In the book *How Full Is Your Bucket*, authors Rath and Clifton highlight a “Today Show” segment where Katie Couric interviewed a young man named Brian Bennett. Brian grew up in a troubled and abusive environment. He had struggled in school and had been picked on regularly at an early age. Now, Brian is a successful and well-adjusted adult. When Couric asked him, “What made the difference?” the young man responded without thinking twice: The defining moment in his life occurred when a grade school teacher simply told him that she cared about him and believed in him. This one, small interaction turned his life around.

Washington state educators are making a difference in the lives of kids like Brian daily. Usually, we don’t stop to consider the impact of those brief interactions. I challenge you to pause in reading this and take a minute to think of a colleague who has impacted a student’s life. Now share the story and acknowledge him or her for making a difference and putting kids first. How? It is simple. Nominate the person for a recognition award at [http://washingtonstate.ascd.org/awards1.htm](http://washingtonstate.ascd.org/awards1.htm) as part of the WSASCD awards program.

*President’s message continues on page nine.*
New members elected to WSASCD Board

Congratulations to the following individuals who were elected to the board beginning July 1:

**President-elect**
Mike Dunn  
Superintendent, Cheney SD

**Representative, Regions 112/113**
Missey Hallead  
Assistant Principal/Athletic Coordinator, Vancouver SD

**ASCD Representative**
Mike Nelson  
Assistant Superintendent, Enumclaw SD

**Curriculum in Context Editor (Appointed)**
Joan Kingrey  
Assistant Professor, WSU–Spokane

**Representative Puget Sound ESD South**
Josh Garcia  
Principal, Federal Way SD

New executive director appointed

On behalf of the WSASCD Board of Directors, President Janel Keating is pleased to announce that Kathy Clayton, elementary principal in the Cheney School District, will assume the position of WSASCD Executive Director on July 1, 2006. Kathy will retire from Cheney at the end of June after 30 years in education, which included classroom teaching and administrative experience in the Northshore, Monroe, Kennewick and Central Valley (Spokane) school districts. Kathy brings exceptional organizational and management skills that will enhance WSASCD’s ongoing work in teaching and learning and in supporting WSASCD’s role in influence and advocacy. Upon being notified of her selection, Kathy stated that “this was an exciting opportunity to extend her career to the next step, noting that WSASCD has much to offer and incredible leadership.”

After six years as WSASCD Executive Director, Joann Mychals is going to give retirement a “second try.” However, Joann will continue the work with the conference committee through the November conference in Spokane.

During Joann’s tenure, WSASCD has achieved financial stability, offered increased professional development programs, established bookstore resources, increased diversity of membership and provided consistently successful annual conferences.

Among ASCD’s 65 affiliates, Washington State ASCD is known as a premier affiliate, being recognized for its excellence in programs, communications, publications and services. Joann will truly miss the contact with the many great people who have been a part of her 36-year career in education…but as she says, “you never know where or when I’ll show up!”

Kathy Clayton
WSASCD receives two ASCD Affiliate Excellence awards

During the 2006 ASCD Annual Conference & Exhibit Show in Chicago this past April, WSASCD was the proud recipient of two excellence awards, one in Communication and Publications, and the other in Programs, Products and Services.

Janel Keating, president; Helene Paroff, immediate past president; Deborah Gonzalez, past president; and Joann Mychals, executive director, were present to receive the awards from ASCD President Mary Ann Freeley and Executive Director Gene Carter.

At last! Updated Web site

After many months of work and trouble shooting, WSASCD finally unveiled its new Web site in April! WSASCD members are encouraged to check out the new features and wealth of information and resources available.

In addition to the standard information, Professional Learning features the new “Practitioner’s Best Friend Corner” and “Critical Questions Series.” Our goal is to assure members that current, practical and user-friendly information is accessible.

Make the WSASCD Web site one of your favorites today! http://washingtonstate.ascd.org.

Curriculum in Context editor appointed

WSASCD is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Joan Kingrey, Washington State University, Spokane, as its new Curriculum in Context journal editor.

Prior to joining the faculty at WSU, Joan was the associate superintendent in the Mead School District and an area director for Spokane Public Schools. She currently directs the programs offered by the College of Education on the WSU–Spokane campus and is on the faculty for the superintendent certification program and the state-wide doctor of education program.

