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Marc Gallaway, Principal of Selah Middle School in Selah, Named Washington State’s 2018 Middle Level Principal of the Year

Selah principal creates his own future and “closes” lessons

OLYMPIA —Marc Gallaway was named the 2018 Washington State Middle Level Principal of the Year by a panel of principals representing the Association of Washington Middle Level Principals, a component of the Association of Washington School Principals (AWSP). He was one of 36 nominees from across the state.

Gallaway has been principal at Selah Middle School for three years, overseeing a transition from a K-8 school to a middle school in just 42 days. The process started with an empty 70,000 square foot building with no phones, computers, and a new staff flooding in from eight other schools. A positive school culture of trust, innovation, and creativity was borne out of a challenging situation that could have been easily derailed by a myriad of challenges.



“During his entire tenure at Selah Middle School, Marc Gallaway has exemplified what it means to be a great principal and a great leader, ” remarked his assistant principal, Stacy Delcour. “He has vision, follow through, and a true calling to serve students by putting kids in the middle of all decision making. He is thoughtful with his planning and execution of a whole school program and is intuitive to the needs of both the school and the greater Selah Community.”

Gallaway was praised by staff for his use of data, encouragement of Professional Learning Communities, and for his instructional leadership. Staff members reported he is able to give ideas and suggestions for instruction that are applicable across all disciplines and he champions “closing” the lesson, thereby improving student retention and improvement. In staff meetings, Gallaway models effective instruction.

Gallaway has been a school administrator for 13 years, serving as a principal for 11 of them. He earned his B.S. in Education in 1995 from Washington State University, where he also earned his Master’s and principal certification in 2002. Gallaway has also coached high school baseball and spent six years in marketing and public relations for the Los Angeles Dodgers minor league system.

National Distinguished Principal of the Year Program

Gallaway now becomes eligible for the NASSP National Principal of the Year award. The program, sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School Principals, annually recognizes outstanding middle level and high school principals. From the state winners, six finalists will compete for the award in Washington, D.C., later this year. For more information, visit www.nassp.org.

STATE COMPONENTS

Elementary School Principals of Washington (ESPAW)
Association of Washington Middle Level Principals (AWMLP)
Washington Association of Secondary School Principals (WASSP)

NATIONAL COMPONENTS

National Association of Elementary School Principals (ESPAW)
National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP)