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available online at <http://washingtonstate.ascd.org>

President's Message

Happy New Year!

As we look to the start of 2006 and a new legislative session, this is your official call to get involved, to become influencers and advocates for education. All WSASCD members need to be proactive in shaping recommendations to improve education policy for the success of all learners—policy that addresses the education of the whole child.

WSASCD is being challenged to go beyond slinging out best practice workshops and conferences. Instead, it is our goal to be visible, respected and sought after as reliable and informed sources of accurate information regarding quality teaching and learning. WSASCD should be the trusted "go to" source for policy.



Janel Keating
2005-07 President

The focus, as always, being kids and kid issues.

Too often, because we are all busy being educators, we don't take the time to speak up or lend our voice to issues. This year is a good time to make a... well, I was avoiding this word, but a resolution.

When you feel strongly enough about an educational issue or policy that you end up discussing it in the staff room, at lunch or with a group of colleagues, then it must be important enough to discuss outside of the school walls. If you care, if you are that passionate, then it is time to affect change or at least express your opinion to those who create the policies we must ultimately live by.

So, it's time to write that e-mail or make the phone call to your congress person. It's time to build relationships with people that we should have relationships with. The ASCD Action Center, accessible via www.ascd.org, has tips on how to communicate via e-mail or by phone with your federal or local representatives.

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President's Message, continued

See the samples below and save this newsletter so you can use the embedded Internet links to quickly find information. By simply entering in your zip code on the ASCD Action Center home page, you will be given access and contact information for your state and federal representatives. Elected officials are far more likely to

heed your message if you are one of their constituents. The following tips aim to improve the effectiveness of your correspondence, regardless of the means you choose to deliver your message.

Janel Keating, WSASCD President

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- State your purpose for writing in the first sentence of the letter. For example: As your constituent, I am writing to urge your support for increased funding for health care.
- If your letter pertains to a specific piece of legislation, identify it. And make sure that you are referencing the correct legislation to the correct body of Congress. House bills are H.R.____; Senate bills are designated as S.____. It is also important to know the status of the bill.
- Be courteous.
- If appropriate, include personal information about why the issue matters to you to make your point.
- Address only one issue in each e-mail.
- Close your letter with a restatement of your purpose and indicate the response that you expect.

- Addressing Correspondence to a Senator:

The Honorable [Jimmy Stewart]
__(room number)__(name of) Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator [Stewart]:

- Addressing Correspondence to a Representative:

The Honorable [Jimmy Stewart]
__(room number)__(name of) House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative [Stewart]:

- Tips for Phoning Congress

Telephone calls are usually taken by a staff member, not the member of Congress. Ask to speak with the aide who handles the issue about which you wish to comment. (See our guide to Congressional staff here.)

After identifying yourself as a constituent, tell the aide you would like to leave a brief message, such as: "Please tell Senator/Representative [Name] that I support/oppose [S.____/H.R.____]."

State your reasons for your support or opposition to the bill. Ask for your senators' or representative's position on the bill. You may also request a written response to your telephone call.

2005 Annual Conference—A Resounding Success!

The 2005 Annual Conference Committee presented another premier conference program November 2-4 at the Seattle Airport Doubletree Hotel. This year's theme, "All Roads Lead to Instruction" offered outstanding full-day action labs by national speakers, an inspiring and thought-provoking message by keynote speaker Peter Johnston, over 40 presentations by local educators, 75 displays and exhibits, the annual awards celebration and a variety of events creating networking time for attendees.



Dr. Peter Johnston, keynote speaker

Comments from attendees included, "This was one of the most organized conferences I've attended. Thank you for the quality presentations." "I received a lot of very usable information for my



Monte Bridges, Puget Sound ESD and student Anna Nelson, Enumclaw SD

work as a professional development specialist." "Lots of hard work went into the planning. Congratulations to all involved." "I learned a lot! Kudos to the conference team! This was a well orga-

nized and very enriching conference!"

Indeed, thanks to the Conference Planning Committee: Mike Nelson and Chris Beals, Enumclaw SD; Josh Garcia, Federal Way SD; Gerrie Garton, Enumclaw SD; Pat

Large, Orting SD; Lisa Bjork, Seattle Pacific University; WSASCD President Janel Keating, White River SD; and WSASCD Executive Director Joann Mychals.



Student Riley Carel (l) and Chris Beals (r), Enumclaw SD



Brian McCrea, Scientific Learning and conference attendees

Mark your calendar NOW for next year's conference!

**November 2-4, 2006
Spokane Convention Center**



Letter From Representative Cathy McMorris, Spokane

Dear Washington State Educators:

It is with sincere regret that I could not be with you for this year's annual conference, but I want to thank you for the opportunity to address you in writing and express my welcome to each of you.

