



SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS 2017

Slight uptick in competition for local school board races

Just over a quarter of the school board races in this November's election in Washington state will be contested, based on preliminary filing information gathered by WSSDA.

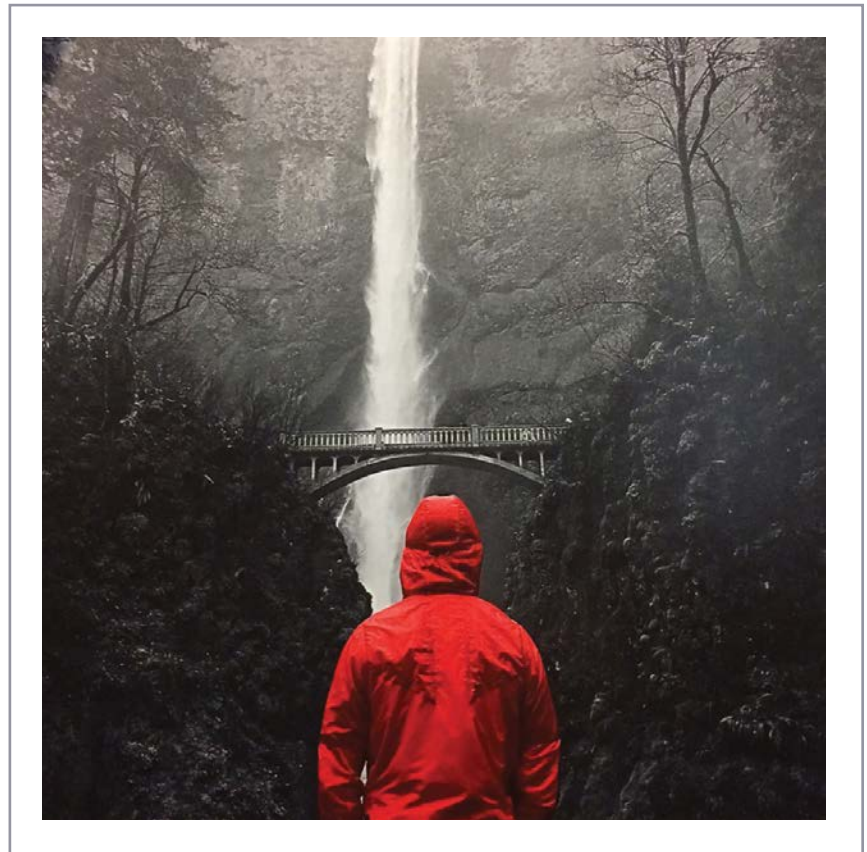
The proportion of contested races is slightly above the figure two years ago. Twenty-three districts were in a special extended candidate period as this article went to print, so the data remains subject to change.

The increase in competition for seats on school boards appears to be largely driven by a jump in candidates for open seats, rather than those in which an incumbent is running for re-election.

School board elections in Washington state are held every two years. In each election, about half of the 1,477 seats across the state are up for grabs, plus those seats where the holder has left early and the position needs filling.

This year there are more than 700 seats up for election, and just under 200 have more than one candidate. This adds up to a contested rate of about 27 percent. Forty-four, or about six percent, of the races have more than two candidates.

ELECTIONS, CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



Washington's art students win awards and praise

Each of the 15 award-winning students recognized at the Superintendent's High School Art Show reception last week took the stage, accompanied by their art teacher, to shake State Superintendent Chris Reykdal's hand and say a few words about the artwork being honored. In addition, participating education partners shared their thoughts with the student and audience on what drew them to the art and why they chose to purchase it. In short, this year's event was – as it has been for the past 44 years – interactive, educational and inspiring. See more photos from the event on page 11.



OSPI Chief of Staff Jamila Thomas, right, sharing why the photograph, *Boy in the Red Jacket* by Richland student Kyle Jones, above, was her choice to purchase.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Tim Garchow



GRADUATION

The best send-off to the world

As the weather gets warmer, the days get longer, and the school year winds to an end, school directors all over the state prepare their remarks for the graduation ceremony that will send another group of young adults out into the world.

