



JOURNAL OF THE WASHINGTON
ASSOCIATION OF MAINTENANCE
AND OPERATION ADMINISTRATORS

SUMMER 2026 | WWW.WAMOA.ORG



WILDFIRE SMOKE: BEST PRACTICES PG 8

DISINFECTING WIPES: GET TO THE FACTS PG 12

LEGISLATIVE SCHOOL TOURS PG 24

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UP**

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The WAMOA Journal
is published by
COLIBRI Northwest
for WAMOA.

COLIBRI Northwest
PO Box 13130
Des Moines, WA 98198-1003

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Summer is Well Underway

As I sit down to write this message, another summer is already well underway. Across Washington, maintenance shops are busy, projects are moving at full speed, and teams are working tirelessly to prepare schools for another successful year. It's one of the busiest seasons we face, yet it's also a reminder of why our work matters.

Most people never see the early mornings, late nights, or countless hours spent replacing equipment, completing projects, responding to emergencies, or washing carpets before students return. And that's okay. Our profession has never been about recognition. It's about service.

There is something unique about the work we do. Whether you're a custodian preparing classrooms, a groundskeeper maintaining lawns and beds, a technician troubleshooting building systems, or a director planning for the future, we all share a common purpose. We work behind the scenes so students and staff can focus on learning, growing, and succeeding.

To me, that's one of the greatest examples of selfless service.

One of the greatest lessons I've learned throughout my career is that knowledge has little value if we keep it to ourselves. Every lesson learned, every challenge overcome,

and every innovative solution becomes more meaningful when it's shared. That's what WAMOA has always represented—a community of professionals willing to invest in one another because we understand that when one district succeeds, we all move forward.

That same spirit of service is what has made WAMOA such a valuable organization for decades to countless building operators. WAMOA isn't simply a conference or a collection of meetings throughout the year. It is a community of professionals who willingly share their knowledge, experiences, and lessons learned because they understand that helping one another ultimately benefits every district we serve.

One of the greatest strengths of our association is the willingness of our members to engage. Every time someone teaches a class, hosts a regional meeting, serves on a committee, mentors a new supervisor, or simply takes a phone call from a colleague looking for advice, they are contributing to something much larger than themselves. They are preserving knowledge, strengthening our profession, and helping ensure that the next generation of maintenance and operations professionals is better prepared than the last.

As we prepare for another school year and look ahead to our Fall Conference, I encourage you to think about one thing you can share with another member. It might be a lesson learned from a recent project, an innovative solution, or simply an offer to help someone facing a challenge you've already overcome. Those conversations are what make WAMOA more than an association—they're what make it a community.

Thank you for the work you do each day. While much of it happens behind the scenes, its impact is seen every time a student walks into a safe, clean, and well-maintained school. Your commitment to serving others, often without recognition, is what makes this profession so remarkable. It is an honor to serve alongside professionals who give so much of themselves for the benefit of their schools, their communities, and one another.

I look forward to seeing many of you this fall. Until then, stay safe, keep learning, continue supporting one another... and I'll see you at the finish line. 

Cisco Gomez
President, WAMOA



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Wildfire Smoke Is in the Air— And It's Not Just “Smells Like Campfire”

Wildfire season has officially returned, and while dramatic sunsets and smoky horizons may look cinematic, health experts want you to know one thing loud and clear: wildfire smoke is no joke.

That haze hanging in the air is packed with tiny, harmful particles and chemicals that can make anyone sick, even healthy people who've never had breathing problems before. And since smoke levels can change by the hour, staying informed is just as important as staying indoors.

What's Actually in Wildfire Smoke? (Spoiler: Stuff You Don't Want to Breathe)

Wildfire smoke contains fine particulate matter, known as PM2.5—microscopic particles so small they can slip deep into your lungs and even enter your bloodstream. The EPA uses a system called NowCast AQI PM2.5 to translate these particle levels into easy-to-understand air quality ratings.

Bottom line: if the air looks smoky, it's not just unpleasant—it may be unhealthy.

Smoke Symptoms: From Mild to Medical Emergencies

Exposure to wildfire smoke can cause a wide range of symptoms, including:

Breathing & Lung Issues

- Coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath
- Difficulty breathing or asthma attacks
- Runny nose, sore throat, sinus pressure
- Increased phlegm

Heart & Circulation Concerns

- Chest pain or discomfort
- Fast or irregular heartbeat
- Feeling weak, dizzy, light-headed, or faint
- Pain in the jaw, neck, or back

Red Flags for Stroke (Get Help Immediately)

- Sudden numbness or weakness on one side of the body
- Sudden confusion or trouble speaking
- Sudden vision trouble
- Sudden dizziness or loss of coordination
- Sudden, severe headache with no known cause

Other Common Effects

- Headaches
 - Scratchy or irritated eyes
 - Fatigue and unusual tiredness
- If something doesn't feel right, trust your instincts and seek medical help.

Air Quality Isn't Static— Check It Often

Wildfire smoke can shift quickly depending on wind and fire activity. That's why planning ahead is key, especially for outdoor workers.

Reliable tools to check current air quality include:

- Washington's Air Monitoring Network (Department of Ecology)
- Washington Smoke Information Blog (state agencies and Tribes)
- EPA Fire and Smoke Map

