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PRESS RELEASE

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Janice Broten to receive Outstanding Young Educator Award from Washington State ASCD

Olympia, WA July, 2015 – The Washington State Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (WSASCD) has announced that Ms. Janice Broten, grade 7/8 English Language Arts and Leadership teacher at La Center Middle School, is the recipient of their Outstanding Young Educator Award (OYEA) for 2015. The Outstanding Young Educator Award is intended to recognize an educator who achieves excellence in instructional leadership in teaching and learning. The award will be accepted by Ms. Broten at the Washington Educators' Conference in Bellevue in October.

Janice empowers students' every day at La Center Middle School. In her ELA classes she creates a learning environment where all kids feel successful and are willing to take on any challenge that awaits them. She does this by having high expectations for all students and creating a caring, collaborative learning environment where all kids support each other in their learning. Students know that they can achieve great heights when they are in her classroom. Over the last two years, Janice's students have had a passing rate on state testing for reading and writing around 90%. She understands what the key learning concepts are and finds creative ways to meet the needs of her adolescent learners while guiding them in a caring and supportive way.

Janice is instrumental as the Leadership teacher in creating a culture that empowers students, staff and the community. The impact begins in her leadership classroom where students learn about being good leaders and role models in and out of school. Janice puts a great deal of her trust and autonomy in her students and they do amazing work. Her leadership students are fundamental in creating school climate. They plan pep assemblies, spirit days, dances, fundraisers, service projects, bullying presentations, among other things for LaCenter Middle School. They also contribute to the community through participation in school board meetings and community events including the La Center Community Coalition, which just received a federal grant to create youth programs for the community to prevent substance abuse, suicide, and bullying.

For the past nine years Janice facilitated their annual Kids Making Miracles for Doernbecher Children's Hospital fundraiser spending hours planning and organizing activities with ASB and leadership students. Students raised more than \$42,000 in those nine years. They also raised \$3,000 to buy AEDs for local schools to honor a student who died at the school during basketball practice.

Other community-related activity guided by Janice included a Stuff the Bus Canned Food Drive whereby 13,000 pounds of food was donated by LaCenter schools to Share and the Clark County Food Bank. The Long Beach Cleanup project involved a group of students, led by Ms. Broten, assisting the Grassroots Garbage Gang in cleaning up the beach in April. In May, She also organized a fundraiser to raise money for Free the Children to support efforts to get clean water in third world countries. Janice was awarded the State Middle School Advisor of the Year by the Association of Washington Middle Level Principals in 2014. She also received her National Board Certification in the same year.

Janice also finds time in her busy schedule to coach track and cross-country. She started the middle school program cross-country program so that students could participate. Janice Broten is changing lives in the classroom and the community every day in her work at La Center Middle School. She is truly an outstanding young educator!

Founded in 1956, the Washington State Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) is a community of all educators committed to promoting promising practices to ensure ALL students are safe, healthy, engaged, supported and challenged.

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