I've always loved graduation ceremonies. The look of excitement on the students' faces, the pride of family members, and the buzz of the community, but I have to admit, the parables and life lessons embedded in those graduation speeches are my favorite. Here is one of my favorites:

Dear Graduates,

About a hundred years ago, a man looked at the morning newspaper and to his surprise and horror, read his name in the obituary column.

The newspapers had reported the death of the wrong person by mistake. His first response was shock. Am I here or there? When he regained his composure, his second thought was to find out what people had said about him. The obituary read, "*The Dynamite King, The Merchant of Death Dies.*"

It so happened that this man was the inventor of dynamite and when he read the words "merchant of death," he asked himself a question. Is this how I am going to be remembered?

From that moment on, he vowed that every action he took, every word that he spoke, and every decision that he made would show the world who he really was. From that day on, he started working toward peace. His name was Alfred Nobel, and he is remembered today by the great Nobel Peace Prize.

As you go out into the world, remember that your words and actions will define you. What will your legacy be? How would you like to be remembered?

“As you go out into the world, remember that your words and actions will define you. What will your legacy be? How would you like to be remembered?”



PRESIDENT
Joanne Greer

Of the total number of races, incumbents are running unopposed in 445. About 20 percent of the races with incumbents are contested, the same as in 2015. The competition is much higher where there is no incumbent running. In these races, 44 percent of the seats are contested, up substantially from about 35 percent two years ago.

“It is good to see the competition out there, especially in some of the more rural areas,” said Tim Garchow, WSSDA’s executive director. “Serving on the local board isn’t an easy job, but clearly there are a lot of people who understand how important it is. This benefits all of our communities and students.”

Not surprisingly, more urban areas with larger school districts tend to have more competition in school board elections. Nationally, according to Ballotpedia, 36% of incumbents ran opposed in the nation’s largest 1,000 school districts in 2014. Overall, 81 percent of incumbents were reelected. About 71 percent of those with challengers were reelected.

Seattle may be leading the pack with 18 candidates listed for three seats, two of them open. However, there are plenty of races with multiple candidates elsewhere. And many more are found in more rural areas.

Edmonds, Hockinson, Fife, Kittitas, Mercer Island, Northshore, Olympia, Pasco, Tukwila and White Pass are just a few districts where there is competition for seats. In San Juan School District, four candidates are running for one seat and three are running for another. In Soap Lake, there are competitions for two seats on the board. And in Tonasket, two are running for one seat, three for another, and four for a third.

Unlike 2015, this year has drawn less competition in Tacoma, where incumbents are running unopposed. Spokane has one contested race with four candidates.

A time for patience and hope

What can we say about this legislative season? While we avoided the “Levy Cliff,” we have yet to see a solution to the *McCleary* court ruling. As this newsletter comes out, we will be in the second special session waiting to see progress from our legislators.

We went into this with high hopes. WSSDA was asked to weigh in on all fronts and we have been included in nearly all the conversations revolving around K-12. Our staff has been working seven days a week making phone calls, attending meetings and testifying as often as possible.

I am proud of where we are today. The participation of our legislative committee, school board members, and staff is impressive. The combined efforts of all of us is to be applauded!

Now we wait patiently to see if we made a difference.

In the meantime, the WSSDA Board of Directors is hard at work on a long-term strategic plan, mission, vision and goals. As we began this work, we wanted to take a look at these areas and make sure we were heading in the right direction. As fast as the world of education changes, we decided to tweak a few things and update our focus.

At our annual conference in November, we plan to roll out our finished product. It will address three main areas: students, membership and our association. It feels good to make adjustments that are timely and necessary. While what we do may not look fundamentally different, the way we approach our work will.

We are using your input at regional meetings to help us shape this work. Thank you for providing it. As your board, we want to meet the needs of every member, as well as all of our students. We take great care in discussing issues that affect us on both sides of the mountains and in all sized districts. No one is shy during our work sessions, so no director area is left out of the conversations. I fully believe that we will have a product that will represent all of us.

The 2016 – 2017 School year has come to an end. While it is a time to celebrate and hand out high school diplomas, it is also time to finalize contracts and fill vacancies. Planning for the upcoming year is also underway. Summer is also a time for professional development. The work we do is important and being properly equipped is essential.

