

# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

## MONDAY, MARCH 1

**7 a.m.–4 p.m.**

Registration

**7:15–8 a.m.**

Continental Breakfast/Exhibits

**8–9:30 a.m.**

General Session—Erin Jones

**9:30–10:30 a.m.**

Breakout Sessions

**10:30–11 a.m.**

Exhibits/Break

**11 a.m.–12 p.m.**

Breakout Sessions

**12–1:30 p.m.**

Lunch and General Session, Randy Dorn (Invited)

**1:45–2:45 p.m.**

Breakout Sessions

**2:45–3:15 p.m.**

Exhibits/Ice Cream Social

**3:30–4:30 p.m.**

Breakout Sessions

**4:30–5:30 p.m.**

Hospitality

Dinner on Your Own

## TUESDAY, MARCH 2

**7–10 a.m.**

Registration

**7–8 a.m.**

Continental Breakfast

**8–9:30 a.m.**

Issues Dialogue by District Size

**9:30 a.m.**

Break

**9:45–10:45 a.m.**

Breakout Sessions

**11 a.m.–12 p.m.**

Breakout Sessions

**12–1 p.m.**

General Session—Cathy Callahan

**1 p.m.**

Box Lunch and Optional Forum: Consolidation Mini Summit

# WASA SMALL SCHOOLS CONFERENCE



Small Schools '10  
Innovating During Challenging Times—  
Going the Distance



March 1–2, 2010 • Yakima

## WELCOME!

**O**n behalf of the Smalls Schools Conference Planning Committee and WASA, I would like to welcome you to the 2010 conference. Our theme this year is “Innovating During Challenging Times.”

Our goal is to provide you with the most current information regarding:

- Budget implications for your district
- Negotiation strategies
- Pending legislation that could impact your work
- CORE 24
- Consolidation
- Accountability
- Race to The Top

Please take time to network with your colleagues and learn how they are handling some of the same challenges. The conference is also a great time to meet someone new and learn from them. Please become involved in the breakout sessions and ask the tough questions. Keep in mind that we are facing these difficult times together and that there is strength in numbers.

Welcome to Yakima. We wish you a most productive two days.

Kindest Regards,

**Sergio Hernandez**  
Superintendent, Freeman SD  
Chair, WASA Small Schools  
Committee



## GENERAL INFORMATION

### CLOCK HOURS

Nine (9) hours—Forms available at the conference registration desk.

### NAME BADGES

Name badges are required for entrance to all sessions and all conference activities. Please recycle your name badge after the conference at the registration desk.

### EXHIBITOR PRIZE DRAWING

Prizes will be awarded at the ice cream social on Monday, March 1. You must be present to win!

### SPECIAL MEETINGS

See page 18 for the times and locations of meetings scheduled during the conference.

## EVENT SPONSORS

WASA acknowledges and thanks our event sponsors.

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## MONDAY, MARCH 1

7:15 a.m. .... Lobby  
**REGISTRATION OPENS**

7:15–8 a.m. .... Ballroom C  
**CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**

8–9:30 a.m. .... Ballroom C  
**GENERAL SESSION—KEYNOTE**

Welcome

**Sergio Hernandez**, Superintendent, Freeman SD; Chair, WASA Small Schools Committee and **Monte Bridges**, Ed.D., Superintendent, PSESD; President, WASA

Hosted by

**D. A. Davidson & Co.**

### Bridging the Gap

Oftentimes large schools get all of the attention and support around the achievement gap, but small schools are experiencing similar “gaps”. You will hear about our state data but will also walk away with some practical strategies for addressing the gaps in your buildings. Come ready to be inspired!



**Erin Jones**, Assistant Superintendent, Student Achievement, OSPI

*Sessions continued on next page.*

## MONDAY, MARCH 1

9:30–10:30 a.m.

### CONCURRENT SESSION 1

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#### **The Pros and Cons of Implementing CORE 24.....Suite 100**

The adoption of CORE 24 by the State Board has prompted districts to examine how additional credits and class content will be implemented. The presenters, members of the implementation task force for the state board, will share their insight to the anticipated challenges and opportunities.

**Sergio Hernandez**, Superintendent, Freeman SD and Chair, WASA Small Schools Committee; **Sandra Sheldon**, Superintendent, Warden SD; **Mark Mansell**, Superintendent, La Center SD

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#### **Maintaining Quality Learning with Best Practices in Using Instructional Media and Online Resources .....Suite 200**

When used effectively, instructional media and online resources extend the depth and breadth of student learning. Participants will examine best practices for using these resources (such as Learn360 and Elibrary), effective staff training, and ways to determine, if necessary, which resources to keep and which to cut.

**Molly Berger**, Instructional Improvement Coordinator, ESD 105

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#### **Maintaining Quality Learning with a Tight Budget and Limited Resources—Grades 5–8 .....Suite 300**

Re-enforcing classroom skills in small school districts, the “Who Was Who in America” program extends opportunities for teachers to provide practice while integrating Reading and Writing with Mathematics, Social Studies, History, and Geography. Enhanced with a variety of relevant in-class activities, the program also offers a school-to-school internet component.

**Peter Gray**, Instructor of Mathematics, Whatcom Community College

## MONDAY, MARCH 1

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### **Web 2.0: Google Style.....Suite 400**

Session attendees will explore many free, powerful, and game-changing resources provided by Google (gmail, Google Documents, Google Sites, Blogger, etc.). Come learn how you can transform the way you do work, expand the learning environment beyond the classroom, and lower your technology-related expenses at the same time.

**Dana Anderson**, Assistant Superintendent, ESD 113

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### **10:30–11 a.m.....Lobby VISIT EXHIBITS/REFRESHMENT BREAK**

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### **11 a.m.–12 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSION 2**

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#### **Making Innovative Connections With Your Land Grant Institution . . . WSU.....Suite 100**

Panel members will discuss strategies for developing collaborative school-university partnerships and address the following topics: special education (including RTI), technology, environmental education, early learning, middle-level learning, and STEM education. The panel will share current research initiatives at WSU and seek input from rural superintendents and school board members.

**Arlene Hett**, Ed.D., Director, WSU Collaboration Center; **Hal Jackson**, Assistant Professor, Teaching & Learning; **Jake Dingman**, Superintendent/Principal, Oakesdale SD, **Jim Kowalkowski**, Director, Rural Education Center; **Matt Marino**, Assistant Professor of Special Education, WSU faculty

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*Sessions continued on next page.*

## MONDAY, MARCH 1

### **Content Area Literacy: Strategies for Critical Reading and Writing in Secondary Content and STEM Classes.....Suite 200**

Student success in an academic discipline or content areas is dependent on the ability to comprehend, analyze, and evaluate texts in the specific content and effectively communicate findings and ideas. In this session, participants will examine strategies for building student learning in content areas particularly in STEM courses.

**Molly Berger**, *Instructional Improvement Coordinator, ESD 105*

### **Print Alternatives for Struggling Readers: Free and Cheap Technology Resources.....Suite 300**

This presentation will show several free and inexpensive technology solutions for students who struggle with reading at grade level. Participants will gain an awareness of how these hardware and software tools can be used in regular classrooms to support students with learning disabilities, language barriers, or other impediments to reading.

**Jerry Connolly**, *Director, Special Education Technology Center*

**Note: In an effort to help the environment, WASA no longer offers bottled water at conferences.**

## MONDAY, MARCH 1

### **The Leader's Journey: Taking Courage and Inspiration from Story Structure .....Suite 400**

Even the strongest leaders can feel lonely and worn down by the daily dilemmas and complex challenges of leadership. One strategy to sustain your energy, good humor, and calm leadership voice, comes from story structure and the archetypal heroes of literature and film. The characteristic patterns of their journeys can assist you in making courageous decisions and behaving ethically in difficult situations.

This session presents a story structure matrix that helps leaders analyze the dilemmas they face. We will ask you to identify your challenges and to consider how your allies can assist in resolving your dilemmas, conquering your fears, and finding your way back.

**Gordon Linse**, *Executive Director, Learning, Teaching, and Family Support* and **Janice Watson**, *Deputy Superintendent, PSESD*

### **12–1:30 p.m..... Ballroom C LUNCH AND GENERAL SESSION**

*Lunch and Awards Cohosted by*  
**PEMCO Insurance and School Employees Credit Union of Washington**

**PEMCO's Robert J. Handy "Most Effective Administrator Awards" Presentation**

*Introduction of Recipients*

**Paul Rosier**, Ed.D., Executive Director, WASA

*Presenting the Awards*

**Jim Menzies**, Ph.D., PEMCO Insurance/School Employees Credit Union of Washington

*Keynote Introduction*

**Sergio Hernandez**, Superintendent, Freeman SD; Chair, WASA Small Schools Committee

*Sessions continued on next page.*

## MONDAY, MARCH 1

### Keynote Presentation Hot Topics Perspective

State Superintendent, **Randy Dorn** or Deputy Superintendent, **Alan Burke**, will share perspectives on current legislation, fiscal challenges, Race To The Top efforts, and other topics. Time for questions will be provided.

