



Michelle's Moments: "Keys to the Future"

Staring at my keyring, I couldn't help but notice how every key is very different. Round, square, many rugged edges, a fob. Each one very unique and each opening different doors. Sometimes, the key you have will open the door. Sometimes, you are on the other side and have the power to open the door for others.

Working with children and their families is an incredibly difficult job. In nearly every classroom, you will find more diversity, poverty, mental health, special needs, and less financial stability than ever before. The strength in our schools are the successful adults who commit themselves each and every day to helping children find the keys they need. In our schools, YOU hold many keys for both opening and closing doors.

Before you can open doors for others, you must find the key to your own success. Success is an individually defined attribute. What success is to one, doesn't mean it is success for another. Each of us defines our own pathway through our life choices, skills set, and the influences of those around us. Your success is dependent on your actions; don't wait for it to come to you—set your goals and go after it! Some times that means getting out of your comfort zone or giving more than the minimum required. *"Desire is the key to motivation, but it's the determination and commitment to an unrelenting pursuit of your goal – a commitment to excellence – that will enable you to attain the success you seek."* -Mario Andretti

Do you know your why? What drives you? Do you have an unwavering sense of purpose that compels you to be YOU at all times? One of the keys to the future is dependent on you being true to yourself. A dear friend once left public education for a private industry position that had promise of an income that she felt reflected her skills. She left a role she was not only absolutely passionate about but it gave her a sense of purpose outside of her family. When she changed jobs, she found herself struggling to be happy, to do well in the role, and to stay true to herself. Those around her knew of her unhappiness. Thankfully, she found her way back to the role that gave her the "why" she needed in her work life. Mother Teresa once said, *"You as your authentic self are able to give the best of you and doors will be open for others."* When you know your "why," everyone around you will know and be positively impacted.



NCESD Superintendent Michelle Price

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Board to Board
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AESD Network Accreditation Services in our Region



Representative Shelly Short is shown meeting with District 7 Superintendents and Board Members following the Legislative Conference.



Superintendent Lois Davies, Pateros, and Marcia Henkle, NCESD Board Legislative Representative, at the January 28-29 WASA/WSSDA/WASBO Legislative Conference.



State Superintendent Chris Reykdal is shown addressing WASA/WSSDA/WASBO members at the 2018 Legislative Conference.

The AESD Network, which is comprised of nine ESDs throughout the state of Washington, provides an accreditation program to accredit Washington State Schools. During the 2016-2017 cycle coaches worked with 49 schools throughout the state which were granted AESD Accreditation upon confirmation by a panel of volunteer ESD Board members. AESD now is the fastest-growing accreditation option in Washington State. Schools in the NCESD region accredited through AESD include Manson Secondary, Liberty Bell High School, Pateros School, Tonasket High School and Warden High School. In addition, Cashmere High School and Chelan High School are participating in the AESD Accreditation process this year.

Washington State school accreditation was formed to ensure that the state's high schools were adequately preparing students for college. It was intended to document high program quality for colleges and the patrons of Washington's educational system. It is now open to all grade levels, and is a voluntary self-study process that is a research-based approach to school improvement.

The accreditation process supports a long-term vision for a performance-based educational system that aligns accreditation requirements to the continuous improvement of student learning, achievement and growth. The process provides for collaboration and deep reflection by the school community, for external review and validation of the school improvement plan, and the process that led

to its development. It also provides a statement of accountability to the public.

The six steps for accreditation which are part of a cycle of inquiry, action, and improvement are:

1. Getting ready
2. Identifying issues and collecting data
3. Analyzing data, determining needs and setting goals
4. Reviewing research base and determining realistic solutions
5. Creating a data-informed and achievement-focused plan
6. Continuous monitoring and adjusting

NCESD Assistant Superintendent Linda McKay oversees accreditation services and serves as coach in the North Central ESD region. NCESD Board members who have served or are serving on the accreditation panels include: Marcia Henkle, Ed Daling, Harlan Warner, Larry MacGuffie, Mary Kunkle and Susan Albert.

Marcia Henkle commented, "This is a really important function for ESD Board members. It helps us to learn about the process of accreditation and to gain knowledge about each school's improvement plan."

Ed Daling shared his enjoyment of the whole process. He described the River Walk Academy in Battleground as a great model. He said the school has been "...going for 27 years and they have a high percentage of National Board Certified Teachers. The key to success is the parent being in school at least half a day."



Pictured above at the November WSSDA Conference (l-r) are North Central ESD Board Vice-Chair Larry MacGuffie; Board Chair Harlan Warner and Superintendent Michelle Price, NCESD.

State and Regional Events



Congratulations to Superintendent John Boyd, the Quincy Board of Directors, staff and students for their recognition as WSSDA Board of the Year! Pictured (l-r) Front Row: Susan Lybbert, Quincy Board, QSD Board student reps, Tricia Lubach, Quincy Board, Camille Jones, 2017 State Teacher of the Year. Back row: Chris Baumgartner, Quincy Board Chair, Alex Ybarra, Quincy Board; Superintendent John Boyd; and Assistant Superintendent Nik Bergman.