Stay connected by visiting our website (www.wssda.org) and watching your email. At the end of July, we will announce our slate of candidates for next year’s officers. We need you to take an active role in this important process. Each year, we select a vice president.

This position alternates between each side of the mountains. This year we will choose from the West side. This alternating approach helps us maintain a balance among our officers, just as we do in having representatives from each director area on the board. It is another way to take into consideration the unique needs and interests of all districts.

Finally, please consider attending our Legislative Assembly in September. Registration and conference details are accessible from our events webpage.

Have a great summer and I look forward to seeing you in the fall!

–Joanne



EQUITY CONFERENCE / SMALL SCHOOLS TOUR



2nd year for Equity

The second annual Equity Conference sponsored by WSSDA, WASA and AWSP brought out more than 400 school directors and educators for an inspiring and thought-provoking day on May 24 at the SeaTac Doubletree.

Keynote speaker Dr. Father Michael Oleska opened the conference encouraging attendees to listen for the meaning behind the stories of others to enhance their ability to communicate across cultures. More than a dozen breakout sessions provided in-depth learning about equity leadership, culturally responsive instruction and embedding equity into your district's strategic plan.

Closing keynote Dr. Robin DiAngelo expanded on the morning's discussion of how your own story shapes your world view. Her message that there can be many truths at the same time is a reminder to seek to understand the perspectives of students, staff and community members in order to serve them well.

RIVERSIDE



Small schools shine

WSSDA board officers and staff visited four small school districts during the spring regional meetings. Organized by Small Schools Task Force chair Elissa Dyson, the bi-annual visits showcase the creative ways small districts around the state help their students succeed.

BRINNON



VACHON



UNANIMOUS VOTE TO BEGIN DESIGN PHASE

Board to explore a new home for WSSDA

WSSDA's Board of Directors voted unanimously in April to move forward in the design phase for a new facility on the association's existing site.

"The time is right," said WSSDA President Joanne Greer. "This building is at the end of its life and has become a safety hazard. We knew the day would come and have spent the past six years tightening up the budget so that we could afford the undertaking."

The mortgage on the current building will be paid in full by the end of June, 2017.

The vote followed a field visit to neighboring North Thurston School District's South Sound High School. The district's director of construction and design, Mike Laverty said the focus in building that school was to create a place that was "attractive, durable and easy to maintain."

Those adjectives were just what board members wanted to hear.

Their goal, they said before the ensuing vote, was to build a facility that would not break the bank, but would last longer and stay in better shape than the current modular construction. Most of the current facility was constructed in the 1970s. A newer section housing the conference center was built in conventional, stick-built construction. The board hopes to incorporate that section into a new facility.

"We aren't looking for something flashy, but we want it to maintain the interior quality and finish that was used in the conference center," said Executive Director Tim Garchow.

The first step in the process is to come up with a design and cost estimate. To do that, WSSDA will need a construction manager and architect for the project. WSSDA has put those pieces out for bid and is hoping to have a design by late summer or early fall. At that point, with cost estimates in hand, the board would decide whether to move ahead on competitive bidding for construction. That could happen as early as late fall or early winter.

"We have several points at which we will review progress and decide whether or not to move ahead," said Garchow. "Those go, no-go points would be after we get the first design and after we get construction bids, but before construction would start."

During the past several years, WSSDA has looked into moving to another location and trying to upgrade the current facility. Neither option passed muster.

"This building is just worn out," said Garchow. "It wasn't meant to last, and it hasn't aged well. As far as moving, everything we looked at would have been considerably more expensive and members like the current location with its easy access from the interstate and nearby services."

As an added advantage, the current site has enough land that WSSDA should be able to continue using the existing building while a new one is under construction.

IT'S BACK!

W S S D A



2017

W S S D A

CONFERENCE


REGISTER ONLINE AT WSSDA.ORG

9:30 A.M. EVERY WEEKDAY. IT'S WHAT'S FOR BREAKFAST.

eclippings

WSSDA knows how busy school directors, board members and school superintendents are. Use e-clippings as a resource and time-saver to keep you up-to-date on K-12 schools, education policy and news. We mine over 50 publications, along with blogs, videos and social media. We include some fun stuff, too. Delivered by email before 9:30 in the morning. Have a question or an idea for a story? Call Sean Duke at 360-252-3013.

