



2022 Washington State Outstanding Young Educator Award



PRESS RELEASE

Jenna Perry Recipient of the 2022 Washington State ASCD Outstanding Young Educator Award

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Olympia, WA June 2, 2022 – Washington State ASCD-WSASCD announced Jenna Perry, Kindergarten teacher at Bay View Elementary School, Burlington Edison School District, as the recipient of the 2022 WSASCD Outstanding Young Educator Award (OYEA). The Outstanding Young Educator Award recognizes an educator who achieves excellence in instructional leadership, and in teaching and learning. Ms. Perry received the OYEA, a check for \$1,000 sponsored by [GALE](#), and a one-year complimentary membership to [WSASCD](#) and [ASCD](#) international during a school assembly.

Jenna Perry was nominated by her colleague, life skills teacher, Rachel Parker who she shares three students with, and by her principal, Amy Reisner. Rachel and Amy shared that Jenna’s intentional leadership in inclusionary practices make her stand out. Jenna shows her students receiving services for special education that they have the right to be in her room, and that she is their teacher just as much as her general education students. It is her big warm smile that helps them feel this acceptance and inclusion.

She creates authentic experiences by taking kids on virtual and real field trips, or outdoors to experience a bug hunt expedition. She builds in wiggle breaks and mindfulness with Yoga during transition times. The wonderful thing about these practices is that they benefit all of her students, including her students with special needs.

Jenna teaches and interacts with children in a way that is fun, playful, and honest. Jenna ensures that all of her students feel loved and can access learning. She works hard to instill self-confidence in her students, and the idea that they can do hard things if they persevere. They feel important because she listens and responds to all the things they have to say. She encourages, does frequent check-ins, and maintains high but achievable expectations for all children.

Jenna provided encouragement, modeling, and quick, daily interventions to a student with a specific writing skill. As a result, gradually writing became easier and more independent for this student, and her hand coordination and strength improved and she is writing more as well. Being in Jenna’s classroom full-time, surrounded by peers who are learning and supporting one another, with targeted support to reduce barriers to her participation has been a wonderful success for this little girl.

Another of her students with special needs started the year almost silent. The only word he said for the first month was a whispered, “baño”. A primary goal for this boy this year has been to communicate his needs, thoughts, and preferences. Providing a supportive and nurturing classroom full of other children who are communicating in all kinds of ways has been beneficial to this boy. He plays games and interacts with peers throughout the day, and now has become comfortable with his voice at school - laughing, speaking, self-advocating, and participating in morning meeting every day.

Outside of school, Jenna shows up for her students on the sidelines cheering for many of their sporting events.

Her toolbox is expanding and she is constantly improving upon what she does. She LOVES her students and will often tear up when telling about something they shared with her. Jenna laughs often. She loves her job. Especially during this year, tougher than any other, she has found JOY.

Her nominators said that it is an honor to not only recommend her for this award, but to witness her career and know how many students will benefit from the long career she has ahead of her.

Washington State ASCD is pleased to recognize Jenna Perry for her intentional practices for fostering an inclusive learning community, differentiating instruction, and commitment to asset-based learning for all of her students with the 2022 Washington State ASCD Outstanding Young Educator Award.

Congratulations Ms. Perry!

Founded in 1956, as Washington State Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, now known as Washington State 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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