

## NEWS RELEASE

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**NORTH CENTRAL  
EDUCATION  
FOUNDATION**

The North Central Education Foundation was thrilled to increase the number of teacher classroom grants that were awarded at the 2018 Teacher Classroom Grant Award reception held at Confluence Technology Center in Wenatchee. During this ninth year of teacher grant awards, over 100 teachers from four counties were presented with grant awards in the categories of literacy, STEM, STEAM, Music/Fine Arts, College Preparation and Chelan-Douglas Land Trust Foothills. Awards for two other categories were added this year – Financial Education, thanks to our new partnership with the Young Adult Consumer Education Trust (YACET) and National Board support, thanks to donations from NCESD Board members.

We are also pleased to announce that teachers in 24 out of the 29 school districts included in the North Central ESD region received grant awards this year!

PJ DeBenedetti, North Central Education Foundation Board member, served as MC for the award presentation and awards were presented by President Rufus Woods, Board members Joe St. Jean, P.J. DeBenedetti, Mary Jane Ross, and Kyla Allen, along with NCESD Board representative Marcia Henkle and NCESD Superintendent Michelle Price. For the second year, Okanogan County teachers were honored at a remote location via Zoom videoconference, hosted by Foundation Board members Kerrie Combs and Lois Davies. Guest speaker, Regional Teacher of the Year Matt Brown from Manson School District, participated via video and shared inspirational words of hope with the attendees. Veronique Paquette from Kenroy Elementary in East Wenatchee, 2002 Washington State Teacher of the Year, described the teachers who received awards as teacher/leaders and challenged them to inspire other teachers in their district to lead. Teacher Classroom Grant sponsors Kyla Allen from North Cascades Bank; Luke Evans from YACET; and Rufus Woods from the *Wenatchee World* shared their enthusiasm for supporting the Teacher Classroom Grants.

The Foundation is working to make a difference in the future of the children in the North Central ESD region by providing teachers with opportunities to enrich their classroom environments. This is due to the generosity of the North Cascades Bank, Woods Family Music & Arts Fund, Confluence Health, Community Foundation of NCW, Chelan-Douglas Land Trust, Wenatchee Rotary, LASER Science/Pacific Science Center, Clear Risk Solutions, Young Adult Consumer Education Trust (YACET), PlanMember Services, “Art with Heart” and generous board members, ESD staff and community members who also donated to the fund.

North Central ESD Superintendent Michelle Price commented, “It has been inspirational to see the Foundation grow, in just nine short years, from awarding eight teacher grants in our region the first year, to giving out over 100 grants, including several adopted by businesses or individuals. We are fortunate to have generous new corporate sponsors with a heart for education and dedicated Foundation Board members who are passionate about the work of the Foundation.”

Teachers receiving the 2018 North Central Education Foundation Teacher Classroom Grants include:

### ***Chelan-Douglas Land Trust Foothills***

*Robert Garretson, Wenatchee High School*

*Eric Tiegel, Beaver Valley Elementary, Cascade SD*

*Lindsay Hilldorfer, Wenatchee High School*

*Eric Vendrell-Lammerman, Orondo Schools*

### ***College Preparation***

*Jill Copenhaver, Quincy Junior High*

*Susan Gubsch, Cashmere High School*

*Darrin Ferson, Lincoln Elementary, Wenatchee*

*Dianne Stewart, Monument Elementary, Quincy*

Luke Hall, Mansfield Schools

**Financial Education (funded by YACET)**

Jeff Leavitt, Wenatchee High School

Jackie Floetke, Wilson Creek High School

Carina Velazquez, North Elementary, Moses Lake

**National Board Support (funded by NCESD Board Members)**

Dina Ashcraft, Alpine Lakes Elementary, Cascade

Andrea Whitney, Manson Elementary

Molly Ravits, Cascade High School

**Literacy**

Zuly Arredondo, Washington Elementary, Wen.

Denise Hack, North Omak Elementary

Kristi Kriegel, Vale Elementary, Cashmere

Erin Oltman, Washington Elementary, Wenatchee

Jennifer Polley, Morgen Owings Elem., Lake Chelan

Roselyn Robison, Cascade High School

Heidi Schroeder, Castlerock Early Learning, Wen.

