



Michelle's Moments: "Education beyond high school is essential for students' success"

The North Central region of Washington is a beautiful and vibrant place to live. We supply the world with apples, our hydropower industry enjoys a national reputation for efficient and reliable energy production, we incubate new technology, and we provide high-quality health care for residents across the Pacific Northwest. These growing industries mean hundreds of well-paying jobs open in our region every year, from medical assistants to hydropower engineers to information technology professionals.

For our students to be ready for these jobs, many of them will need to continue their education after high school and complete a credential, such as a degree, apprenticeship, or certificate in a specific industry. In coming years, about two-thirds of the jobs in our region will be filled with workers who have a credential beyond a high school diploma.

However, according to a new report from Washington STEM and the Apple STEM Network, only about 37 percent of North Central region students who graduated high school in 2015 will get such a credential by the time they are 26.

The rate of credential attainment is even worse for students of color — only 24 percent of our Latinx students in the class of 2015 completed education or training after high school.

This is not nearly good enough for our students, or for the future health of our regional economy.

Today, a postsecondary credential is greatest driver of economic mobility and access to family-wage jobs. Studies show that a credential after high school is one of the strongest indicators of lifetime earnings. Students who do not complete such a credential face a lifetime of limited options.

In addition, if our employers cannot find the talent they need locally, they will be forced to import workers or move their business elsewhere.

As a result, one of the strongest investments we can make as a community is to ensure that our students have the supports they need to pursue education and training that will enable them to succeed on the career pathways of their choice.

How do we increase the number of our students who are earning credentials and ready to succeed in careers? As a region — and a state — we must focus on strategies that increase the rate at which students enter programs beyond high school, as well as provide student-centered supports that enable students to complete these programs. These strategies must focus on closing racial, gender and income opportunity gaps.

The College Promise Coalition — of which Wenatchee Valley College is a member — is working collaboratively across sectors and across the state to implement strategies that support students who face barriers to entering and completing postsecondary education.

For example, expanding the pathways into postsecondary opportunities will enable more students to pursue credentials. The coalition is working to expand access and reduce financial barriers to programs that enable students to earn college credit in high school, as well as connect learning to career possibilities.

The coalition also supports critical financial aid programs such as the State Need Grant, College Bound, and others that reduce the financial barriers that many students face.

The unprecedented partnership between education, business, labor, and community-based organizations seeks to open more diverse pathways for Washington students to pursue the unique opportunities in our state.

The Career Connect Washington plan to expand pathways to great jobs by scaling and growing career connected learning for students throughout Washington will help achieve that goal. This ambitious plan will ensure ALL our students are able to access high quality programs that connect them to the in-demand high potential careers right here in our region and state.

During the coming legislative session, the coalition's members will be working together to advance and fund policies that will support more of our students to get the education and postsecondary training they need to succeed in the many jobs that our local businesses are creating.

Enabling more students to achieve credentials after high school is a win for students and their families, and it's a win for our businesses that are seeking talented and innovative workers.



Dr. Gene Sharratt, Dr. Michelle Price, Dr. Sue Kane, and Maud Daudon ~ all proponents of Career Connect Washington.

North Central Education Foundation Teacher Classroom Grants



Pictured are North Central Education Foundation Teacher Classroom Grant Award winners in the STEM/STEAM category.

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 in October at the 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!

P.J. 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, 2003 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 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.”



Larry MacGuffie (right), NCESD Board member, congratulates Eric Vendrell-Lammerman, from Orondo School.



Luke Evans from YACET (right) is pictured with award winners in the Financial Education category.



Classroom Grant award winners in the Literacy category.



Rufus Woods (right) presented awards in the Music/ Arts category.

NCEF Teacher Classroom Grant Awards

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
Luke Hall, Mansfield Schools

Darrin Ferson, Lincoln Elementary, Wenatchee
Dianne Stewart, Monument Elementary, Quincy

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, Wenatchee
Denise Hack, North Omak Elementary
Kristi Kriegel, Vale Elementary, Cashmere
Erin Oltman, Washington Elementary, Wenatchee
Jennifer Polley, Morgen Owings Elementary, Lake Chelan
Roselyn Robison, Cascade High School
Heidi Schroeder, Castlerock Early Learning, Wenatchee
Jana Sutton, Washington Elementary, Wenatchee
Terri Zahn, Bridgeport Middle School