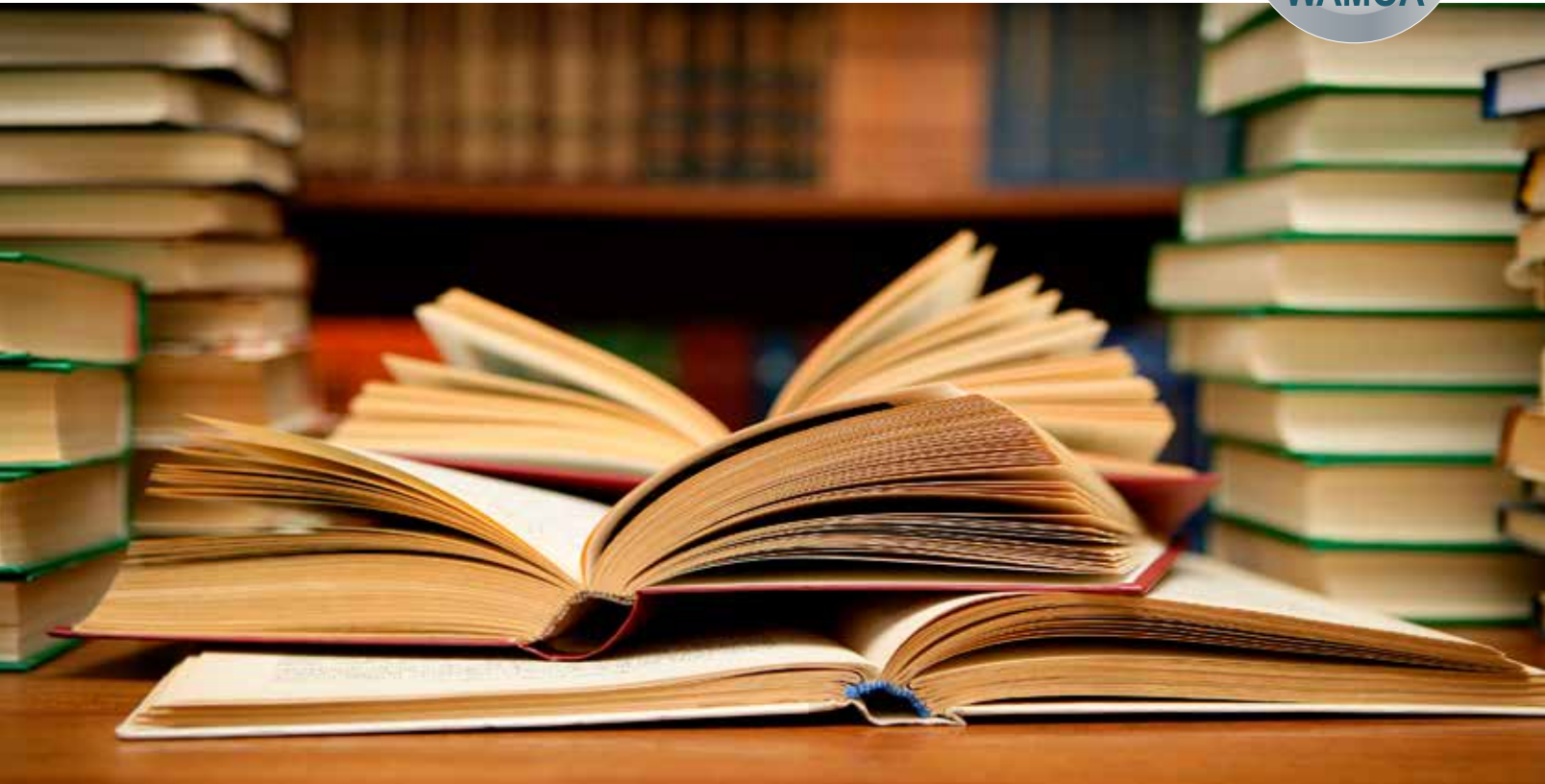
A quick check can make a big difference.

Protecting Workers When the Smoke Rolls In

When smoke levels rise, outdoor work should be limited or modified. Employers can reduce risk by:

- Providing enclosed, well-filtered buildings or vehicles

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Indoor Air Quality Management, continued

- Using portable HEPA air filters in indoor spaces
 - Relocating work to areas with cleaner air
 - Adjusting schedules to times when smoke is lower
 - Reducing dusty or smoky tasks (welding, sanding, sawing, spray painting)
 - Lowering work intensity and increasing rest breaks
- Small changes can significantly reduce exposure.

Masks Matter—

But Not All Masks Are Equal

Let's clear this up:

- Bandanas, scarves, cloth masks, and KN95s do not protect against wildfire smoke
- A NIOSH-approved N95

respirator is the minimum effective protection

When smoke reaches certain levels, employers are required to provide N95 respirators, and even stronger protection can be offered.

Fit matters, too, a properly fitted respirator makes a big difference.

Speak Up, Stay Safe

Working in wildfire smoke can make people sick—and workers should always report symptoms to their employer. This allows employers to monitor health concerns and adjust before symptoms worsen.

In severe cases, workers may need emergency medical care or to follow a healthcare provider's guidance.

Important reminder: Employers are not allowed to retaliate against employees for:

- Reporting air quality hazards
- Reporting health symptoms
- Seeking medical treatment for work-related illness

Your health comes first—always.

The Takeaway

Wildfire smoke may be a fact of life during summer and fall, but serious health impacts don't have to be. Stay informed, check air quality often, use proper protection, and speak up if something feels wrong.

Clear air may not always be in our control—but how we protect ourselves is.

Stay safe—and breathe easy when you can. 

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Extra! Extra! Read All About It: Disinfecting Wipes—Not Classroom Superheroes After All

They promise sparkle. They smell “clean.” They’re quick, convenient, and everywhere.

But when it comes to classrooms, disinfecting wipes are not the heroes we were hoping for. While these wipes may be helpful in hospitals and certain custodial situations, experts say they don’t belong in classrooms—and for good reasons. Many disinfecting wipes contain chemicals that can be harmful to both students and staff, especially children, who are more sensitive to chemical exposures than adults.

Let’s wipe away the confusion and get to the facts.

Did You Know?

(Spoiler: The Label Tells the Story)

Take a closer look at most containers of disinfecting wipes and you’ll see phrases like:

- “Keep out of reach of children”
- “Use only as directed”
- “Store in original container in areas inaccessible to children”

That’s not exactly classroom-friendly language.

School safety rules back this up:

- Custodial cleaning supplies must be labeled, secured, and stored away from students
- Safety Data Sheets (SDS) must be

kept on-site and readily available for all chemicals—yes, including wipes

- Only products approved by a school district’s Purchasing

Department are allowed in schools

If a product isn’t approved or has instructions that say keep away from kids, it doesn’t belong next to crayons and notebooks

The Real Issue: What’s Inside These Wipes?

Many disinfecting wipes contain Quaternary Ammonium Compounds, or “Quats.” These are powerful disinfectants widely used in household cleaners, fabric softeners, and personal care products—and they’re officially classified as pesticides.

Why that matters:

- Quats and added fragrances are known asthma triggers
- They can irritate lungs, skin, and eyes
- Overuse increases exposure without improving cleanliness

Another problem? False confidence. Disinfecting wipes require specific surface contact times to work properly—and those instructions are often misunderstood or skipped entirely.

Clean looking does not always mean clean or safe.

So, What Should Be Used in Classrooms?

Good news! Keeping classrooms





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Disinfecting Wipes, continued

clean doesn't require harsh chemicals. In fact, the safest options are some of the simplest. Safer, School-Approved Solutions include:

- **Soap & Water.** The gold standard. Warm water, soap, paper towels or microfiber cloths—and a little elbow grease—do the job for everyday cleaning. Ask custodial staff for a classroom spray bottle.
- **Unscented Baby Wipes.** These are the only wipes approved by the Department of Health for classroom use. No disinfectants, no fragrances, no problem.
- **Call in the Pros.** Custodial staff are trained to use disinfectants safely and correctly. Disinfection

is necessary only for specific situations like vomit, feces, or when required by law.