Sign up online at wssda.org



FREE!

Let your voice be heard!

Mark your calendars for WSSDA's 2017 Legislative Assembly, September 22nd and 23rd at the Southcenter DoubleTree Hotel in SeaTac, WA.

Your board's engagement is critical! Every school district board that sends a delegate to the assembly has a voice in adopting and prioritizing the association's legislative positions for the 2018 legislative session.

New and continuing legislative position proposals are due June 2, and registration opens June 7.

All school directors are encouraged to attend the legislative assembly, regardless of whether their board submitted a proposal. At the assembly, every district is eligible to vote on every issue.

To learn more visit WSSDA's [Legislative Assembly Web page](#). There you will find legislative position resources, information on the Assembly process, and registration details.



Now is the time to plan WSSDA's 2018 Legislative Platform !

SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE

Many moving parts still left for K-12 education

“ In politics, nothing happens by accident. If it happens, you can bet it was planned that way. ”

- Franklin D. Roosevelt

May 23rd marked the end of 2017's first 30-day Special Legislative Session and the start of the second. To avoid a government shut down, the Legislature must adopt an operating budget by June 30, 2017. With the second special session scheduled to Sine Die on June 21st, there are still many moving parts on education and non-education issues. Non-education issues include internet privacy, car-tab fee concerns related to [Sound Transit 3](#), the unintended consequences of the Supreme Court's 2016 [Hirst water rights decision](#), and [stakeholder negotiations on paid family leave \(HB 1116\)](#).

On the education policy and funding front, discussions continue among the eight education policy negotiators highlighted in this WSSDA Direct edition. However, details on funding remain the responsibility of House and Senate leadership. Key policy issues under discussion include:

Education funding policy issues

Funding model, salary structure, local levy rates, and local collective bargaining for non-basic education programs and services remain vibrant issues under negotiation. Check out [WSSDA's 2017 Education Funding Proposal Toolkit](#) for more on these issues and the association's recommendations.

High school assessment requirements for the graduating class of 2017 and beyond

We anticipate some level of "delay" or "delinking" of tests from graduation requirements for the Class of 2017. However, we don't know whether the Legislature will agree on a full delink of all three assessments - ELA, math, and science. The House and Senate are holding to their positions as outlined in [HB 1046](#) (full delink) and [SB 5891](#) (science delay only). WSSDA advocates a full delinking of high-stakes assessments. This is the time to share student stories and suggest ways to meet in the middle.

Educator recruitment, retention, and certification

A couple of bills are still under discussion that address educator recruitment, retention, and certification. [HB 1827](#) includes policy to address all of these issues along with a \$7 million placeholder in the proposed House budget. [2SHB 1341](#) would provide some relief from the Pro-Teach assessment and creates a Professional Certification Collaborative to make recommendations on the professional certification system.

Siting schools outside of Urban Growth Areas

The governor signed a portion of [ESHB 1017](#) into law. This addresses issues for the majority of districts in Pierce County. However, he vetoed Section 1 of the bill that addressed the other challenges faced by districts across the state. Work is underway to draft and pass a new bill to better meet their needs.

To stay abreast of these issues and the status of final 2017-19 Operating and Capital budgets, check out [WSSDA's Legislative Updates](#) and [legislative update webinars](#) for school board legislative representatives. Other great resources for staying connected are the Legislature's Web site (www.leg.wa.gov) and TVW (www.tvw.org).

KEY EDUCATION POLICY AND FUNDING NEGOTIATORS

One year ago, the legislature created a new Education Funding Task Force (EFTF) comprised of eight legislators. The task force was asked to make recommendations on increasing state funding for educator compensation and reducing local school districts' overreliance on local levies for basic education.

While the task force sunset in January, 2017 and was ultimately not successful in issuing agreed-upon recommendations, several of the members, including some newcomers, continue to be at the center of on-going education budget and policy negotiations. The aim is to comply with the *McCleary* case court order and set the course for a longer-term set of policy actions.

