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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AWSL and AWSP Recognize 13 Schools with the Schools on the Rise Award

The award celebrates schools where adults collaborate with students to improve culture.

OLYMPIA -- The Association of Washington Student Leaders (AWSL) and the Association of Washington School Principals (AWSP) will present 13 schools across the state with our third annual Washington Schools on the Rise Award this fall.

Schools were initially recognized during the AWSP/WASA Summer Conference in Spokane on June 29. AWSP staff will visit each school this fall to present them with an award banner.

Introduced in 2023-24, the “Washington Schools on the Rise” award by AWSL/AWSP celebrates schools where students and adults collaborate to improve culture and amplify student voice. AWSP and its Foundation support these schools with resources and opportunities. These schools foster inclusive and equitable environments.

Schools are nominated by students, principals, assistant principals, superintendents, and/or district office staff.

2026 Schools on the Rise Award winners include:

- Armin Jahr Elementary School, Bremerton SD
- Coweeman Middle School, Kelso SD
- Hockinson Middle School, Hockinson SD
- La Center Middle School, La Center SD
- LaCrosse Schools, LaCrosse SD
- Lakeside High School, Nine Mile Falls SD
- McLoughlin Middle School, Vancouver SD
- Meridian Middle School, Meridian SD
- Mt. Stuart Elementary, Ellensburg SD
- Scenic Hill Elementary, Kent SD
- Shaw Road Elementary, Puyallup SD
- Tumwater Middle School, Tumwater SD
- University High School, Central Valley SD

Award Recognition Criteria

- Established systems demonstrating students and adults collaborating and leading the school culture together
- Tangible examples of co-design, collaboration, and joint leadership
- Examples of authentic student engagement and elevated student voice
- Examples of schools engaging multiple student voices and perspectives
- Quantitative and/or qualitative data to illustrate the outcomes of student-adult joint leadership
- Nominated school must be a member of the Association of Washington Student Leaders (AWSL)
- Principal and/or assistant principal of nominated school must be a member of AWSP

Learn more at www.awsp.org/ontherise.

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