What Schools (and Staff) Can Do Right Now

- Remove disinfecting wipes from classrooms. Store them securely in the main office or a centralized district location.
- Do not bring chemicals from home. Per OSPIDOH guidance, household cleaners and

disinfectants should stay at home.

- Update back to school supply lists. Request fragrancefree baby wipes, paper towels, and microfiber cloths instead.
- Check the label—every time. Product names are often used for



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Disinfecting Wipes, continued

education, but the label always tells the full story.

The Bottom Line

Disinfecting wipes may be convenient—but in classrooms, they can do more harm than good. Clean does not have to mean chemical, and protecting student health starts with choosing safer tools.

When it comes to schools, the best cleaning solution is one that keeps students learning, breathing, and thriving.

So, let us give disinfecting wipes a respectful send-off from the classroom—and welcome safer, smarter cleaning practices instead. 

NOTE: Wipes information/name is used for educational examples. Always read the label!

REFERENCE GUIDE:

2024 OSPI-DOH Health & Safety Guide for K-12 Schools in Washington State

- **Section B -Building Operation and Maintenance:**
B 007 All hazardous substances and chemicals (e.g., cleaning and disinfecting products) shall be easily identified (e.g., labeled), and used with caution. They must be stored in such a manner as to prevent unauthorized use and possible contamination of food and drink.
- **Section C - General Safety:**
C 003 All custodial maintenance supplies shall be labeled as to specific contents and be stored in secure areas inaccessible to students. Safety Data Sheets (SDS) are required to be kept on site and readily available.

RCW 17.21.415(4&5)

- A system must be in place that notifies interested parents or guardians and school employees at least 48 hours before a pesticide application. Notification must name the pesticide to be applied, the location, intended date and time of the application, the pest to be controlled and the name and telephone number of a contact person at the school.

RCW 17.21.415(3)

- All pesticide applications at a school must be posted at a prominent place in the main office. The sign must be at least 8.5 inches by 11 inches in size and must state the name of the pesticide applied, the date, time and location of the application, the pest to be controlled and a contact name and phone number of a contact at the school.



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Washington Summers Are Turning Up the Heat!

Washington is famous for drizzle, evergreens, and “just one more layer” weather—but lately, summer has been rewriting the script. According to climate scientists and the Washington State Department of Health, our summers are getting longer, hotter, and more intense, and heat waves are becoming a regular guest rather than a rare visitor. And while sunshine sounds great, extreme heat can be downright dangerous if we’re not prepared.

The Heat Is On— And It's Serious Business

Extreme heat isn't just uncomfortable; it's a public health concern. Studies show that during extreme heat events in Washington, hospital visits and emergency responses increase, especially for children, outdoor workers, and older adults. In King County alone, heat-related hospital admissions were 2% higher and deaths 10% higher during extreme heat events compared to average years. The takeaway? Heat-related illness is real—but the good news is that it's preventable.

Who's Most at Risk? (And Why We All Should Care)

While anyone can experience heat-related illness, some people are more vulnerable than others:

- Older adults
- Young children
- Outdoor workers
- People with chronic health conditions
- People experiencing poverty



That's why staying informed and looking out for one another, especially neighbors, friends, and family members who may be at higher risk—is more important than ever.

Cool Moves: How to Beat the Heat Like a Pro

When temperatures rise, a few smart habits can make a big difference. Here's how to stay cool and safe:

- Cover windows that get a lot of morning or afternoon sun
- Wear lightweight, breathable clothing
- Take cool showers or baths
- Use stoves and ovens less to avoid

heating up your home

- Remember: fans help with comfort, but they don't prevent heat illness during extreme heat

No air conditioning? No problem—even a few hours in an air-conditioned place like a mall, grocery store, or library can help your body recover from the heat.

Hydration Station: Drink Up!

- Drink plenty of water—often
- Skip caffeine, alcohol, and sugary drinks (they dehydrate you)
- Carry water with you whenever possible
- Don't wait until you're thirsty to drink

Heading Outside? Time It Right

- Avoid direct sunlight when possible
- Schedule outdoor activities for early morning or evening
- Take frequent breaks and avoid overexertion
- Never leave children, pets, or people with mobility challenges in parked cars—not even for a minute

Employees and Employers:

Be Heat Smart

- Address outdoor heat exposure safety
- Provide annual training
- Provide cool drinking water
- Provide adequate shade
- Workers must be provided with paid breaks
- Closely observe employees not acclimatized to the heat
- Have emergency procedures to

respond appropriately

- Make sure supervisors and employees have a way to communicate

The Bottom Line

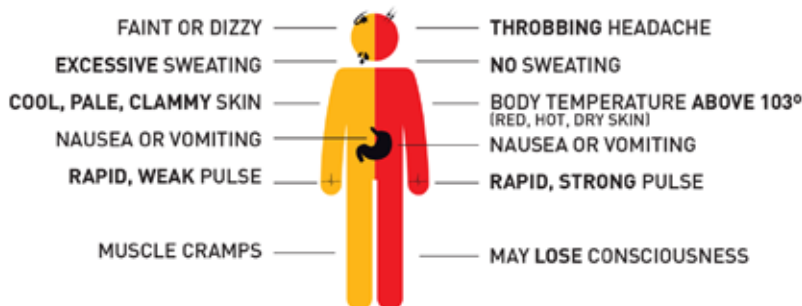
Washington summers may be heating up, but with the right precautions, we can stay safe, healthy,

and cool. Check on your neighbors, drink your water, and plan your days wisely. Sunshine is great—but safety always comes first.

For more tips on staying cool during extreme heat, visit the Washington State Department of Health or TPCHD's "Keep Cool" resources.

Stay cool out there, Washington! 🇺🇸

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Region 3 Regional Training Seminar

On Friday, June 26, Region 3 welcomed facilities, maintenance, custodial, and operations professionals from across Southwest Washington and beyond to Evergreen Public Schools' Mountain View High School in Vancouver for its Regional Training Seminar.

The event brought together 88 school district participants representing 9 school districts—Vancouver, Washington State School for the Blind, Onalaska, Hockinson, Evergreen, Goldendale, Tacoma, Woodland, and Washougal. Representatives from the Washington State Department of Health and Clark County Public Health also joined the event, along with approximately 47 Ed Partner representatives from 25 companies. The day provided an outstanding opportunity for professional development, networking, and collaboration among professionals committed to creating safe and healthy learning environments.

