

Thank you, McGraw-Hill Education

Washington State ASCD wishes to thank McGraw-Hill Education for their sponsorship of the OYEA Award program. Their generous \$2,000 grant goes directly to the OYEA recipient.

At McGraw-Hill Education, we believe that our contribution to unlocking a brighter future lies within the application of our deep understanding of how learning happens and how the mind develops. It exists where the science of learning meets the art of teaching.

Educators have been and always will be at the core of the learning experience. The solutions we develop help educators impart their knowledge to students more efficiently. We believe that harnessing technology can enhance learning inside and outside of the classroom and deepen the connections between students and teachers to empower greater success.

By partnering with educators around the globe, our learning engineers, content developers and pedagogical experts are developing increasingly open learning ecosystems that are proven to improve pass rates, elevate grades and increase engagement for each individual learner while improving outcomes for all.

Why?

Because learning changes everything.



ABOUT WASHINGTON STATE ASCD

The Washington State Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (WSASCD), an affiliate of International ASCD, is known for supporting para-professionals, teachers, instructional coaches, school and district-level administrators, and university professors.

As an affiliate, WSASCD:

- Reflects the cultural diversity of the Washington state learning community within its Board of Directors.
- Is influential in promoting promising practices in the learning community by delivering programs, products, and services in Washington State in an effective and efficient manner.
- Promotes the work of young educators through the ASCD Emerging Leaders program.
- Provides an award-winning electronic journal, *Curriculum in Context*, to members twice a year.
- Partners and collaborates with school districts, ESDs, OSPI, universities, as well as other educational and business organizations to influence educational policy and practice.
- Provides timely information through their website at www.wsascd.org.
- Offers an annual State Recognition Awards program sponsoring the Whole Child Awards, the Outstanding Young Educator Award and the Cultivating Character Award.

Founded in 1956, Washington State ASCD is an inclusive professional association for all educators committed to promoting promising practices to ensure ALL students are safe, healthy, engaged, supported and challenged.



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Washington State ASCD

Announces the Recipient of the

Outstanding Young Educator Award



Courtney Vetter

Grade 5 Teacher

South Colby Elementary
South Kitsap School District

Award Sponsored by



WSASCD State Recognition Program

Washington State ASCD, in its ongoing search for exemplary teaching, learning and leadership, seeks out, highlights and celebrates the accomplishments of educators and school programs that positively impact student learning. There are two parts to the WSASCD State Recognition Awards program: 1) the State Whole Child Awards, and 2) the Outstanding Young Educator Award.

The **State Whole Child Awards** are designed to acknowledge and honor schools that have made significant contributions to student learning with programs that exemplify one or more of the five tenets of the ASCD Whole Child Initiative: **Healthy, Safe, Engaged, Supported, and Challenged**. The Whole Child Awards are presented at a venue within the recipient's school district. The Whole Child award recipients for 2016 are:

- Healthy School Award
Meadows Elementary School, North Thurston Public Schools, Angie DeAguiar, Principal; Raj Manhas, Superintendent
- Safe School Award
Centennial Elementary School, Olympia School District, Shannon Ritter, Principal, Dick Cvitanich, Superintendent
- Student Engagement Award
Secondary Academy for Success, Northshore School District, Donna Tyo, Principal; Larry Francois, Superintendent
- Supported Students Award
Amanda Hall and Olympia High School, Olympia School District, Matt Grant, Principal; Dick Cvitanich, Superintendent
- Challenged Students Award
WestSide High School, Wenatchee School District, Kory Kalahar, Principal; Brian Fones, Superintendent

The **Outstanding Young Educator Award** (OYEA!) is our way of recognizing an emerging educational leader and sharing his or her exemplary practices with the education community. The Washington State ASCD Outstanding Young Educator Award recipient is an education professional, 40 years of age or younger, who demonstrates exemplary commitment and exceptional contribution to the profession. The award is presented annually at the annual conference.

2016 OYEA Recipient Courtney Vetter Grade 5 Classroom Teacher South Colby Elementary South Kitsap School District

In the classroom, Courtney Vetter brings content to life for her students every day, by integrating across the curriculum in the areas of Math & Science, English Language Arts (ELA) and Social Studies. She continually looks for ways to connect to the real world so students see a direct connection to the material they are learning. She collaborates with other teachers to analyze assessment data in order to improve student learning and modify lessons as needed. Seeking feedback from other teachers on ways to grow as an educator, as well as working with new staff to help them develop as teachers is continuous. New teachers observe Courtney to learn from her ability to build a positive classroom culture and to develop an understanding of the innovative thinking that goes into designing a lesson or unit.

Mrs. Vetter embraced the STEM initiative at South Colby Elementary, by guiding students to complete a grant on their own as a class.

The grant money they received was used to purchase a greenhouse, which they built on site. Courtney organized the build day for her class and volunteers from the community. This lasting project was an essential element for the school as they earned their certification as a Green STEM school.

As a leader, Mrs. Vetter has gone above and beyond in her duties as Science committee representative and School Improvement Chairperson. In these positions she reviews materials for the school and the district, and is responsible for presenting changes and updates to the staff. She has provided training to district staff with regard to integrating the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Mrs. Vetter is also chairperson of the South Colby Student Council, working to build a strong sense of family throughout the school with student council events. Community giving drives, exciting spirit weeks, and inspiring and motivational assemblies are just some of the great things that she has helped to establish with the Student Council establish. Courtney is also an active member of the school leadership team and has helped to develop their school wide improvement plan. She has worked tirelessly to make the transition from state standards to common core standards in math as well as in ELA. She piloted the district's new ELA curriculum; and shared her learnings with other staff members the following year when the district adopted it for all grades levels.

Courtney Vetter brings out the best in her students and colleagues to make a significant and positive difference in teaching and learning. She is truly an outstanding young educator!