As you know, education plays a vital role in any community by giving us the tools needed to succeed both individually and collectively. Education is the foundation of any healthy vibrant, and developing society and each of us benefit from the work and teaching that takes place at the schools and institutions you represent.

As Eastern Washington's representative in Congress and as a member of the Education and Workforce Committee, it is my goal to ensure we continue to work

towards giving our youth and adults the ability and knowledge to develop and succeed. I am glad to know that the Washington State ASCD is also working to ensure that each educator is provided with the professional development needed to make their students succeed. If wish you the best as you continue to provide excellent educational opportunities for the students of Washington State through supervision and curriculum development.

Please have a wonderful conference and on behalf of Eastern Washington, thank you for all your work on behalf of our students.

Best Wishes,

Cathy McMorris
Member of Congress

Spotlight on Awards: Annual Conference Celebrates Recipients

Washington State ASCD is proud to sponsor an awards program that identifies and honors outstanding educational individuals, programs, teams and community partners who have significantly contributed to education in Washington. On Friday, November 4, attendees at the 2005 Annual Conference celebrated the recipients of the year's State Recognition Awards, and ushered in a new

award, acknowledging Washington state's first-ever Outstanding Young Educator.

Washington State ASCD salutes and congratulates the 2006 State Recognition Award winners. (Recipients are pictured with WSASCD President Janelle Keating.)



Rob Morrow, Tahoma SD, State Award Winner

Irene Longmire, Teacher, Wahluke School District

Recipient, Individual Award for Contributing to a Significant and Positive Impact on Student Learning.

Janis Heigle, Professional Development Specialist, Camas School District

Recipient, Individual Award for Continuous Lifelong Learning



Irene Longmire, Wahluke SD, State Award Winner



Professional Development Specialists, Sumner SD, State Award Winners

Rob Morrow, Principal, Tahoma School District

Recipient, Individual Award for Influencing the Instructional Leadership and Professional Growth of Educators

Professional Development Specialists, Sumner School District

Recipients, Team Award for Influencing the Instructional Leadership and Professional Growth of Educators



Janis Heigle, Camas SD, State Award Winner



Greg Lobdell, Center for Educational Excellence, State Award Winner

Sue Mills and Greg Lobdell, Directors, The Center for Educational Effectiveness, Redmond

Recipients, Community Award for Contributing to a Significant and Positive Impact on Student Learning

Washington State ASCD Outstanding Young Educator Award



Steven Ruthford, 2005 Outstanding Young Educator Award Recipient and SRA/McGraw-Hill Representatives

Highlighting the awards ceremony was the announcement of Steven Ruthford, Science Teacher and Department Head at Bellingham's Sehome High School as WSASCD's first recipient of the Outstanding Young Educator Award.

The Washington State ASCD Outstanding Young Educator Award recognizes and celebrates the accomplishments of an education professional, 40 years of age or younger, who achieves excellence in instructional leadership in teaching and learning, and who demonstrates exemplary commitment and exceptional contribution to the profession.

Steven received a \$2,000 check contributed by SRA/McGraw-Hill Publishing, professional memberships in WSASCD and ASCD, and a complementary subscription to ASCD's professional journal, *Educational Leadership*, for their school library. Ruthford's family was present to celebrate his award and trophy. Congratulations to all of the 2005 award recipients!



Conference Kudos to...

- Enumclaw High School's Jazz Ensemble and Choir for their uplifting entertainment.
- Anna Nelson and Riley Carel, Enumclaw SD students for an awesome introduction of Peter Johnston.
- All breakout session presenters for meaningful concurrent presentations.
- All exhibitors for sponsorships, door prizes and continuous support of WSASCD.
- University and college sponsors for their generous support of Action Lab presenters and other conference features.

DONATION STATION Reaps Supplies for Hurricane Tragedies

A heartfelt **Thank You!** goes to the generous conference participants who donated school supplies for the recent hurricane victims.

Several boxes of crayons, notepaper, backpacks, children's books and other materials were collected at the Donation Station set up in the conference registration foyer and are being shipped to a distribution center that will ensure the items are sent where they are needed most.

Your kindness is greatly appreciated!