The day began with an inspiring keynote presentation by Kareen Mills, entrepreneur, positioning coach, angel investor, and founder of Friendsgiving Live®. Her presentation, *Leadership People Remember: Why the*



Most Influential Leaders are Rarely the Loudest, challenged attendees to reflect on resilience, personal growth, and the idea that leadership starts from within. One message that resonated throughout the room was the reminder that if we hope to receive qualities such as respect, we must first be willing to give them. It was a simple but powerful takeaway that reinforced the importance of leading by example.

Participants selected from 12 workshop sessions covering a wide range of topics, including indoor air quality, water loss response, roofing repairs, playground inspections, HVAC optimization, floor care, door security, environmental



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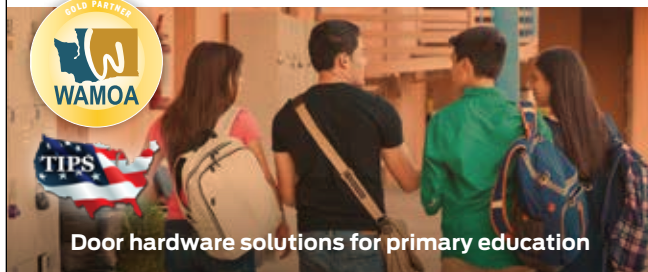
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health standards, and restoration best practices. Whether attendees were looking to strengthen technical skills or learn about emerging issues impacting school facilities, there was something for everyone.

Following lunch and the always-popular trade show, the afternoon featured Region 3’s inaugural M&O Rodeo. Six school districts—Hockinson, Woodland, Vancouver, Onalaska, Washougal, and Evergreen—competed in four spirited events: the Hula Hoop Toss, Dust Mop Course, Toilet Paper Stacking, and Hand Truck Delivery. The friendly competition showcased teamwork, creativity, and plenty of laughter while

celebrating the everyday skills of maintenance and operations professionals. Evergreen Public Schools earned first-place honors and are the holders of the championship belt, with Hockinson finishing second and Woodland taking third.

The Regional Training Seminar would not have been possible without the incredible support of our Educational Partners. Their sponsorships, workshop presentations, trade show participation, and generous contributions helped make the day both educational and enjoyable for everyone in attendance.

Region 3 extends its sincere appreciation to Evergreen Public Schools for hosting this year’s seminar, to our presenters for sharing their expertise, to our Ed Partners for their continued partnership, and to everyone who attended. The Regional Training Seminar once again demonstrated the value of bringing facilities professionals together to learn from one another, build new relationships, and return to their districts with fresh ideas and renewed energy. 

*Nicole Daltoso, WAMOA Reg 3 chair
Evergreen Public schools*



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Region 7 RTS Drives Safety and Innovation

On June 17th, educational facilities and maintenance professionals gathered at McFarland Middle School in Othello, Washington, for the WAMOA Region 7 RTS. Driven by the theme “Safe Schools, Strong Communities,” the RTS delivered practical training designed to enhance school safety, preparedness, and prevention. Attendees participated in educational sessions led by an exceptional lineup of expert guest speakers who brought invaluable industry insights to our community. An event of this scale required a strong collaborative effort, and our hosts provided an excellent environment for learning. I want to extend my sincere thank you to our co-hosts, the Othello School District and the North Franklin School District—represented by Superintendent Dr. Pete Perez and Superintendent Brian Moore—for supporting this day of professional growth.

I am proud to share that this event saw an incredible turnout, drawing 193 school district attendees representing 16 school districts from across the region. When counting

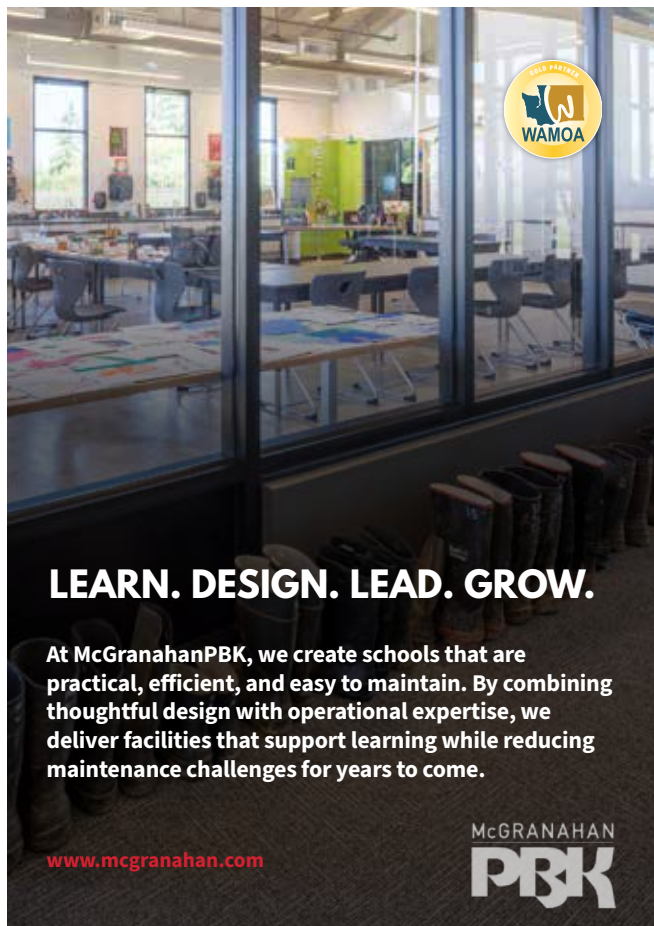


our phenomenal educational partners and special guests, I welcomed nearly 250 attendees overall to the school grounds. This massive participation highlights the strong commitment WAMOA has toward continuous learning and creating safer environments for our students.

The RTS featured specialized tracks led by leading professionals from across the region who shared critical expertise throughout the day. Superintendent Dr. Pete Perez and Superintendent Brian Moore kicked off the event by welcoming attendees and setting a collaborative tone. Valuable health and safety protocols were covered by Bailey Stanger from the Benton Franklin Health District, who provided insights on playground inspection guidelines and healthy indoor air quality. For grounds management, Jordan Anderson of Planet Turf demonstrated how to use soil testing data points to make smart turf management decisions, while Steve Lebsack of Pacific Golf and Turf showcased the latest in grounds equipment.