**Randy Dorn**, Superintendent  
or **Alan Burke**, Ed.D., Deputy  
Superintendent, Office of  
Superintendent of Public  
Instruction



1:45–2:45 p.m.

### CONCURRENT SESSION 3

#### Small Schools Cooperatives ..... Suite 100

Cooperatives may all look and operate differently, but essential elements of effective cooperatives are consistent. This session addresses joint cooperatives for services, academics, and athletics currently operating in districts in Northeastern Washington. A panel of superintendents will discuss their individual cooperatives and respond to questions.

**Jake Dingman**, Superintendent/Principal, Oakesdale SD; **Wayne Massie**, Superintendent/Principal, Tekoa SD; **Shauna Schmerer**, Superintendent, Almira SD

## MONDAY, MARCH 1

### Meeting the Challenge: An Innovative Approach to Narrow the Achievement Gap in Small Schools ..... Suite 200

Examine links between the achievement gap, health disparities, absenteeism, and non-academic barriers to learning in small school environments. Review school based health interventions data impacting academic achievement. Explore un-met needs for health services as identified by Superintendents. Understand how Washington State districts successfully utilize regional supports for student achievement.

**Gail Ann Fast** and **Loralie Gray**, School Nurse  
Corps Administrator; **Ian Grabenhost**, Assistant  
Superintendent, ESD 105

### Innovation Through Cooperation ..... Suite 300

By embracing the value of “cooperation”, Valley SD has emerged as an innovative leader in the delivery of instruction, assessment, and student transportation. The District’s Columbia Virtual Academy program Director, Lori Larsen, shares her experience and describes reasons and ways districts throughout Washington can achieve the benefits of innovative cooperation.

**Lori Larsen**, Columbia Virtual Academy Director,  
Valley SD 070’s Columbia Virtual Academy

### RTI Tier 3 Intervention ..... Suite 400

Participants will learn about how the Saddle Mountain Intermediate School has established an RTI process by utilizing Tier III instruction. Presenters will also describe how student data is utilized in student decision making. Participants will leave the presentation with clear steps to implement their own RTI system.

**Missy Stevenson**, Ed.D., Principal; **Debbie Anderson**,  
Teacher; **Audra Eccenburg**, Paraeducator; Wahluke SD

*Sessions continued on next page.*

## MONDAY, MARCH 1

### 2:45–3:15 p.m. .... Lobby VISIT EXHIBITS/ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Door prize and exhibitor gift drawing—must be present to win!

*Cohosted by*  
**The American Academy**  
**American Fidelity**  
**Great Floors/Mannington**

### 3:30–4:30 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSION 4

#### **The Science of Food Safety ..... Suite 100**

This exciting new curriculum, sponsored jointly by the National Science Teachers Association and the Food and Drug Administration, has been revamped with updated materials. The curriculum contains several useful components: separate guides for middle level and high school science teachers; an interactive video, “Dr. X and the Quest for Food Safety”; and the comprehensive “Food Safety A to Z Reference Guide.”

*Charlotte Kelly, Teacher, NSTA/FDA and Ilwaco Middle/High School, Ocean Beach SD*

# JOIN US!

AWSP/WASA

# SUMMER CONFERENCE

June 27–29, 2010 • Spokane Convention Center

## MONDAY, MARCH 1

### **Creating School and District-Wide Instructional Focus ..... Suite 200**

In this session participants will learn about a process in the West Valley SD that involves teacher leaders in developing a focus on effective instruction in the classroom. This process provides coherence vertically and horizontally within the district as well as including administrators.

*Cathy Benedetti, Director of Teaching and Learning, ESD 105*

### **Making Choices That Define Your School Culture ..... Suite 300**

Have you ever wondered why the adult cultures in schools sometimes bump along, get stuck, or become toxic? Our students deserve to learn in an environment where adults make positive choices about their behavior, their interactions with one another, and with students. This session invites participants to explore a decision matrix we’ve built based on our mission and values at the Puget Sound ESD. Using the matrix, we’ve invited our staff to create a shared language of civility, principle-driven behavior, and commitment to learning. This matrix provides a framework for building and sustaining a respectful community where adult energy focuses on student needs.