Since before the start of the regular session, WSSDA staff has been building bridges with these legislators. We thought you, too, might like to get to know them a bit better.

SENATOR ANDY BILLIG 3rd Legislative District



Senator Billig was elected to the state Senate in 2012 to represent the 3rd Legislative District. Sen. Billig serves as the Democratic caucus deputy leader and is a member of the Ways & Means and Early Learning & K-12 Education committees. In addition to his work in the Legislature, Sen Billig is partner-owner and former general manager/president of the Spokane Indians Baseball Club.

REPRESENTATIVE DAVID TAYLOR 15th Legislative District



Representative David Taylor was elected to the state House of Representatives in 2009. He serves as the ranking member on the Local Government Committee and also sits on the Environment and Appropriations committees. In 2004, he opened Taylor Consulting Group, which specializes in land use, water and agriculture issues, policy development and government relations.

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL HARRIS 17th Legislative District



Representative Paul Harris was elevated to the state House of Representatives in 2010 to represent the 17th Legislative District. Previously, he served on the Evergreen School Board from 1992 to 2002. Rep. Harris is the ranking member of the House Education Committee. Paul and his wife, Lori, live in Clark County.

REPRESENTATIVE KRISTINE LYTTON 40th Legislative District



Representative Kristine Lytton was elected to the state House of Representatives in November of 2010 to represent the 40th Legislative District. She served on Anacortes School District's Board from 2005 to 2010. Rep. Lytton has served on the House Education Committee and is now the Chair of the House Finance Committee. Kristine and her husband, Mike, live in Anacortes.

SENATOR JOHN BRAUN 20th Legislative District



Sen. John Braun, elected to the state Senate in 2012, represents the 20th legislative district. John serves as vice-chair of the Senate Trade and Economic Development Committee and the Senate Commerce and Labor Committee and is the senate deputy majority leader of the Senate Ways & Means Committee. John lives on a small farm in rural Lewis County outside Centralia with his wife, Marlo, and their four children.

SENATOR ANN RIVERS 18th Legislative District



Sen. Ann Rivers was appointed to the state Senate in 2012 to represent the 18th legislative district. She was elected to the state House of Representatives in 2010. Ann serves as chair of the Health Care Committee and on the Early Learning & K-12 Education, Ways and Means and Rules Committees. Ann, her husband, Fred, and their two sons live in La Center.

SENATOR CHRISTINE ROLFES 23rd Legislative District



Sen. Christine Rolfes was elected to the state House of Representatives in 2007 to represent the 23rd Legislative District. She was appointed to the State Senate in 2011. She is the ranking member on the Senate Early Learning and K-12 Education Committee and also serves on the Ways and Means Committee. Christine lives on Bainbridge Island with her husband, Leonard, and their two daughters.

REPRESENTATIVE PAT SULLIVAN 47th Legislative District



Pat Sullivan was elected to represent the 47th Legislative District in the state House of Representatives in November of 2004. He is the majority leader of the House and serves on the Appropriations Committee. Pat lives in Covington with his wife, Amy, and their three daughters.

We asked these legislators to share the ways school board directors can engage as proactive and constructive partners with their legislators and what next steps during the interim might be. Here's what they said:

-It's useful to hear directly from school directors and educators on school funding. There's no question the main job of schools is to educate and prepare students for the future.

-School directors are important partners in formulating strong educational policies that promote student growth and achievement, while providing taxpayers with accountability measures.

-It is important to maintain local flexibility to allow districts to meet the needs of their students, but still provide a uniform system of education across the state.

-Individual school directors and school boards should continue to work with their locally elected representatives to identify unique local challenges. WSSDA remains focused on the broader statewide issues.

-The most helpful thing that anyone can do is to try to get access to all the facts, ask questions, communicate, and recognize that everyone has the goal of making education the best it can be for our students.

Registration opens for the 2017 Annual Conference

Registration is now open for the November 16-19 WSSDA Annual Conference in Bellevue. Registrants can also reserve their hotel, to ensure getting the best shot at their first choice of rooms. The price for registration, which has not changed since 2014, will remain at \$465.