Kelly Grayum, Liberty Bell High School, 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 Elementary, 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 Helleison, Manson Elementary
Jamie Olson, Longview Elementary, Moses Lake
Cynthia Swan, Park Orchard Elementary, Moses Lake
Cathy Meuret, School Nursing Corps, NCESD
Julie Banken, Valley Elementary
Kyle Hurst, Foothills Middle School, Wenatchee
Karlyn Mitchell, Mission View Elem., Wenatchee
Stacy Lillquist, Mansfield Elementary

Jody Stadelman, Columbia Ridge Elementary, Ephrata
Shannon Hettetvedt, Sage Point Elementary, Moses Lake
Jannette Serrano-Vasquez, Larson Heights Elem. Moses Lake
Jenny Woodall, North Elementary, Moses Lake
Roy Johnson, Okanogan County Juvenile Center
Nikki Buzzell, Wenatchee High School
Nicole Long, Joyful Scholars Montessori
Jessica Sagerser, Valley Academy, Wenatchee

Washington State Teacher of the Year

Regional Teachers of the Year



Regional Teachers of the Year pictured at the September award ceremony included: Tracy Castro-Gill, PSESD; Ryan Healy, Capital Region ESD 113; Karen Doran, OESD 114; Kristine Mars, ESD 123; Robert Hand, NWESD 189, who was selected as Washington State Teacher of the Year; Kimberly Miller, ESD 112; Michael Clinton, ESD 105; Susan Douglas, NEWESD 101, Mathew Brown, North Central ESD 171.

Last spring North Central ESD selected Matt Brown as the 2019 regional Teacher of the Year. Brown is a music teacher at Manson Middle and High Schools. He has been in education for 13 years and holds a Master's Degree in Music from Sam Houston State University and a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Washington. His teaching roles have included choir grades 7-12, band grades 5-12, jazz band, drumline, and a guitar/piano course. He is also in his second year of leading the Okanogan Valley Orchestra.

"It is a great honor and privilege to be named NCESD Teacher of the Year. I am happy to accept this title on behalf of all dedicated educators who strive daily to meet the needs of our learners. I encourage students to be inquisitive. Test scores and metrics are important, but I challenge students to find the questions that they are passionate about and dig deep. When they do, they often find that there are many, many connections to the things they are learning in school," he explained.

Brown was selected by a committee from a pool of nominees submitted from throughout the four-county NCESD service district.

"The choice was very difficult because of the outstanding caliber of candidates. But, Matt's passion for his students was very clear. His love for teaching was evident and his commitment to his students is inspiring," explained selection committee chair and NCESD employee Sariann Meredith.

Each ESD in Washington State selects a regional Teacher of the Year, who goes on to compete for state honors. This year, Robert Hand from Mt. Vernon in the NWESD 189 region was selected as the state winner. The winner serves as a spokesperson and representative of teachers at the local, state and national levels.

The North Central Educational Service District is a resource to the 29 districts within the four-county service area, providing professional and timely tools to meet the needs of individual schools and districts, and a reliable point of education-related information for the communities served. The NCESD is a respected resource to other ESDs throughout Washington State.



Matt Brown, Manson School District, 2019 Regional Teacher of the Year



Matt Brown (center) is pictured with Ted Beresford (left) Teacher of the Year sponsor from The Beresford Company and Matt's lovely wife Julie.



Matt Brown with State Superintendent Chris Reykdal

New Superintendents in the North Central ESD Region



Superintendent Sunshine Pray, Soap Lake School District

Before serving as superintendent, Sunshine worked in the Soap Lake School District as principal beginning in 2014, and as a teacher in the Moses Lake School District for seven years.



Superintendent Greg Goodnight, Pateros School District

Before his selection as superintendent of Pateros School District, Greg served as principal of Selkirk Middle and High School in Ione, Washington, and as a teacher and superintendent at the Kettle Falls School District



Superintendent Tabatha Mires, Waterville School District

A life-long Shocker, Tabatha returned to teach English and History at Waterville School District prior to her work as principal and then superintendent, leading the district.



Superintendent Dan Martell, Ephrata School District

Prior to leading the Ephrata School District as superintendent, Dan served as the principal of Ephrata High School.



Superintendent Ashley Goetz, Okanogan School District

Before her selection as superintendent, Ashley served as a teacher and as the principal of Virginia Grainger Elementary School in Okanogan.

What's New at the ESD?

Michelle Price featured as part of AASA "Women in Leadership"

Michelle Price, superintendent of North Central ESD, appeared as the sixth in AASA's nine-part video series "Women in School Leadership" navigating pathways to the superintendency. Join AASA for this new Video Series.