Community and operational safety took center stage in several interactive sessions. Officers Brent McFarlane and Rafael Vargas from the Othello Police Department shared essential awareness training on local gang and drug trends. Kele Valles from Othello Community Hospital taught life-saving strategies during a vital Stop the Bleed and Fentanyl awareness session. Invaluable emergency and maintenance skills were also highlighted, as Traci Hudson of Restoration 1 Inland Northwest guided attendees through water damage drying processes, mold risks, and occupant communication. Carlos Blandino of Pacific Floorcare demonstrated advanced tools and techniques for cleaning resilient hard surface flooring, and Ryan Mathews of Fulcrum Environmental Consulting unpacked identification and mitigation strategies for various environmental concerns.

The day also provided high-impact practical training and unique facilities insights. Tom Salsbury of Adams County



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Fire District 5 delivered crucial hands-on training for lithium-ion battery hazards and fire extinguishers. Outside the classrooms, the Big Bend Electric Cooperative facilitated a high-impact, live safety demonstration focusing on downed power lines. Attendees also joined Gregg Fultz of the Othello School District for an exclusive behind-the-scenes facilities tour highlighting the recent McFarland Middle School remodel. Beyond technical training, Kevin Zickler from Voya helped attendees plan for their future with comprehensive retirement preparation strategies. Concluding the day, Senator Perry Dozier from the Washington State 16th District spoke to the crowd, bringing critical legislative insights from his work on the Early Learning, K-12 Education, and Ways and Means Capital Budget committees.

I owe an immense round of applause to the generous sponsors who supported the main event segments throughout the day. Belfor Property Restoration stepped up as the official Registration Sponsor, ensuring a smooth start for all attendees. FMX generously provided a complimentary lunch that kept the entire crowd fueled and energized. The morning and afternoon breaks were kept lively thanks to Clear Risk Solutions and WCP Solutions, who sponsored the coffee, alongside Great Western Recreation and Flynn, who provided the delicious donuts and beverages.

A dedicated lineup of Educational Partners also stepped up to support the RTS, showcasing the latest solutions for creating safe, sustainable learning environments. I want to share my deepest gratitude to all of the participating partners, including Clean Image Services, Inc., Custom Energy, Fulcrum Environmental Consulting, KCDA, Milliken, North Coast, Northwest Playground Equipment Inc., Pacific Floorcare, Pacific Golf & Turf, Planet Turf, Plumb Perfect, Restoration 1 Inland Northwest, RoofMaxx Roof Restoration, ShawContract, TAS Contract, The Part Works, Inc., Virco, and Walter E. Nelson Company. The insights shared

and connections made during the RTS proved that the professional community is stronger than ever. Thank you to every organizer, speaker, sponsor, and attendee who made this event a true success.

A special thank you goes out to the dedicated planning committee whose hard work and coordination brought this entire event to life. I am incredibly grateful for the leadership and efforts of Kelly Gregg from the North Franklin School District, Gregg Fultz from the Othello School District, Alicia Cole from Belfor Restoration, and Jeff Hosler from the Richland School District. Additionally, I want to recognize Paul Harrison for taking the time to meet with Senator Dozier to share what WAMOA is truly all about. Their collective dedication behind the scenes created an exceptional experience for all of the attendees. 🙌

*Britton Vanness, WAMOA Reg 7 Chair
North Franklin School District
Facilities Maintenance and Operations Supervisor*



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School Tour: Auburn HS

On April 28, 2026, Rep. Chris Stearns visited Auburn High School in the Auburn SD.

The building was reconstructed in 2013, based on bond proceeds and SCAP funding assistance, and opened in 2014. It currently serves nearly 2,000 9-12 students. The double entry makes the front entrance secure, and all outside doors are locked. The school qualifies for the Community Eligibility Program, and all students eat breakfast, lunch and dinner, served at 4:30 p.m. for free. Adjacent to their large commons is Cafe Auburn, which serves student prepared meals and beverages and is operated by the Culinary Arts Department, one of the school's Career and Technical



From left, Jon Aarstad, principal; Rep. Stearns; Mitch Denning, WAMOA consultant; Cory Hitzemann, Coughlin Porter Lundeen, Association for Learning Environments (A4LE) representative; Dr. Alan Spiciati, superintendent; Sheila McLaughlin, member, Auburn SD board of directors; Cindi Blansfield, associate superintendent, business operations; Brian Humphreys, executive director, maintenance and operations; Scott Weide, coordinator, resource conservation, and WAMOA representatives; and Shona Bose, PBK Architects, and AIAWA representative.

Education programs. The student on-time graduation rate is 70%, and 75% of the students go on to some kind of post-secondary education. In addition,

over 50% of the students have origins in foreign countries. As the students do not go to a skills center, the school offers an extensive CTE program. The group toured Robotics Technology area, housed in a spacious room. The school offers an excellent auto shop program, and students from other districts high schools can apply to enroll. Also, the wood, metal and welding programs give students amazing opportunities to learn. In the creative arts area, a specious art program is offered with student work display around the campus. The group observed a leading edge Performing Arts Center which seats 937 people. Choir, orchestra, band and drama students provide performances take place throughout the school year. The group observed a very positive school climate, as Trojan Pride was seen throughout the campus. One aspect of this climate is that the Counseling Department offers weekly "Teen Talk" appointments where students can talk with them about depression, grief and bullying. The group agreed that Auburn High School is a wonderful place for students to learn.

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School Tour: Longview Public Schools

On April 23, 2026, Rep. Jim Walsh (R-Aberdeen) visited the Longview Public Schools as part of a WAMOA-facilitated legislative school visit.

Shown above is the outer courtyard of Mint Valley Elementary School, which serves 430 students in grades K-5. The school was originally built in 1969, with no significant remodeling. A bond to renovate the school was run in 2017 and again in 2019, but failed with 58% approval. The school is fully-fenced and outside guests are buzzed in by the office. Both the cafeteria and gym share the same space making it difficult to have p.e. during a lunch period. The roof has had some leakages, and some of the drains need to be replaced. The



From left, Lauren Johnson, Aetta Architects, AIAWA representative; Don Wiiltala, president, Longview SD board of directors; Heidi Burkart, SW regional coordinator, OSPI school facilities and organization; Brian Mitchell, principal; Cody Braque, facilities manager; Patti Bowen, executive director, business services; Mitch Denning, WAMOA consultant; Rep. Walsh; Karen Cloninger, superintendent.