It's *the* conference for Washington State school directors. Here is what last year's attendees had to say:

- As board members we all have very busy lives. This is one time of year to focus solely on our responsibility of being a board member and how we can do a better job.
- It's a great opportunity for professional development, networking, advocacy and relationship building. It is a really a POSITIVE experience to get you energized for another year.

Dr. Linda Darling-Hammond, Dr. Jamie Vollmer and Craig Boykin headline the conference keynote speakers. Their expertise will lay a strong foundation for breakout sessions on policy, advocacy,

and motivation, (see sidebar).

An exciting new workshop, **The Challenges of Poverty**, will offer a day of deep exploration on issues of poverty. For the first half, attendees will participate in Washington State University's Poverty Immersion Experience. Through role-playing, participants learn the challenges of making ends meet on a limited budget. The second half consists of breakout sessions with deeper learning in acute childhood trauma and how school boards are closing the gap for children living in poverty. You can apply your new personal insight back in your district when it comes time for decision-making and policy creation.

The **Law Conference** is back by popular demand. Content provided through general sessions and breakouts include hot topics, analysis and insight to help you recognize legal pitfalls and minimize the risk of costly litigation and investigations. A networking reception for attendees completes the day.

Rounding out the pre-conference are **New Board Boot Camp** and **Open Government**

Training, perfect for helping newly-elected or appointed school directors get off to a great start.

We will have another year of great breakout sessions for you. The menu offers a strong and varied program, with an increased emphasis on students, including their participation in many of the sessions. In the spirit of the theme, sessions will include both best practices for leading now and hot topics for addressing the future.

The conference offers a rare opportunity for deeper learning and there is something for everyone at pre-conference on Thursday. The five-to-nine-hour sessions allow a generous amount of time and focus on a given topic.

More from our Keynotes

OPENING SESSION

"...the new mission of schools is to prepare students to work at jobs that do not yet exist, creating ideas and solutions for products and problems that have not yet been identified, using technologies that have not yet been invented." *Flat World and Education: How America's Commitment to Equity will Determine Our Future*

- DR. LINDA DARLING-HAMMOND

SATURDAY LUNCHEON

"We can assume that every child is sent into the world...with something valuable to contribute, something that we need, and then allocate our resources to identify and develop each child's creative capacity."

- DR. JAMIE VOLLMER

CLOSING SESSION

"Behind every fact is a face. Behind every statistic is a student's story. Behind every catch phrase is a student whose future will be lost if something is not done immediately to change his or her reality."

- CRAIG J. BOYKIN





Courtesy of the Oregon School Boards Association

CANDIDATE WORKSHOPS

Get new directors off to a great start

Are there new candidates running for your school board? Help them get off to a good start by ensuring they get accurate information about this vital role.

Throughout the month of June, WSSDA is offering free evening workshops for school board candidates. Each workshop covers the role and responsibilities of a school board member to help candidates more quickly and fully participate in the work of your board, if elected.

Candidates, existing board members and those who believe they may want to run for office in the future can register at wssda.org under [Events/Workshops](#). Registration helps us to ensure we have materials for attendees and to make contact if something changes. All workshops are 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, June 1

Spokane Public Schools
NEWTECH Skills Center
Conference Room S103
2815 E Garland Avenue
Spokane, WA 99207

Monday, June 5

WSSDA Conference Center
221 College Street NE
Olympia, WA 98516

Wednesday, June 7

NC ESD 171
Cottonwood Retreat #1
430 Olds Station Road
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Thursday, June 8

