

**2007 Washington State ASCD  
'REACHING THE WHOLE CHILD' AWARD**



**Eastside Recipient**

**Steve Barnes**

*Holmes Elementary School  
Spokane Public Schools*

*Teaching to the Heart as well as the mind*, is not just the Holmes school motto, it's what they do. Cooperation between the home and school is of utmost importance. Building relationships with parents and community agencies, such as Catholic Charities, has enabled the Holmes staff to provide for the needs of a diverse population of students with breakfast programs, clothing, and programs to meet the emotional needs of students. Holmes has 92% free and reduced lunch rate, with a significant number of students who are homeless. Mr. Barnes is adept at nurturing relationships between the students, staff, and the greater community.

With a 56% mobility rate, it is quite an accomplishment that Holmes Elementary doubled the number of students at proficient levels in reading and math in 2005. In 2005-06, Holmes was one of 10 schools in the state of Washington to receive a Good Apple Grant for demonstrating significant increases on their fourth grade WASL scores. The success of Holmes Elementary stems from the outstanding leadership of Steve Barnes, who has promoted teacher collaboration and curriculum alignment, among the many strategies implemented to make Holmes a productive, caring environment for learning.