Dr. Greg Fritzberg, Seattle Pacific University, who has served for three years as editor and two years as coeditor, will step down from his position on June 30. Greg provided the inspiration for the addition of several new journal features including “The Teacher’s Voice,” “The Student’s Voice,” “The Two Washingtons,” “President’s Message” and “Executive Directions.”

During Greg’s tenure, WSASCD received several notable awards from International ASCD including:

- Outstanding Affiliate Article (Spring 2002 and 2003).
- Acknowledgement of Merit (Fall/Winter 2001).

SPU is to be commended for its commitment of time, resources, and support to Greg during the past five years. Deborah Gonzalez, a former president of WSASCD and eight-year board member, has served as coeditor with Greg during the past three years. Deborah is acknowledged for going “above and beyond” in her leadership and commitment to WSASCD.
Supervision and Curriculum Development

“Accelerate Reading” workshops a big success!

Joan Moser and Gail Boushey, or “The Sisters” as they are known in Washington, presented two outstanding workshops focused on the teachings of the Daily Five: Fostering Literacy Independence in the Elementary Grades. Recently released, their book (Stenhouse Publishers) shares their work of over 10 years in developing and refining a series of literacy tasks that students complete daily while the teacher meets with small groups or confers with individuals.

During the “sold-out” workshop on May 6 at the Puget Sound ESD, attendees raved about the presenters’ practical approach and praised Joan and Gail for their high energy and humor. WSASCD is conferring with the sisters to bring them back soon!

Plan now for fall’s professional development offerings!

While May and June denote the end of school year, they also signify the time to begin planning for the next. WSASCD has scheduled a full lineup of great professional learning for the fall including Anita Archer, Kelly Gallagher, the annual conference—plus Jay McTighe in January 2007.

Check the online professional development calendar for additional information as it becomes available.

WSASCD Annual Conference: Register today and SAVE!

On behalf of the 2006 Conference Planning Committee, cochairs Millie Hill, Mead School District, and Cheryl Mayo, Yakima School District, extend an invitation to all educators to join them at another premier WSASCD Conference this November in Spokane.

This year’s program once again rivals any national conference and includes the “best of the best” in learning and teaching, interaction with colleagues, new resources and programs, and yes, fun!

The program committee has designed an impressive lineup of speakers and presenters including Dr. Jennifer James, noted cultural anthropologist (formerly from Spokane); Dr. Ray McNulty, now working with Bill Daggett in researching how our future is being shaped by trends, changing values and attitudes; seven high-interest, full-day action labs and for Saturday’s big event, Dr. Ruby Payne will present her recent findings on poverty and student learning.

Registration flyers were mailed May 9 and are available on the Web site at http://washingtonstate.ascd.org/annualconference.htm.

Register soon to take advantage of the special “early bird” savings! We look forward to seeing you in Spokane this fall.

http://washingtonstate.ascd.org/calendar.html

Orchestrating Student Success: A 21st Century Symphony

2006 WSASCD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Grant opportunities

$1,000 community service grant for literacy

Youth Service America and Lionsgate announce the “Bee” the Change Community Service Grant for literacy. This grant opportunity offers $1,000 to one young person between the ages of 5–25 to implement a sustainable community service project that increases literacy in their community and uses the movie, “Akeelah and the Bee” as inspiration. Projects should be youth-led and created, and must have a portion of the project take place on National and Global Youth Service Day (April 20-22, 2007). Deadline: June 9, 2006. http://www.ysa.org/awards/award_grant.cfm#nowavailable

Programs targeting children with disabilities

CVS/pharmacy Community Grants are currently accepting proposals for programs targeting children under age 18 with disabilities that address health and rehabilitation services; a greater level of inclusion in student activities and extracurricular programs; opportunities or facilities that give greater access to physical movement and play. Maximum Award: Varies. Eligibility: Public schools with programs for children under age 18 with disabilities. Deadline: applications accepted through October 2006. http://www.cvs.com/corpInfo/community/community_grants.html

Grants for education, health & fitness, and arts education

The Louis R. Cappelli Foundation makes grants in support of philanthropic activities with a focus on programs addressing the special needs of youth. Three specifically targeted areas are education, health and fitness, and arts education. Maximum Award: Varies. Eligibility: 501(c)(3) organizations that serve at-risk youth. Deadline: June 30, 2006. http://www.cappelli-inc.com/application.shtml#