ESD 123, Cascade 3
3918 W Court Street
Pasco, WA 99301

Tuesday, June 13

ESD 105, Kittitas Room
33 South Second Avenue
Yakima, WA 98902

Tuesday, June 13

Port Angeles School District
Board Room
216 E 4th Street
Port Angeles, WA 98362

Wednesday, June 14

Longview School District
Board Room
2715 Lilac Street
Longview, WA 98632

Wednesday, June 21

Kenmore Library
Room 1, 6531 NE 181st Street
Kenmore, WA 98028

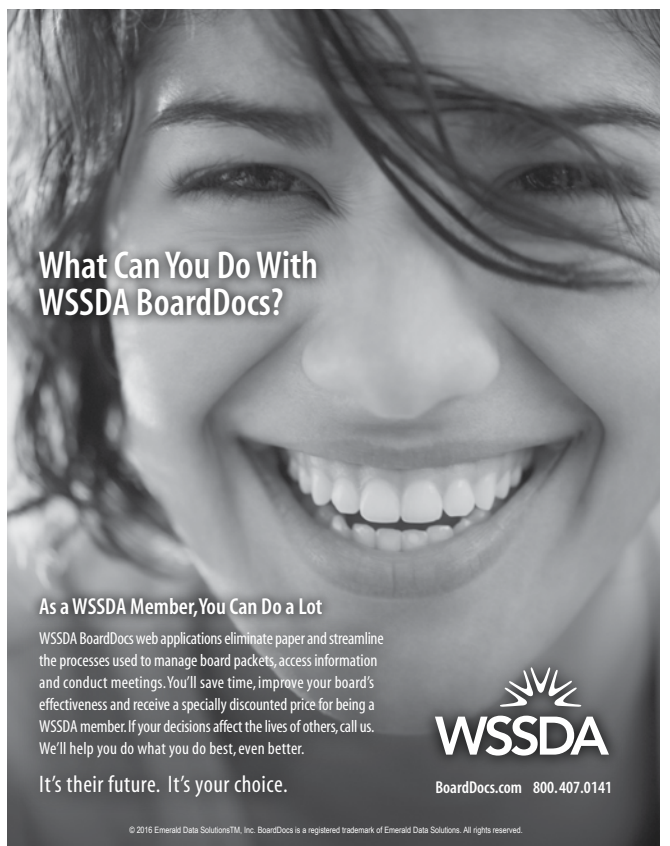
Thursday, June 22

Mt. Vernon School District
Large Conference Room
124 E. Lawrence St.
Mount Vernon, WA

Measuring purchasing cooperatives? You may need a longer ruler.

BuyBoard® offers a wide range of commodities, contracts, and vendors, and we respond to members' needs. BuyBoard—a trusted, transparent, and experienced source of cooperative purchasing.

buyboard.com • 800.695.2919



What Can You Do With WSSDA BoardDocs?

As a WSSDA Member, You Can Do a Lot

WSSDA BoardDocs web applications eliminate paper and streamline the processes used to manage board packets, access information and conduct meetings. You'll save time, improve your board's effectiveness and receive a specially discounted price for being a WSSDA member. If your decisions affect the lives of others, call us. We'll help you do what you do best, even better.

It's their future. It's your choice.



BoardDocs.com 800.407.0141

© 2016 Emerald Data Solutions™, Inc. BoardDocs is a registered trademark of Emerald Data Solutions. All rights reserved.



Calista Conder
stirs her award-winning
Chili Corral.

Future Chefs of America Event

Woodland 3rd and 4th-graders cook their favorite comfort foods

by Eric Jacobson, Communications Manager for Woodland Public Schools.

Third and fourth graders from Woodland Intermediate School created their favorite comfort foods by cooking recipes of their own selection in Sodexo's second annual Future Chefs of America event held at Woodland High School on Wednesday, March 27.

Sodexo held the Future Chefs of America for a second year following an overwhelmingly positive response from last year's inaugural event. "Future Chefs popularity is growing considerably with nearly 30 students submitting their favorite recipes for consideration in February," said Lan Ha, Nutrition Services Director for Woodland Public Schools. "We want to teach students healthy eating habits while also showing them that preparing food can be fun."

This year, seven students were selected as finalists to participate in the competition

with this the theme featuring comfort food. The finalists' recipes included Biscuits and Gravy with Green Beans, Chili Corral, Cauliflower Bed, Summer Salad, Yummy in Your Tummy Pizza Balls, Watermelon Cake, and Tangy Fruit Salsa with Cinnamon Chips.

Ha opened the event by presenting to the students and gathered community members the safety procedures for working with ovens, blenders, how to handle knives, and being knowledgeable of kitchen equipment. She also discussed proper food handling techniques with all of the students beginning first by thoroughly washing their hands.