Jana Sutton, Washington Elementary, Wenatchee

Terri Zahn, Bridgeport Middle School

Kelly Grayum, Liberty Bell H.S., Methow Valley

Sara Hausken, Pioneer, Quincy

Sierra Morrison, Oroville Elementary, Oroville

Paige Patrick, Nespelem Middle School

Mark Radocaj, Peninsula Elementary, Moses Lake

Brandy Samson, Manson Elementary

Michelle Stickel, Chief Moses, Moses Lake

Linda Zaccanti, Brewster Elementary

**Music/Fine Arts (funded by Woods House/Family Fund)**

Brooke McPhee, Peshastin Dryden Elementary

Jessica Guerin, Cashmere Middle School

Andrea Whitney, Manson Elementary

Marshall Bilodeau, Soap Lake High School

Patricia Dagnon, Tonasket Elementary

Adele Caemmerer, Orchard Middle School

Maija Henderson, Foothills Middle School

Eric Link, Wenatchee Valley Technical Skills Center

Gail Morris, Tonasket Elementary

Sharlynn Parker, Beaver Valley Elementary

Marie Goulet, Mansfield Schools

Russ Elliott, Quincy Junior High

Ciara Shuttleworth, Soap Lake MS/HS

Noemi Bazan, Pioneer Middle School

Shawna Hawkins, Valley Academy

Tanya Iwaasa, Lincoln Elementary

Trevor Sill, Quincy Junior High

Chelsea Freeman, Choice High School, Tonasket

**STEM/STEAM**

Eric Schmidt, Bridgeport High School

Kathy Addleman, Eastmont High School

Caitlin Walters, Cascade Elementary, E. Wenatchee

Kate Schmuck, Ephrata Middle School

Carolyn Burdick, Morgen Owings Elem., Chelan

Cheryl Sablan, Morgen Owings Elementary, Chelan

Kendra Farnsworth, Manson Elementary

Bill Bertram, Knolls Vista Elementary, Moses Lake

Kelwy El-Haj, North Elementary, Omak

Linda Cashman, Palisades School

Kelsey Streeter, Palisades School

Mary Horning, George Elementary, Quincy

Carissa Haug, Tonasket Middle School

Aaron Hansen, Foothills Middle School, Wenatchee

Doug Merrill, Wenatchee High School

Maia Parr, Washington Elementary, Wenatchee

Nicole Wallace, Sage Point Elementary, Moses Lake

Heidi Hartnell, Vale Elementary, Cashmere

Clarissa Fulkerson, Rock Island Elem., Eastmont

Dan Durr, Entiat Middle School/High School

Carrie Derr, Lake Roosevelt Elementary

Teresa Jones-Coffman, Morgen Owings Elementary

Jessica Bowman, Mansfield Schools

Matt Hinckley, Liberty Bell Junior High

Anna Davis, Sage Point Elementary, Moses Lake

Jessica Prieto, Oroville Elementary

Karlye Risdon, Palisades School

Kimberly Bunch, Quincy Junior High

Kimberly Fitzthum, Tonasket Elementary

Kristen Callison, Lincoln Elementary, Wenatchee

Patty Iniguez, Pioneer Middle School, Wenatchee

Tina Nicpan-Brown, Lincoln Elementary, Wenatchee

Heidi Ragan, Peninsula Elementary, Moses Lake

**Other**

Roxanna Jensen, Entiat Elementary

Kayla Helleeson, Manson Elementary

Jody Stadelman, Columbia Ridge Elem., Ephrata

Shannon Hettetvedt, Sage Point Elem., Moses Lake

*Jamie Olson, Longview Elementary, Moses Lake*      *Jannette Serrano-Vasquez, Larson Heights Elem. ML*  
*Cynthia Swan, Park Orchard Elementary, Moses Lake*      *Jenny Woodall, North Elementary, Moses Lake*  
*Cathy Meuret, School Nursing Corps, NCESD*      *Roy Johnson, Okanogan County Juvenile Center*  
*Julie Banken, Valley Elementary*      *Nikki Buzzell, Wenatchee High School*  
*Kyle Hurst, Foothills Middle School, Wenatchee*      *Nicole Long, Joyful Scholars Montessori*  
*Karlyn Mitchell, Mission View Elem., Wenatchee*      *Jessica Sagerser, Valley Academy, Wenatchee*  
*Stacy Lillquist, Mansfield Elementary*