is now available **here**.



EWU GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN SEL FOR EDUCATIONAL EQUITY

Deadline to apply: **May 31, 2022**

EWU now offers a **Graduate Certificate in Social Emotional Learning for Educational Equity (SEL-EE)**, very much similar to the RULER training. This program is intended for working professionals who plan to teach, coach, or support SEL in educational environments and is available in the summer and winter. The total cost of the program is approximately \$6,000, consisting of three workshops, two seminars, and a consultation. Program completers receive a graduate certificate on a formal transcript, which may support current practitioners to move along the pay scale. Apply for the 2022–23 Cohorts [here](#).

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON | BOTHELL

ENHANCING CAPACITY FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION LEADERSHIP (ECSEL)

GOODLAD INSTITUTE | SCHOOL OF EDUCATIONAL STUDIES



APPLY NOW FOR UW ONLINE CERTIFICATE IN NATIVE EDUCATION

Program starts: **Autumn 2022**

UW College of Education and UW Professional and Continuing Education will be offering the Native Education Certificate program for the next cohort with hybrid learning opportunities beginning Autumn 2022. This two-year 10-credit program is designed to cultivate educators' abilities to create meaningful and effective relationships and partnerships with Native American students, families, and communities through community-based pedagogies. [Learn more here](#).



JOIN THE DISCUSSION

AASA's Live Well Lead Well Discussion Series is taking place each month through October. The next session is a "Staff Care Expert Forum" on May 24. Register [here](#)!



CELEBRATING WASA AT 50

Did you know?

WASA is currently 1,982 members strong!

- Membership 2011–12: **1,465**
- Membership 2016–17: **1,748**
- Membership 2021–22: **1,982**

Members are classified into 5 “Components”

- Business and Personnel Administrators (BPAC)
- Instructional Program Administrators (IPAC)
- Principals
- Special Education (SPED)
- Superintendents

WASA’s Projected Revenues for 2021–22 are \$4.6 million, from the following sources:

- Professional Learning: 52%
- Member Dues: 29%
- Grants/Projects/Contracts: 13%
- Other: 6%

ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY GRANTS AVAILABLE

Is your district already planning for outdoor learning, especially to support Title 1, Title 3, Title 6, IDEA and 504 qualifying students? The **Pacific Education Institute (PEI)** is accepting applications, with a deadline of **July 15, 2022**. Reviews will continue until all funds are allocated. If interested, visit the **Environmental Literacy Grant webpage** to learn more.

PESB STANDARDS FOR EDUCATORS

In March, the **Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB)** unanimously approved adoption of the newest set of Cultural Competency, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (CCDEI) standards for Washington educators. The revised standards apply to all educator roles and will be used in the preparation of educator candidates and in professional learning opportunities throughout an educator’s career. Preparation programs and professional learning providers may begin using the standards immediately. **View the new standards.**

COMMUNICATION TOOLS: PEDIATRIC VACCINE

From OSPI: The Department of Health has created toolkits for healthcare providers and for schools to help them communicate about the vaccine to parents and guardians. The links are listed below:

- [What Parents/Guardians Should Know About Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccine \(PDF\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccines: Pediatric Vaccine Toolkit for Providers \(PowerPoint\)](#)

RESOURCES

WASA has developed a storehouse of resources related to the **pandemic and equity**. The following have been recently uploaded to our **website**:

PANDEMIC-RELATED RESOURCES

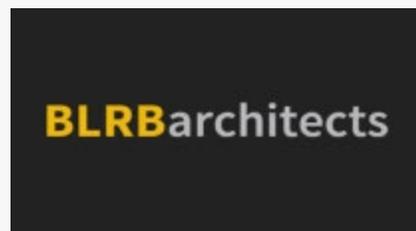
- [4 Ways Schools Can Support Students, Staff Suffering from Trauma](#) (K-12 Dive)
- [Social and Emotional Wellness for Educators](#) (N2Y)
- [Getting the Most Out of Employee Assistance Programs](#) (Education Week)
- [Superficial Self Care](#) (Education Week)
- [Teaching Strategies That will Outlast the Pandemic](#) (Education Week)

EQUITY

- [Supporting Transgender and Non-Binary Students Toolkit](#) (Hanover Research)
- [High Expectations, Relationships Key to Improving ELL Student Experiences](#) (K-12 Dive)

OTHER

- [Virtual Instruction: 7 Tips](#) (Education Week)
- [Best Practices in K-12 Human Resources](#) (Hanover Research)
- [Data Literacy Checklist](#) (Hanover Research)



SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT!

This month's Sponsor Spotlight features WASA's Diamond-level sponsor—**BLRB Architects**. We are grateful for their unwavering support of our members and programs! Click their link to learn more about them.

BLRB Architects

AASA CORNER

- After 13 years, AASA Executive Director, **Dan Domenech** has announced his plan to retire following AASA's 2023 National Conference, next February. Dan's stellar leadership has been transformational for AASA. We offer congratulations and wish Dan the very best in his well-deserved retirement.
- The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) has released updated school **Behavior Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM)** resources, including a detailed guide of **best practices considerations for K-12 schools** to support BTAM training, and **guidance to uphold student civil rights** throughout behavior threat assessment.
- AASA has released a **toolkit** aimed at supporting all providers of early learning, especially school districts, as they embrace the significant responsibility of providing early childhood education.



Washington Association of School Administrators
PO Box 14459, Tumwater, WA 98511 | 800.859.9272

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