HVAC system has major needs, and the district passed a four-year capital replacement levy this year in February with a 59% approval. The building is comprised of three pods with six classrooms and a common work place for small groups in the center. The library is quite spacious. Considering

the infrastructure of the building, technology is fairly well implemented. The group observed a positive school climate, with respect and responsibility being key elements. The members of the tour would agree that Mint Valley Elementary is an excellent school in which students can learn.



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From left, Mitch Denning, WAMOA consultant; Moleena Harris, director, Career and Technical Education; Sen. Christian; Chelsea Gallagher, principal; Travis Bown, director, maintenance and operations, and WAMOA representative; Mark Brown, EA WA coordinator, OSPI school facilities and organization; Ned Wendle, director, facilities and planning; Michael Cannon, president, Mead SD board of directors; Brent Harding, NAC Architecture, and American Institute of America WA Chapter (AIAWA) representative; Jodi Kittel, EWU planning and construction department, Association for Learning Environments (A4LE) representative; and Travis Hanson, superintendent.

School Tour: Mead SD

On October 22, 2025, Sen. Leonard Christian (R-Spokane Valley) visited Mead SD, as part of the WAMOA-

facilitated legislative school visits.

Shown above is Mt. Spokane High School, which enrolls 1,465 9-12 students. Originally built in 1997,

it now complies with the Clean Buildings Act. It has wide hallways, and a very wide commons with a partition to close off a portion of the commons for sporting events in the gym. Principal Chelsea Gallagher states that their on-time graduation rate for the Class of 2025 is 93.2%, and about 70-75% of the students go onto some form of post secondary education.

The group toured their very diverse Career and Technical Education program, which includes biomedical, culinary, photo and tech lab, CAD and materials science lab, including wood shop, and sports medicine.

The school is strongly secured with a double-entry vestibule, and locked corridor outside doors. The school has a spacious gym, with an adjacent field house. The group observed a positive school climate, which is described in the "The Wildcat Way - Dignity, Class and Respect." Principal Gallagher and her Student Leadership team came up with an idea of having students share compliments about classroom teachers in the form of a poster, and the posters are posted near or on the classroom door for the entire school year.

All who joined the tour would agree that Mt. Spokane High School is an excellent place in which students can learn.




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School Tour: Lynden HS

On December 2, 2025, Rep. Alicia Rule (D-Blaine) visited Lynden SD as part of the WAMOA-facilitated legislative school visits. Shown above is Lynden High School which enrolls 1,011 9th-12th grade students, including the students who attend Running Start at Whatcom Community College. The school has an on-time graduate rate of 86.1%. Originally built in 1986, the building was designed for 500 students. Three major additions have taken place to house the current student population. Unfortunately, a bond issue in November 2025 to build a new high school did not pass. Parents and guests enter through a double-vestibule, and are buzzed in by the main office. With a "California-



From left, Angela VanderLende, AHF Products, Association for Learning Environments (ALE) representative; Kevin Burke, director, facilities, and WAMOA representative; Ian Freeman, principal; David VanderYacht, superintendent; Rep. Rule; Jed Ballew, Zervas Group, American Institute of Architects (AIA) representative, and Mitch Denning, WAMOA consultant.

style" of lots of exterior classroom doors, security is an issue. However, the district does employ a security team which is housed near the front entrance. Dealing with mental health issue is a primary function of the three counselors. There is a shortage of bathrooms. Students have to go outside when moving from around the campus and go from class to class. In addition, there are nine portables

used for instruction. The school offers a strong Career and Technical Education program including welding, wood, metal, medical science business, STEM culinary and art, and students can join FBLA and FFA. In addition, band is offered, but not choir. The group observed a very positive school climate as Lions Pride is their theme. All agreed that Lynden High School is an excellent place to learn.



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School Tour: Toutle Lake SD

Rep. Peter Abbarno (R-Centralia) visited the Toutle Lake SD as part of WAMOA-facilitated legislative school tours. Shown above is the upper elementary school. The K-12 school houses 635 students in two buildings. The main building was built in the 1930's, and the cafeteria wing was in 1992. The building has HVAC issues, and leaky roofs, among its structural needs. Even though the outside doors are locked, security is an issue as many of the classrooms have doors which open to the outside, in this California-style facility. Other structural concerns include plumbing, CTE classrooms especially the FACS room, and AEA-compliant locker rooms and



gym. The high school offers a strong CTE program, including Technology, Welding, Metal, Robotics, STEM and multiple technologies. In fact, in 2018, the students constructed part of the welding shop. A very unique feature is that the FFA program raises ducks, the high school mascot. The group also observed the duck pen area. In addition, several safety concerns were

From left, Gianne Curry, middle-high school principal; Len Hiatt, elementary school principal; Dillion Anderson, director, maintenance and operations, and WAMOA representative; Lynn Williams, business manager; Sherry Schwinn, member, Toutle Lake SD board of directors; Chris Schumaker, superintendent; Rep. Abbarno; Tyler Muench, OSPI director, advocacy and external affairs / governmental relations; Lauren Johnson, Aetta Architects, American Institute of Architects (AIAWA) representative; and Mitch Denning, WAMOA consultant.

noted in the transportation facility. Throughout the schools, there was a strong and positive school climate, as evident in behaviors reflecting empathy, discipline, integrity, respect and persuasion. All those touring the campus agreed that Toutle Lake Elementary and Middle-High School provide an excellent learning environment for students.

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School Tour: Winlock SD

On April 23, Rep. Jim Walsh (R-Aberdeen) visited the Winlock SD as part of WAMOA-facilitated school tours.

Show above is the grandstand on the campus of the Winlock Middle - High School. The school houses 400 6-12 grade students, and was originally built in 1966. The campus is fairly secure with individuals being buzzed in by the main office. All other outside doors are locked. With a 61% free/reduced student population, all students eat breakfast and lunch for free. The school shows a good use of technology as all classrooms have smart boards. A strong Career and Technical Education is offered the students, which includes an excellent woodshop. Students also



From left, Mitch Denning, WAMOA consultant; Rep. Walsh; Michelle Jeffries, superintendent; Ryan Gaylor, member, Winlock SD board of directors; Ryan Greene, principal; Fred Terry, director, maintenance; Frank Wilson, Olympia SD, and WAMOA representative; Lauren Johnson, Aetta Architects, AIAWA representative. Not shown, Brianne Knighton, director, Pathfinder Services, ESD 113, and superintendent intern.

belong to the local FFA organization. An advantage of the district is that it owns an adjacent 40 acres which could be used for new facilities. The group also toured all-weather track which is good shape for being ten years old. The grandstand, built in the 1980's needs to meet ADA standards, and the district

plans to remodel this structure by September 2026. The group observed an excellent school climate as Cardinal pride was seen throughout the campus. All participants agreed that Winlock Middle - High School is an excellent place for students to learn.