Governor Inslee and Senator Brad Hawkins recently visited Grant Elementary in East Wenatchee. Pictured in the back row behind the students are (l-r): Superintendent Michelle Price, North Central ESD; Trudi Inslee; Governor Inslee; Annette Eggers, Eastmont Board; Senator Brad Hawkins; Steve Piccirillo, Eastmont Board Vice Chair, Lisa Gilman, classroom teacher, and Grant Elementary Principal Greg Loomis.



NCESD regional superintendents and board members met with District 7, 12 and 13 legislators on January 29 in Olympia following the WASA/WSSDA Legislative Conference in Olympia. The District 7 meeting with Senator Short is shown above, and the District 12 meeting with Representatives Cary Condotta and Mike Steele is shown below.



Meet new North Central ESD Board member Susan Albert



Susan Albert from Wenatchee has been elected to fill the District 7 vacancy on the Board of North Central Educational Service District, replacing Si Bautista, who retired from the NCESD Board after 27 years of service. This position represents the northern portion of the Wenatchee School District.

Susan stated, "I am ready to join the NCESD Board as it expands and extends efforts to create and maintain quality effective education programs for all young people." Susan is a committed educator, having served for 42 years in various education settings, urban, suburban and rural, and in a variety of roles, teacher, central office administrator, university professor and principal. Much of her work was with Special Education and particularly with programs that served students

with Mental Health and Behavioral challenges. She studied with Hill Walker at the University of Washington, researching Positive Behavior Systems and Social and Emotional Learning and Don Deschler with a focus on Learning Strategies. She has multiple degrees and certifications from WWU, UW, Seattle University, University of San Francisco and Stanford. She believes that we are learners throughout our lives and have a responsibility to contribute to our community, society, country and planet.

Susan is a native Washingtonian and has lived in the Wenatchee Valley for over 23 years. She retired from her professional career in February 2015. She remains involved in a variety of volunteer activities including Wenatchee Rotary Foundation Board, Interact Liaison at WHS and the City of Wenatchee Planning Commission. Her interest continues to be in supporting programs for children and youth and maintaining our wonderful natural environment.

Susan's family includes Bill Haugen and a large and loved multi-generational extended family. She is pleased to have the opportunity to serve North Central ESD. Superintendent Michelle Price commented, "We couldn't be more pleased to add a person of Susan's caliber to our ESD Board."

Board to Board is a newsletter for school directors in the service area of North Central ESD. It is published 2-3 times during the year.

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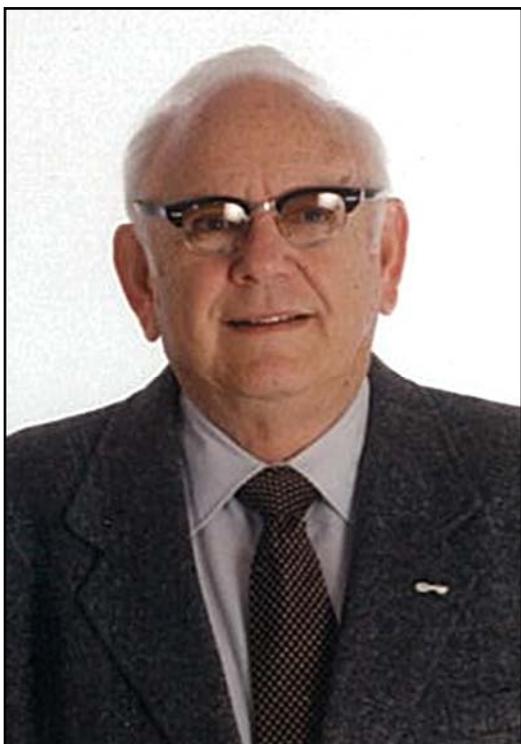
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Jack Kirk, Unmatched Dedication to Brewster School District



John "Jack" H. Kirk, 92, died February 10, 2018, at his home in Brewster, WA. He was born June 27, 1925, in Chicago, IL.

Jack graduated from Brewster High School in 1943 as class valedictorian. Shortly after graduation, he began managing the family orchard, until his retirement in 2002. He married his high school sweetheart, Marie Starzman, and together, they raised five children.

Jack Kirk was appointed to fill a Brewster School Board position in December, 1951, and he took the oath of office in February 1952. Jack filled that position faithfully for 62 years, resigning in February 2014.

Over those 62 years Jack witnessed the tides change in education, but always had students' best interest as the beacon to guide his decisions and efforts. To Jack every student was important and deserved the best opportunities possible. Jack set the standards for public service for children. His passion for creating

the best educational opportunities is without equal and his support for them is above question. As a board member, Jack served with a heart for kids, and one of his greatest strengths was his ability to give of himself to benefit others. The amount of time and sacrifice Jack exhibited for the community and students of Brewster is second to none. His presence at board meetings has been missed, but his legacy will remain with those who knew him and will remain forever for all future generations.

Jack has passed and there is no way to properly thank a person who has given so much to help others have a better future. Thank you seems trivial, but it is with a heart of gratitude, humbleness, and love, we say, "Thank You, Jack Kirk, you will be missed."

*~Eric Driessen, Superintendent
Brewster School District*