*Janice Watson, Deputy Superintendent and Gordon Linse, Executive Director, Learning, Teaching, and Family Support, PSESD*

*Sessions continued on next page.*

## MONDAY, MARCH 1

### K–12 Education: State Curriculum Resources and Updates.....Suite 400

*This session repeats on Tuesday at 9:45 a.m.*

Join OSPI's teaching and learning leadership team to learn about state-level resources and supports available for district leaders. Participants will receive a comprehensive picture of what's happening with state standards and instructional supports in all content areas. In addition to an update of existing K–12 mathematics and science standards and instructional material suggestions, participants will learn the latest about the possible adoption of the common core standards in English/language arts and math, and review legislative policy and budget issues that will have an effect on instruction in 2010–11. We will be seeking your input on ways these systems can best support districts in this time of financial hardship.

*Alan Burke, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent for K–12 Education and Jessica Vavrus, Director of Teaching & Learning, OSPI*

### 4:30–5:30 p.m. ....Garden Terrace Room, Red Lion Hotel

#### HOSPITALITY RECEPTION

*Sponsored by  
The Beresford Company*

### 6 p.m. DINNER ON YOUR OWN

## TUESDAY, MARCH 2

### 7–8 a.m..... Ballroom C CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

### 8–9:30 a.m. ISSUE DISCUSSIONS BY DISTRICT SIZE

*Presiding  
John Dekker, Assistant Executive Director, WASA*

Size .....	Room
200-Below .....	Suite 100
201-499.....	Suite 200
500-999.....	Suite 300
1000+ .....	Suite 400
Non-high.....	Suite 500

### 9:30–9:45 a.m.....Lobby REFRESHMENT BREAK

*Sponsored by  
FOSTER PEPPER, PLLC*

### 9:45–10:45 a.m. CONCURRENT SESSION 5

### Kids at Risk or Kids at Hope? ..... Suite 100

All kids can be capable of success! No Exceptions!

Participants will be challenged to think how a negative "stigma" can be replaced with a belief that all kids are valued! Participants will know: the three universal truths; the four destinations; and their belief about kids.

*Dave Colombini, Director of School and Family Support and Ed Santos, District Athletic Director, South Kitsap SD*

*Sessions continued on next page.*

## TUESDAY, MARCH 2

### **New Barriers to Learning ..... Suite 200**

Learn how “behavioral addictions” interfere with learning from one of the most researched issues to date—problem gambling. 2008 Healthy Youth Survey data indicates 1 in 3 Washington teens gamble. Learn about problem gambling among teens, preventing gambling on campus, and how problem gambling can devastate teen development.

**Rhonda Stone**, Community Education Coordinator and **Debby Vandall**, Special Agent, Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling and the Washington State Gambling Commission

### **Avoiding a Messy RIF ..... Suite 300**

Learn strategies to avoid the common and not-so-common pitfalls in reductions of certificated employees, including areas where unions typically challenge RIF’s and how to preempt them.

**John Manix**, Partner; Stevens, Clay, Manix, P.S.

### **K–12 Education: State Curriculum Resources and Updates ..... Suite 400**

Join OSPI’s teaching and learning leadership team to learn about state-level resources and supports available for district leaders. Participants will receive a comprehensive picture of what’s happening with state standards and instructional supports in all content areas. In addition to an update of existing K–12 mathematics and science standards and instructional material suggestions, participants will learn the latest about the possible adoption of the common core standards in English/language arts and math, and review legislative policy and budget issues that will have an effect on instruction in 2010–11. We will be seeking your input on ways these systems can best support districts in this time of financial hardship.

**Alan Burke**, Ed.D. Deputy Superintendent for K–12 Education and **Jessica Vavrus**, Director of Teaching & Learning, OSPI

## TUESDAY, MARCH 2

11 a.m.–12 p.m.

### **CONCURRENT SESSION 6**

### **Using STAR Protocol to Improve Student Understanding ..... Suite 100**

The LaCrosse K–12 staff is working within their cross grade level Critical Friends Groups to implement an instructional model that shows great promise to increase student thinking and understanding at all grade levels. Find out how the STAR protocol can improve classroom instruction for all students.