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School Tour: Winlock SD

On April 23, Rep. Jim Walsh (R-Aberdeen) visited the Winlock SD as part of WAMOA-facilitated school tours.

Shown above is the front entrance to Winlock Miller Elementary School, which houses 392 Pre-K through grade 5 students. Originally built in 1949, the school was renovated in 1974, and then remodeled in 2003. A unique feature is that every morning, the entire student body meets in the gym for the morning announcements, which takes about 15 minutes. Principal Ashlie Auckland shared that this procedure is done as there is no intercom in the four portables that house classes. The PreK program serves 36 students,



From left, Lauren Johnson, Aetta Architects, AIAWA rep; Ryan Gaylor, member, Winlock SD board of directors; Michelle Jeffries, superintendent; Mitch Denning, WAMOA consultant; Fred Terry, director, maintenance; Ashlie Auckland, principal; Frank Wilson, Olympia SD, and WAMOA rep.

and the good news is that the district has some carryover funds which will be used to supplement the reduced PreK state funding in SY 2026-27. The students have a spacious play area, part of which is covered to protect the students for the weather. The school also has a good sized gym and library. The school district qualifies for the Community Eligibility

federal program, and all students eat breakfast and lunch for free. The group also toured the district's bus garage adjacent to the school, with fourteen buses used daily. A positive school climate was observed by the group as Cardinal pride was seen throughout the campus. The group agreed that Winlock Miller Elementary school is an excellent place to students to learn.

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Meetings: Third Thursday

jpage@esd101.net, ned.wendle@mead354.org

Region 2

Randy Acker, Ellensburg S.D., Steven Randall, Goldendale S.D.

Meetings: Second Thursday

randy.acker@esd401.org, srandall@gsd404.org

Region 3

Nicole Daltoso, Evergreen Public Schools,

Jason Ackley, Vancouver Public Schools

Meetings: Third Thursday

Nicole.daltoso@evergreenps.org, jason.ackley@vansd.org

Region 4

Frank Wilson, Olympia SD, Co-chair - vacant

Meetings: Second Wednesday, 11:30am

fwilson@osd.wednet.edu

Region 5

Justin Gray, Port Townsend S.D., Joan Moore, North Mason S.D.

Meetings: Third Friday, 11:30am

jgray@ptschools.org, jmoore@northmasonschoools.org

Region 6N

Julius Carter, Issaquah S.D., Co-chair - vacant

Meetings: Last Tuesday

carterj@issaquah.wednet.edu

Region 6S

Michael Knaack, Tacoma Public Schools,

John Boatman, Sumner Bonney-Lake SD

Meetings: Third Monday, 11:30am

mknaack@tacoma.k12.wa.us, john_boatman@sumnersd.org

Region 7

Britton Vanness, North Franklin S.D., Co-chair - vacant

Meetings: Third Wednesday, 12:00pm

bvanness@nfsd.org

Region 8

Rosey Burkhard, Lake Chelan S.D., Jenny Payne, NCESD

Meetings: Second Wednesday

burkhardr@chelanschools.org, jennyp@ncesd.org

Region 9

Trevor Bell, Everett Public Schools, Jeff Curtis, Everett Public Schools

Meetings: First Thursday, 11:30am

tbell2@everettsd.org, jcurtis@everettsd.org

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QUESTIONS?

Katie Granado, WAMOA Executive Director,
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— or —

Alicia Lawver, WAMOA Conference Chair,
conference@wamoa.org

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Other Day One Highlights:

- Meet & Greet with Mark Mohammadpour
- Regional Huddles – Connect with peers and get tips for making the most of your conference experience.
- Awards & Recognitions Luncheon – Celebrate excellence and meet the board candidates.
- Engaging workshops – Learn, grow, and gain practical ideas you can take home.
- Evening Reception with Ed Partners – Food, drinks, games, and lots of networking.

DAY TWO:

Fuel Up with Tools, Training & Trade Show Connections

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Afternoon Action:

- Trade Show – Explore 130-plus booths showcasing cutting-edge products, services and solutions.
- Refreshments & Prize Drawings – Grab a drink, win cool stuff, and keep the conversations going!

DAY THREE:

Leadership, Legacy & Navigating Change

The final day begins with breakfast and finishes strong with closing keynote speaker Lee Rubin, who shares the essential shifts in mindset and strategy that extraordinary teams use to navigate change and achieve success. And for those who stay through the finish line, there will be opportunities to win some fabulous prizes!

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The Buoyant Leader Preview: Managing Yourself and Your Pit Crew Through the Checkered Flag

A proud Evergreen School District alum, I have a deep appreciation for Washington K-12 schools and the people who make them more than just places to learn.

While my focus when I was in school was education, sports, and social life—admittedly, sometimes not in that order—as I grew into adulthood, I came to appreciate the behind-the-scenes work that keeps organizations running. Our schools depend on leaders like you who make the impossible look routine. Whether managing maintenance, grounds, custodial services, safety, capital projects, or any number of operational “other duties as assigned,” your work directly impacts every student, every educator, and the community you serve.

The challenge, of course, is that your work is often noticed only when something goes wrong. Budget challenges, bad weather, staffing shortages, malfunctioning HVAC systems, and many other issues can impact even the best-laid plans.

That’s why I love the “Revved Up” theme of this year’s conference.

In many ways, maintenance and operations professionals are the ultimate pit crews. The race can’t be won without you. Students may never see the early-morning repairs, late-night cleaning, preventative maintenance, emergency calls, summer projects, or countless



decisions made behind the scenes. But those efforts create the conditions for learning every day. Like the best pit crews, your success is measured not by visibility, but by reliability.

A race isn’t won by a driver alone. Success depends on a team of people who communicate effectively, prepare for challenges, trust one another, and perform under pressure. Every role matters. Every decision matters. Every second counts.

The same is true in school operations.

High-performing maintenance and operations teams don’t succeed because problems never occur. They succeed because they have built trust before the pressure arrives. They know their roles. They communicate clearly. They support one another. And when something goes wrong, they get back on track together.

Which brings us to an important question: How do we build teams that can perform at a high level without burning out?

That’s why I’m honored to deliver the opening keynote at the WAMOA Fall Conference this October and lead a conversation on team well-being. We’ll talk about Buoyant Leadership and discuss how leaders can build healthy, confident, and connected teams that are prepared for challenges and equipped to thrive.