Web resources

A Roadmap to Graduation Requirements
http://www.k12.wa.us/graduationrequirements/default.aspx

WASL Resource Center 2006
http://www.wasl2006.org/

Preparing for movies about 9/11: A parent’s guide
Advertising and media controversy surrounding the release of “United 93” is saturating the airwaves, making exposure to violent 9/11 images an inevitability. By being proactive and preparing children for the media attention they are likely to be exposed to, you will be taking an important step toward helping your children cope. A parent’s guide and other resources are available online. http://www.aboutourkids.org/aboutour/articles/911_movie_guide.html

Implementation guide for school counselors
Our children’s developmental years are filled with challenges, issues, problems, and dilemmas. A new guide helps guidance counselors, educators and after-school staff coach students to become resilient and develop strong character. View a free sample of the guide online. http://www.heartwoodethics.org/3-products/CounselorGuide.asp

Preparing America’s Future High School Initiative
www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/hs/index.html

Prepared items for staff and parent newsletters
Save precious time on creating newsletters! The site offers some great articles for completing staff and parent newsletters without fear of copyright violation! Elementary and secondary editions are available! www.masterteacher.com

Rural Schools Network
http://www.ruralschools.net
Washington Learns: Ensuring all students are ready to succeed in today’s world

By Amy Bragdon

As past president of Washington State ASCD and a member of the Washington Learns Steering Committee, I am thrilled to have the opportunity to share some exciting developments with you.

As educators, we should be proud of the progress we’ve made in specific areas like student achievement. But fundamental problems exist throughout Washington’s entire system of education that need to be addressed. Governor Chris Gregoire’s Washington Learns initiative is doing just that, with the goal of giving Washington a learner-focused education system.

Last year, Governor Gregoire convened Washington Learns—a diverse group of business, community, education, government and minority leaders—to undertake a comprehensive study of our entire education system, from top to bottom. I am honored to be part of this trail-blazing initiative that will truly make a difference.

Washington Learns is tackling the sacred cows and the policy challenges. Our goals:

• Align our early learning, K–12, and post-secondary education systems so that the transition for students from one step to the next is well integrated and seamless.

• Ensure all children thrive early in life and are prepared to enter school.

• Ensure all students master the skills they need to participate thoughtfully and productively in their work and their communities.

• Close the achievement gap that academically sidelines low-income and minority students.

• Make higher education and workforce training opportunities relevant and affordable so our workforce can compete within a global economy.

Washington Learns is conducting a comprehensive review of the entire education system, its structure and funding. It will finish its work and present its recommendations in November 2006.

Washington Learns is about action…and about making a difference. Already Washington Learns’ first recommendations were enacted by the state legislature this session. The progress included, among other things:

• Creation of a cabinet-level Department of Early Learning that consolidates more than a half-dozen childcare and early learning programs so that kids get a strong start in life and arrive in kindergarten ready to learn.

• Nearly $28.5 million to provide intensive, focused, academic support for high school students who need extra help to meet the state’s academic requirements in reading, writing and mathematics—and additional resources for schools and teachers for that purpose.

• $3.4 million to develop new math learning materials to help struggling students meet the math standard for high school graduation. New math tutorials will also be developed and offered through the Internet.

• Development of new career pathways that lead to apprenticeships after graduation by permitting up to 10 school districts to qualify for “Running Start” grants to prepare interested students for the building trades and crafts.

• $4 million for the expansion of the successful Navigation 101 program to give all students mentoring in how to assess career options, set goals and take the coursework needed to meet their goals.

Reforming our education system is a huge challenge and one that will take not only the work of Governor Gregoire and Washington Learns, but all of us who care about the future of our kids.

Amy Bragdon is a past president of Washington State ASCD and former board member. She is a retired administrator from West Valley School District, Spokane, and currently serves on the Washington Learns Steering Committee. Bragdon was recently appointed by Governor Chris Gregoire to the State Board of Education.
The test of a good teacher is not how many questions he can ask his students that they will answer readily, but how many questions he inspires them to ask him which he finds it hard to answer.

Alice Wellington Rollins

One of the beauties of teaching is that there is no limit to one’s growth as a teacher, just as there is no knowing beforehand how much your students can learn.

Herbert Kohl

Teaching kids to count is fine, but teaching them what counts is best.

Bob Talbert

Washingtonians attend ASCD Chicago

Over 150 Washington educators attended the ASCD Annual Conference and Exhibit Show held at the McCormick Place and Convention Center in Chicago on April 1-3.

