



Future Educators Month and Future School Leaders Day

February 2020 is AWSP's second annual **Future Educators Month**. Somewhere in your school there is a teacher with the skills to become an amazing principal, and a student with the skills to become an amazing teacher. If you know one of these teachers or students, "give 'em your keys" by showing them support and encouraging them to take a closer look at the principalship or education as a career. You can find downloadable "keys" on our website at www.awsp.org/FEM.

We're also offering our **Future School Leaders Day** workshop on Feb. 26 in the SeaTac area. This workshop is designed for teachers and students to explore their future in education. Whether you're currently in education and considering the next big career step, or just interested in learning more about a career in education, AWSP's Future School Leaders Day is for you. Attendees will hear from current teachers and administrators on why they chose the profession. Learn more and encourage your teachers and students to register at www.awsp.org/FSLD.

Check out our article on the importance of encouraging future leaders on page 19.



Ridgeview Elementary's Calm Room

With the help of counselor James Clark and Principal K.C Mitchell, the Ridgeview Elementary school in the Yakima School District created a "Calm Room," where children, adults, and staff can find a space to relax and, if necessary, de-escalate. How does it work? Does it work? Watch the our video on YouTube to find out.



AWSP's Political Action Committee (PAC): We Need You!

Are You on the AWSP PAC (Bipartisan) Party Bus? AWSP has built a strong and respected reputation with legislative stakeholders as the go-to association for expert advice and recommendations on education issues within Washington state. We built this by actively advocating for our members as well as for K-12 education and all students.

Having the ability to provide bipartisan financial support to state leaders and candidates who champion our mission and values assists us in our advocacy efforts. AWSP-WSPLEA (or PAC) supports these efforts within our state and on behalf of our members by raising and spending money to contribute to candidates and issues that support educators' interests.

Not sure if you're a member? Check your status! Email Cris Sippel at cris@awsp.org.

Sign up today! PAC contributions are voluntary and separate from your AWSP dues. We welcome all who are not currently contributing to your association's PAC to sign up today! Learn more at www.awsp.org/PAC.

Shannon Wiggs: Legacy of Service

Shannon Wiggs was a beloved member of the AWSP family who passed away on January 4, 2020. In her educational journey going from Home Economics teacher to Activities Coordinator to Principal to Assistant Superintendent, she touched the lives of the students, staffs and communities where she worked and lived. She served both on AWSP camp staffs and AWSP boards and always along the way brought her legendary humor, kindness and cooking. She will be greatly missed!



AWSP Staff Changes



Angela Spriggs

AWSP Welcomes Angela Spriggs as Fiscal Coordinator

Angela joined AWSP as the new fiscal coordinator in December. She's incredibly talented and knows her numbers. Angela joined us from the Tumwater School District where she worked for 19 years. She lives in Tumwater with her husband, Kenny. She has two daughters, Alyssa and

Stephanie, and two grandchildren, Blake and Sadie. Don't be surprised by a new voice answering the phone at AWSP! Send Angela a welcome email at angela@awsp.org.



Chris Espeland

AWSP Welcomes Chris Espeland as Inclusion Project Manager

We have a contract with OSPI to help principals across the state improve their inclusion practices. Part of that contract includes bringing on a temporary project manager to help us manage that work, so we're happy to have Chris Espeland on board. She's doing an internship with Washington State

Superintendent of the Year Dr. Greg Baker from Bellingham SD and pursuing a doctorate of her own at UW. You'll be seeing and hearing more about her work in the coming year. Send Chris a welcome email at christine@awsp.org.



Keith Atchley

Goodbye, Keith Atchley!

In bittersweet news, Keith is leaving AWSP. Good for him because he has been trying to retire for over a year now and we just wouldn't let him! Keith joined our team as a bookkeeper in the spring of 2018 and has helped our association tremendously during his time with us. Keith is best known for getting his daily steps in around the office and

his love of pizza and sweet treats. We'll miss you, Keith!

Susan Fortin Joins the ESD 113 Board

The Capital Region Educational Service District (ESD) 113 Board of Directors has named Susan Fortin to fill the board vacancy left by Rick Anthony. Susan retired from AWSP in August, where she had worked since 1991 — most recently serving as our director of student leadership. Susan joins former AWSP Director of Middle Level Programs Don Rash and former AWSP Board member Bill Williams on the board. Congrats, Susan! (Photo courtesy of ESD 113.)



30-Year Anniversaries



Annalee Braley

Annalee Braley celebrated her 30th year with AWSP in November. Annalee started at AWSP when she was just 19 years old and has worn many different hats over the years. She is now our Membership Coordinator and singlehandedly works with all 295 districts and many others maintaining AWSP's strong membership base. Annalee, you are amazing and inspiring. We wouldn't be here without you!



Bill Barnes

In December, **Bill Barnes** celebrated his 30th anniversary of facilitating his first ever Challenge Course program, which he did on the Cispus Challenge Course. Bill has a variety of experience with offering team-building exercises both on and off site of the Learning Center's courses. He currently manages our Chewelah Peak Learning Center. Be sure to visit him with a group of students to get that "peak" experience. Awesome work, Bill!



Equity Conference Registration Opens Feb. 26

Join AWSP, WASA and WSSDA as we continue our journey to increase student outcomes for ALL students by focusing on educational equity and its application from the boardroom to the classroom. This annual Equity Conference features keynotes and practitioner-led breakout sessions around equity-related topics such as disability, race, gender, SES/Class, ethnicity, and cultural-competence. Registration opens Feb. 26 at www.wasa-oly.org/Equity20.