2005 WSASCD Annual Conference Picture Gallery



Board Members Sharon Mowry, Whitworth College and Paul Sturm, Pullman SD



Board Members Ron Carlson, Washougal SD and Faith Chapel, Bainbridge Island SD



Margaret Murphy, ASCD Regional Representative and Janel Keating, WSASCD President, White River SD



Dr. Jim Howard, WSU, Dr. Debra Howard, East Valley SD (Spokane) and Attendee



Board Members Mike Dunn, Cheney SD and Deborah Gonzalez, Puget Sound ESD



Dr. J. Richard Gentry, Action Lab Presenter



John Kimani, Exhibitor, Kilimanjaro Imports



Nancy Sorenson, Exhibitor, Cookie Lee Jewelry



Mark Mitrovich (r), Exhibitor, EdGate and Attendee



Mike Dunn & Helene Paroff, staffing WSASCD Bookstore



Cris Tovani, Saturday Institute Presenter



Past President Helene Paroff, ESD 101 and President Janel Keating

“Chicago, Chicago...” Host of ASCD’s 2006 Conference and Exhibit Show

Chicago will be the site of the 61st Annual Conference, scheduled for April 1–3. Kicking off the conference experience is the “Books and All That Jazz” annual book bash on Friday, March 31, from 5–7:00 p.m. It’s a special evening celebration to support literacy in the Chicago Title I Schools. Join your affiliate colleagues for food, fun, activities and more!

Featured conference speakers, special and ticketed session speakers and Distinguished Lecturers include Mel Levine, Bonnie St. John, Neil Howe, Carl Glickman, Robert Marzano, Nel Noddings, Deborah Meier, Carol Ann Tomlinson, Jay McTighe, and

many more. Late registration begins March 2.

Sunday, April 2, features the awesome “All-Affiliate” dance and social—the place to be to meet and greet friends and colleagues! We encourage all Washington state attendees to make arrangements to attend the Books and All That Jazz and the All Affiliate Dance. It’s so exciting to see your colleagues at these events!

Go online today to register, and make hotel reservations: www.ascd.org/annualconference/.

ASCD Adopts Position on the Whole Child

The current direction in educational practice and policy focuses overwhelmingly on academic achievement. However, academic achievement is but one element of student learning and development and only a part of any complete system of educational accountability. ASCD believes a comprehensive approach to learning recognizes that successful young people are knowledgeable, emotionally and physically healthy, motivated, civically inspired, engaged in the arts, prepared for work and economic self-sufficiency and ready for the world beyond their own borders.

Together, these elements support the development of a child who is healthy, knowledgeable, motivated and engaged. To develop the whole child requires the following contribution:

Communities provide:

- Family support and involvement.
- Government, civic and business support and resources.
- Volunteers and advocates.
- Support for their districts’ coordinated school health councils or other collaborative structures.

Schools provide:

- Challenging and engaging curriculum.
- Adequate professional development with collaborative planning time embedded within the school day.
- A safe, health, orderly and trusting environment.
- High-quality teachers and administrators.
- A climate that supports strong relationships between adults and students.
- Support for coordinated school health councils or other collaborative structures that are active in the school.

Teachers provide:

- Evidence-based assessment and instructional practices.
- Rich content and an engaging learning climate.
- Student and family connectedness.
- Effective classroom management
- Modeling of healthy behaviors.



Bridgeport School District: "A Happening Place"

The rural school district of Bridgeport continues to be a happening place. The staff, administration and students are really rocking the academic world. And yes, the district has been recognized by a continuing sequence of awards for their accomplishments to close the achievement gap.

Bridgeport SD was the state winner and Washington representative for the American Association of School Administrators' National Civic Star Award for its program, A Taste of Business Beyond the Orchard. The award recognizes schools who successfully involve their community while

promoting academic achievement. Bridgeport High School was recently honored as the 2005–06 Washington State Title 1 Distinguished High School for continuous improvement in reading.

The recently released publication, *Turning Promise into Practice*, from the League of Education Voters includes an article about Bridgeport's all-day kindergarten program. Plus, the winter 2005–06 WSU alumni magazine will feature Bridgeport High School's effort. Congratulations to the students, staff and superintendent Gene Schmidt for their outstanding efforts!

Congratulations to...



Faith Chapel, associate superintendent of the Bainbridge Island School District, for her successful election to the ASCD Leadership Council. Serving a term of three years, Faith will represent WSASCD at ASCD Leadership Council meetings.

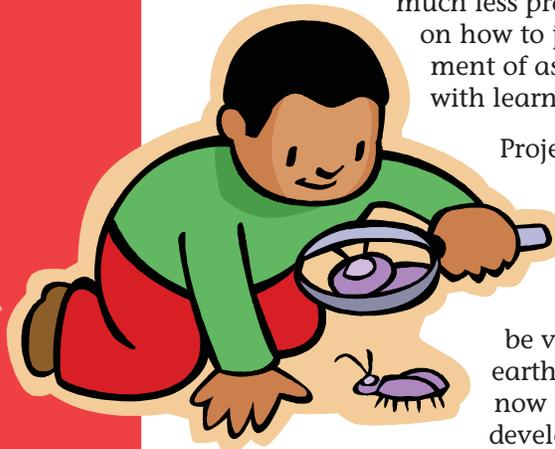
Aligning Science Assessment and Standards

States across the country are scrambling to development science assessments, yet there is little guidance in this difficult process. As Project 2061 of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) points out, there is "no useful synthesis of the latest thinking on assessment, much less practical advice on how to judge alignment of assessment with learning goals."

www.project2061.org/research/assessment.htm

guidance. With a grant from the National Science Foundation, Project 2061 is drafting criteria and an analysis procedure for judging alignment. In an earlier publication—*Blueprints for Reform: Science, Mathematics and Technology Education*—AAAS set out the following general recommendations for assessments:

- Include different techniques.
- Encourage students to go beyond memorizing facts.
- Include problem-solving opportunities.