**Mike Jones**, Secondary Teacher and **Sarita Hopkins**, Elementary Teacher, LaCrosse SD

### **Be An Instructional Leader in the Classroom, Not in Your Office Dealing With Discipline ..... Suite 200**

Cut referral to your office by 95%. Time to Teach is a discipline system that allows teachers to focus on curriculum instead of behaviors. Learn how you can take the emotions out of discipline and keep the classroom focus on learning.

**Mark Heid**, Superintendent; **Clay Henry**, High School Principal; **Dave Barta**, Middle School Principal; **Tyanan Knowlton**, Primary Principal; Goldendale SD

*Sessions continued on next page.*

## TUESDAY, MARCH 2

### The High Cost of Adverse Childhood Experiences.....Suite 300

Incredible advancements in brain research and health studies help us understand how adverse childhood experience shapes the individual, drives high cost social problems, and becomes an extremely powerful determination of health across the lifespan. This presentation will provide the opportunity to learn what the newest brain research and epidemiology tell us about adverse childhood experience and the developing child and their effect on learning. We will look at typical patterns of physical, mental, and behavioral development, the ACE study results, resiliency, and how you can make a difference.

*Susan Martin, Prevention Coordinator and Cathy Kelly, Prevention/Intervention Coordinator, ESD 105*

### Collective Bargaining—Hot Topics.....Suite 400

With resources getting tighter, collective bargaining is heating up in small school districts across the state. This session is an opportunity to gain current information and up-to-date trends likely to appear at the bargaining table. Time will be set aside for Q & A regarding trends and strategies to reaching fair and sustainable bargaining agreements.

*Dave Alfred, Executive Director, ERNN and John Dekker, Assistant Executive Director, WASA*

### 12–1 p.m..... Ballroom C LUNCH AND GENERAL SESSION

*Keynote Introduction*

**Sergio Hernandez**, Superintendent, Freeman SD;  
Chair, WASA Small Schools Committee

*Keynote Presentation*

*Sponsored by*

**SEATTLE NORTHWEST SECURITIES**

## TUESDAY, MARCH 2

### PERC and Its Impact on Labor Relations

Cathy will give an overview of PERC, discuss unfair labor practices, past and present decisions that impact the workplace, how to use the mediation process, and lessons learned from school district mediation cases.

*Cathy Callahan, Executive Director and Ken Latsch, Special Projects Manager, PERC*

### 1 p.m. .... Foyer, Ballroom C BOX LUNCH

### 1:15 p.m. CONFERENCE ADJOURNS

*Thank you for participating in the 2010 WASA Small Schools Conference!*

## SPECIAL MEETINGS

### FEBRUARY 28

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**3:30–5 p.m. .... Suite 500**  
**JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING—WASA SMALL SCHOOLS COMMITTEE AND WSSDA SMALL SCHOOLS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### MARCH 2

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**6:45–7:45 a.m. .... Suite 500**  
**RURAL EDUCATION CENTER**

## SMALL SCHOOLS COMMITTEE

### Region..... Member

101 ..... Tom Crowley, Rosalia  
..... Sergio Hernandez, Freeman (Chair)  
105 ..... Mark Flatau, Cle Elum-Roslyn  
108 ..... Barbara Kline, Orcas Island  
109 ..... Larry Johnson, Darrington  
110 ..... Michael Soltman, Vashon Island  
111 ..... Scott Hubbard, Carbonado  
112 ..... Vacant  
113 ..... Ed Rothlin, Adna  
114 ..... Nancy Thompson, Brinnon  
123 ..... Vacant  
171 ..... Vacant  
Rural Ed ..... Jim Kowalkowski, Davenport  
WSSDA ..... Elissa Dyson  
WSSDA ..... Kate Vikstrom  
OSPI ..... Dan Newell

## WASA OFFICERS

President ..... Monte Bridges, Ed.D.,  
Puget Sound ESD  
President-elect ..... Sandra Hill,  
Pasco SD  
Past President ..... Rich McBride, Ed.D.,  
North Central ESD 171

## WASA STAFF

Executive Director ..... Paul Rosier, Ed.D.  
Asst. Executive Director ..... Barbara Mertens, Ed.D.  
Asst. Executive Director ..... John Dekker  
Asst. Executive Director ..... Mack Armstrong, Ed.D.

## EXHIBITORS

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WA State Migrant Student Data & Recruitment Office