In all, over 14,000 attendees blew into the Windy City to attend the conference, making it one of the largest ever. Featured keynotes included Dr. Mel Levine, Bonnie St. John, Andy Hargreaves and Neil Howe. Anaheim, California, will be the host city for ASCD’s 2007 Conference, March 17-19.

ASCD membership

Many WSASCD members also belong to our international association, ASCD. They may join by paying WSASCD dues through the ASCD joint dues program. ASCD boasts a membership of over 167,000 members and has many quality publications, professional development opportunities and resources for all educators.

If you are not a member of ASCD, check out their Web site to view all they offer. If you are already a member of ASCD and WSASCD—good for you! You are taking advantage of the best state and international organizations dedicated to improving learning and teaching.

You can join ASCD’s Educator Advocates without being a member at www.ascd.org/actioncenter. As an Educator Advocate, you will receive e-mail alerts when your action can make a critical difference. ASCD will provide the materials and information to make sure your advocacy time will be minimal, but your influence will be significant. Congress is making education policy decisions that affect you, your local schools and your students. Do not let Congress make decisions without the critical information you can provide. You can help them and they will welcome your input.

FREE valuable daily briefings of education news from ASCD also are available—sign up at www.smartbrief.com/ascd.
An eventful year for the Eastern Washington University Student Chapter of WSASCD

By Jenn Olson, EWU Student Chapter President and Dr. Harvey Alvy, faculty advisor

This has been an exciting time for the EWU Student Chapter of ASCD. We became an “official” student chapter during fall 2005 after being recognized by the national ASCD organization and the ASB of Eastern Washington University. It was a challenge to develop a Constitution that addressed both EWU and ASCD guidelines but we finally met the requirements of each association. Jenn Olson, an EWU senior, is our first chapter president. We have organized a core of eight to ten student members who have been anxious to learn more about ASCD and get to know one another during meetings. Building membership has been a work in progress during this first year.

We have selected a variety of engaging topics for our meetings that facilitated lively chapter discussions and attracted new members. Topics discussed this year have included:

- What are the major educational trends that college students and new teachers need to consider?
- What is the achievement gap? How are schools and teachers addressing issues related to the achievement gap?
- How has NCLB affected K–12 students and the work of teachers?
- How can we better prepare high school students for university?
- Is the Breaking Ranks II document making a difference for high school students?
- What Web sites are most useful for college students and teachers?

For our final meeting this year, we plan to organize a panel of active student teachers to discuss their experiences with our chapter members. We will be asking our panel the following questions:

1. What has prepared you best for student teaching?
2. In what ways do you think you could have been more prepared for student teaching?
3. What advice do you have for students who will be student teaching in one or two quarters?
4. What are you enjoying most about student teaching?
5. What has been most difficult?
6. Are you beginning to look for a job and what advice can you suggest concerning the job application process?

In April, our EWU Faculty Advisor, Dr. Harvey Alvy, had an opportunity to attend the student chapters meeting at the 2006 ASCD Annual Conference in Chicago. The meeting was most beneficial because a primary discussion topic during a small group activity was, “how to build a chapter.” Many excellent recommendations for building chapter membership were suggested including: creating a chapter Web site, emphasizing the benefits of ASCD to students, creating a service component that includes volunteering in local schools, and generating funds for membership activities.

In closing, it has been an exciting first year for the EWU Student Chapter of WSASCD. Clearly, a second-year goal will be to build membership and convince more EWU education students that joining the local chapter will serve their needs as today’s students and tomorrow’s teachers. Our chapter slogan, “Building a Culture of Professional Development,” can guide us toward a bright future!
Four tips for creating strong student relationships

1. Describe techniques and methods you use to get students to listen.

2. Describe techniques and methods you use to get students to talk.

3. Suggest strategies that can be used to make being “consistently attentive” to a student a possibility in the classroom.

4. In what ways do your relationships with student affect their responses?

President’s message, continued from page one.

The WSASCD awards program is designed to acknowledge and honor paraeducators, teachers, educational assistants administrators, school board members, college faculty and others who have made significant contributions to student learning and to influencing and advocating for professional growth and instructional leadership to assure success for each learner. Use the link to find the local, state and outstanding young educators award applications or go to http://washingtonstate.ascd.org. You’ll be glad you did!