Women comprise more than 70% of the education workforce, but few occupy the top leadership position in U.S. public school systems. This inspiring video series provides a firsthand account of the leadership journeys of nine women superintendents who have made it to the top job.

- Learn about their journeys – the successes and challenges and how they overcame them to secure the superintendency.
- Gain insights, life lessons and practical tips and advice to help you nail the top leadership job.
- Discover proven strategies to help you break through barriers and navigate pathways to success. To watch the videos, visit the Women in School Leadership Initiative resources page at www.aasa.org/WomenInSchoolLeadershipResources.aspx



Hour of Code in North Central Washington

This year, millions of schools, including dozens in North Central Washington, took part in activities to raise awareness about opportunities for Computer Science Education, by participating in activities and events like Hour of Code during Computer Science Awareness week, December 3-7.

As dozens of schools in North Central Washington took part in the Hour of Code during the school day, 11 local schools (in Wenatchee, East Wenatchee and Quincy) opened their doors to the community to join their students and take a part in Computer Science Education week and show support by spending an hour writing computer code. Principals, teachers, staff, parent-teacher organizations, and even student volunteers are working together to bring these events to life.

We live in a world surrounded by technology. Computer science and technological developments have changed practice and shaped every industry in our region from energy to agriculture. The economic opportunity for all computing occupations are the fastest-growing, best paying, and now the largest sector of all new wages in the US.

We know that whatever field our students choose to go into as adults, their ability to succeed will increasingly depend on understanding how technology works. We are fortunate to have visionary schools and educators who believe that every 21st-century student should have the opportunity to learn how to create with technology. Computer science concepts also help nurture creativity and problem-solving skills to prepare students for any future career.

Microsoft Tech Spark has generously provided resources and raffle prizes to help make the event a great experience for participants and is also helping to outreach to volunteers.

~Jennifer Korfiatis, Communications
North Central ESD

North Central ESD Refurbishment Center



The North Central ESD Board met September 26 at the NCESD Refurbishment Center, which included a tour of the facility. Pictured during the tour are Dr. Michelle Price, superintendent of North Central ESD, and Darlene Robbins, Regional Science Refurbishment Specialist. The Refurbishment Center has the daunting task of providing supplies to refill science kits that are distributed to students for their science/STEM education.

November 15-17 WSSDA Conference



NCESD Board members who attended the WSSDA Conference in Spokane were (l-r): Harlan Warner, Board Chair; Larry MacGuffie, Vice-Chair; Marcia Henkle, NCESD Board/AESD Legislative Representative. Also attending but not pictured: NCESD Superintendent Michelle Price



NCESD Board member and AESD Legislative Representative Marcia Henkle co-presented, along with Washington State ESD Superintendents and Dr. Gene Sharratt, Executive Director of OSPI/AESD Network Initiatives, a workshop entitled "The AESD Network: Nine ESDs. One Network. Supporting Washington's Schools and Communities" at the November WSSDA Conference.

Celebrating 50 Years of Washington's Educational Service Districts



The AESD Network: Nine ESDs. One Network. Supporting Washington's Schools and Communities."

Washington State ESDs are celebrating their 50th year of service to schools, teachers and students. They have evolved from nine separate entities to serving as the AESD Network.

The purpose of the Network is to "provide a coherent and equitable system of teacher and administrator professional learning that results in continuous learning for every student, every day, and in every classroom."

Washington's nine ESDs have evolved from a system that began as 39 individual county offices of education. A series of consolidations and name changes between 1969-1977 ultimately yielded a statewide system of nine regional ESDs.

The purpose of ESDs, who are considered a political sub-division of the state and statutorily designed is to:

- Provide cooperative and informational services to local school districts.
- Assist the superintendent of public instruction and the state board of education in the performance of their respective constitutional duties.
- Provide services to school districts to assure equitable educational opportunities for all students.

Stay tuned for North Central ESD's 50th Anniversary celebration!

Change Service Requested

The North Central ESD Board



North Central ESD Superintendent Michelle Price (front) is pictured above with the NCESD Board (l-r): Ed Daling, Waterville; Audrey Bessonette, Cashmere; Mary Kunkle, Moses Lake; Susan Albert, Wenatchee; Harlan Warner, Conconully; Marcia Henkle, East Wenatchee; and Larry MacGuffie, Ephrata.

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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North Central

Educational Service District

P.O. Box 1847, Wenatchee, WA 98807

www.ncesd.org