Each student, paired with a food services employee, prepared enough of their recipe for parents and community members who attended to sample the recipe, as well as a special presentation plate. Chef Dave Williams, Sodexo's Regional Chef, helped

each student select from a variety of small vegetables and herbs to highlight the colors and presentation of their dishes.

Chef Williams and Jean "JJ" Lessard, Sodexo's District Manager, served as judges, sampling each recipe, and grading the overall presentation of each dish. Finalists received a certificate of participation as well as a medal for having their recipe selected.

The gold winner was Keira Rhodes, with her Biscuits and Gravy with Green Beans, with the silver winner being Calista Conder with her Chili Corral. Rhodes received a gift basket including measuring cups, oven mitts, a cutting board, a backpack, and a Fitbit.

In addition, her recipe will be submitted to compete at the regional competition for the event. Conder received a gift basket with a mandolin slicer and a selection of cooking utensils. Sodexo also provided chef hats and coats for each student to keep after wearing them during the event.

Cooking at a younger age has become more popular in recent years thanks to the rise of videos on the Internet and television cooking shows. "A lot of the kids have experience with food preparation now thanks to television cooking shows and YouTube videos," explained Ha. "Many students help prepare food at home by cooking with their parents and families or even experimenting on their own."

The Future Chefs program is part of Sodexo's community outreach program with Sodexo sponsoring the event including buying the ingredients for all of the recipes. Students from Woodland High School's Culinary Arts classes volunteered to help ensure the elementary students followed proper food handling techniques and cooking utensil safety.

Woodland staff members from the district's different school cafeterias helped supervise the students including: Lucy Dooley, Cristina Forgey, Julie Hancock, Annette Kirby, Judi Lute, Kelly Newton, and Mary Pietz.

“ The finalists' recipes included Biscuits and Gravy with Green Beans, Chili Corral, Cauliflower Bed, Summer Salad, Yummy in Your Tummy Pizza Balls, Watermelon Cake, and Tangy Fruit Salsa with Cinnamon Chips. ”



This story and many more can be found at ourkids-ourfuture.com. Send stories of your school district's successes to M.Wilson@wssda.org. ipicia.dolorun

WSSDA, one of the partners invited to purchase a piece, selected a watercolor, *Honor Your Character*, from Hailey Fisher of Southridge High School. She, along with the other winners, will receive \$200.00 for her artwork.

All the pieces of the Regional winners are viewable [online](#) at the OSPI website/artshow.



An enthusiastic crowd gathered for the 2017 Superintendent's High School ArtShow reception held May 19 at OSPI.



The Governor's Choice Award, selected by Governor Inslee and his wife, Trudy, went to Sarah Harris from Arts and Technology HS for her ink drawing, *England's Mermaid*, shown above (cropped).





WSSDA Direct is published monthly by the Washington State School Directors' Association to provide information of interest to school directors and the education community. The views expressed in opinion articles appearing in WSSDA Direct are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent WSSDA policies or positions. If you have a disability and need this publication in an alternate format, please contact the WSSDA Communications Department.

221 College Street N.E.
Olympia, WA 98516-5313

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Joanne Greer, President509.991.5634
Marnie Maraldo, President-Elect425.220.3389
Aurora Flores, Vice President509.293.0927
Chris Nation, Past President425.322.6630
Tim Garchow, Executive Director360.252.3001
Sean Duke, Communications Officer360.252.3013

WSSDA DIRECTORY

General Information360.493.9231
Association Services360.252.3002
Leadership Development Services360.252.3009
Governmental Relations360.252.3010
Communications360.252.3013
Policy and Legal Services360.252.3018
Toll Free (In-State)800.562.8927
E-Mailmail@wssda.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June

- 7 Wenatchee Candidate Workshop
- 8 Pasco Candidate Workshop
- 13 BoardDocs webcast featuring Bremerton
- 14 Longview Candidate Workshop
- 16-17 WSSDA Board of Directors Meeting
- 21 Kenmore Candidate Workshop
- 22 Mount Vernon Candidate Workshop

July

- 14-15 Leadership WSSDA – Leadership for All
- 14-16 WSSDA Board of Directors Retreat
Walla Walla, WA



For the most updated
calendar, visit wssda.org