Project 2061—named for the year when Halley's Comet will be visible on earth again—is now engaged in developing such

Grant Opportunities for Schools and Teachers

Toshiba America Foundation

Toshiba America Foundation makes grants for projects in math and science designed by classroom teachers to improve instruction for students in grades K–12. Maximum Award, \$5,000. Eligibility: Grades K–12. Decisions about grants under \$5,000 are made on a rolling basis and applications are accepted throughout the year. <http://www.taf.toshiba.com>

Allen Foundation

The Allen Foundation supports educational nutrition programs, with priority given to training programs for children and young adults to improve their health and development. Maximum award: Past grants have ranged from \$2,000 to \$1 million. Eligibility: Schools and districts should partner with local nonprofits to form nutrition education programs. Deadline: Ongoing. <http://www.allenfoundation.org/>

Humor in the Schoolhouse

TEACHER: Maria, go to the map and find North America.

MARIA: Here it is.

TEACHER: Correct. Now class, who discovered America?

CLASS: Maria.

TEACHER: Why are you late, Frank?

FRANK: Because of the sign.

TEACHER: What sign?

FRANK: The one that says, "School Ahead, Go Slow."

TEACHER: John, why are you doing your math multiplication on the floor?

JOHN: You told me to do it without using tables.

TEACHER: Glenn, how do you spell "crocodile?"

GLENN: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L"

TEACHER: No, that's wrong

GLENN: Maybe it is wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.

TEACHER: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?

DONALD: H I J K L M N O.

TEACHER: What are you talking about?

DONALD: Yesterday you said it was H to O.

TEACHER: George Washington not only chopped down his father's cherry tree, but also admitted it. Now, Louie, do you know why his father didn't punish him?

LOUIS: Because George still had the ax in his hand.

TEACHER: Clyde, your composition on "My Dog" is exactly the same as your brother's. Did you copy his?

CLYDE: No, teacher, it's the same dog.



Eastern Washington University Approves Student Chapter

Harvey Alvy, associate professor at Eastern Washington University, announced the approval of an ASCD Student Chapter as an official student campus organization. Jenn Olson was selected as student president and the members have identified meetings and events

for the academic year. ASCD and WSASCD will provide resources to support them in their learning and activities. As chapter president, Olson hopes to attend the ASCD National Conference in Chicago this April. Harvey Alvy is a former WSASCD board member.

Web Walk

- ASCD Action Center (ASCD-Act)**
 This new free online service connects ASCD members, constituents and others interested in education with resources and information to help them speak out on education issues. Using ASCD-Act, members and constituents can 1) find their federal and state policymakers, 2) register to vote, 3) research legislation, 4) learn about ASCD's beliefs and positions and 5) voice their opinions and concerns via e-mail to their representatives and members of the media.
<http://www.ascd.org/actioncenter>
- The Principals' Partnership**
 A new Web site designed to support the leadership needs of high school administrators features research briefs, original articles, a great set of links that are related to the Breaking Ranks recommendations and more.
www.principalspartnership.com
- Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory**
www.nwrel.org
- ProEd Resources**
 Hundreds of research-based resources for all educators.
www.proedresources.org
- ASCD Resources**
www.ascd.org
- Innovations in Education**
 The Office of Innovations and Improvement at the U.S. Department of Education has published the final two books in its *Innovations in Education* series. *Alternative Routes to Teacher Certification* looks at six programs that prepare people who already have content knowledge to teach. *Alternative Pathways to School Leadership* provides examples of successful strategies to prepare candidates for school leadership positions. To receive two copies of each new book, write to Courtney Phillips at Courtney.Phillips@3d.gov or visit: <http://www.edpubs.org/webstore/content/itemDetails.asp?stritem+EU+0117P>

washington state association for supervision and curriculum development



OFFICERS

President.....Janel Keating, Mountain Meadow Elementary, White River SD
 Past President..... Helene Paroff, ESD 101, Spokane
 Executive Director.....Joann Mychals

CONTACT INFORMATION

825 Fifth Avenue SE, Olympia, WA 98501
 Telephone: 360.357.9535
 Fax: 360.352.6873
 E-mail: wsascd@wasa-oly.org
 Web site: <http://washingtonstate.ascd.org>

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