Why is this topic important? Research from Gallup found that only 20 percent

of employees agree their organization cares about their well-being. Six years ago, that number was nearly 50 percent. We’re sliding backward.

Every pit crew member wants to know their contribution matters to the outcome of the race. The same is true of the people on your team.

Between now and October, I’d like to offer a simple challenge: Tell as many colleagues as possible why their work matters.

Be specific. Remind them who they impact and what schools would be without them. Whether it’s the custodian creating a welcoming environment, the maintenance technician preventing disruptions, the transportation professional ensuring students arrive safely, or the capital projects team building schools for the future, let them know their work makes a difference.

Great pit crews never win alone—and neither do great school systems.

I look forward to meeting all of you in Yakima, celebrating you, and thanking you for all you do! Let’s get REVVED UP! 

Mark Mohammadpour, APR, Fellow PRSA, is the founder of Chasing the Sun. With an award-winning career as a communication executive and after losing and keeping off 150 pounds over the last 20 years, Mark started Chasing the Sun to help organizations build healthy, confident, and connected teams. His Keynote Conversations and Team Offsites deliver relatable, practical, and actionable steps at the nexus of communication, culture, and well-being. Reach out to Mark at mark@chasingthesunpdx.com or visit chasingthesunpdx.com to learn more.

Helmlinger Scholarship

WAMOA was honored to offer scholarships to three amazing students this year. All three students are pursuing the trades and displayed leadership, drive, and dedication. We wish them all the best in their futures.

Hunter Duncan

Hunter is currently a student at Hanford High School. He plans to complete the two-year welding program at Big Bend Community College to obtain his certification. Hunter's ultimate goal is to work



for Boeing, though he also would be happy to teach a welding class at a local school to help more students fall in love with the trade, just like he did in his welding class.

Chase Lagadinos

Chase is currently a student at Wenatchee High School and is enrolled in Running Start. He will be attending Washington State University to major in Electrical Engineering, which he intends to make his career. Chase's ultimate goal is to thrive and enjoy his line of work.



Ike Weets

Ike is currently a student at Sunnyside High School. He plans to attend Spokane Community College in the fall to pursue an associate's degree while also earning a certification as an HVAC Technician. Ike's long-term goal is to build a career in HVAC and eventually own his own business. He enjoys hands-on work and problem-solving, and is excited to continue developing technical skills in a field that is both practical and in demand.





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NEWS & EVENTS

BOC and WAMOA Continue Partnership to Train Building Professionals in Efficient Operations

The Building Operator Certification (BOC) program is excited to share our plans for 2027 courses and webinars in addition to program updates from this year. In 2025/2026, BOC continued its partnership with WAMOA to offer training to its members at discounted rates, and BOC team members enjoyed presenting at the WAMOA conference and networking with WAMOA members at the tradeshow.

We will again participate in the 2026 WAMOA Fall Conference in Yakima and are looking forward to meeting many of you! Please visit us at booth #120!

Tool Lending Library

The Smart Buildings Center (SBC) hosts a lending library of diagnostic and energy monitoring-tools available to building operations professionals in Washington State and Oregon, for short term data collection on energy-using equipment and systems in commercial and institutional buildings. Often, the first step in achieving operational excellence is gaining an understanding of how systems in the building are actually operating. The SBC can help by loaning a range of data loggers, power meters, lighting loggers, infrared cameras, liquid and air flow measurement devices, and much more. Users can access these tools free of charge for prescribed time periods and capture data on system performance. Analyzing this data can help identify operational problems and provide actionable information that can fine-tune building performance.

The SBC can ship tools to you and provide you with information on how to use these diagnostic tools correctly as well as guide you on the best ways to analyze collected information and use that information to take energy

and cost savings steps. To browse our tool inventory and create an account, visit <https://smartbuildingscenter.org/tool-library/>.

BOC Training & Credentials

BOC is a competency-based training and credentialing program for facilities and energy professionals. We teach participants how to make buildings more comfortable, healthy, and efficient by making their systems work better together. We offer three levels of training: entry-level Fundamentals of Energy Efficient Building Operations for those who are new to the field or looking to establish a solid foundational understanding of energy efficiency and building systems, BOC Level I focused on building systems maintenance, and BOC Level II focused on improving building operational performance.

Successful graduates of our training program earn Training Certificates of Completion (TCOC) which indicate completion of the training program and acquisition of specific knowledge, skills, and competencies. Assessments (tests and projects) are used to evaluate mastery of BOC course learning outcomes. The TCOC is an industry-recognized credential, with independent, third-party energy savings evaluation reports proving graduates from our training program save their organizations energy and money. Graduates who elect to take the Certification Exam and pass earn the BOC Certification and become a Certified Building Operator (CBO). Anyone who has completed BOC Level I training or an equivalent program is eligible to sit for the Certification Exam. The Certified Building Operator (CBO) designation is recommended for anyone looking to elevate their career with an additional professional credential.



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BOC Program Releases Updated Skills Standard and Curriculum Assessment

The Building Operator Certification program has published a revised Skills Standard and Curriculum Assessment, reflecting the latest critical work functions; knowledge, skills, and abilities; and workforce needs—an essential step in ensuring that the program continues to equip our students with the competencies required to manage increasingly complex, high-performance facilities.

You can read and download the update skill standard by clicking on the QR code at right.



Complementing the Skills Standard, we also updated the program's

Curriculum Assessment, which assesses the current state of the BOC curriculum related to industry trends, advancements in technology, and policy initiatives affecting building owners and operators, and informs stakeholders of the strategic vision for the program over the next several years. The current Curriculum Assessment is located by clicking on the QR code at right.



2026 BOC Courses & Webinars

BOC Level I online courses and a Level II online course were held with strong attendance in all courses. Technical webinars served building operators across Washington and the US with on demand continuing education.

Remaining webinars for 2026:

- September 16, 2026: Retro commissioning as a Tool for Compliance with Building Performance Standards
- October 14, 2026: Cybersecurity for Smart Buildings

All webinars are recorded and available via our webinar library at www.theboc.info/recorded-technical-webinars.

2027 BOC Courses & Webinars

In 2027, BOC Fundamentals, Level I, Level I Multifamily, and Level II courses will be held for Washington residents. Course dates and registration details will be available soon at www.theboc.info/wa and you can sign up to receive notifications about specific courses. All WAMOA members receive a \$100 tuition discount off BOC tuition. BOC and WAMOA work together





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BOC News & Events, continued

to offer an annual BOC scholarship to a WAMOA member, so keep an eye out for the 2027 scholarship announcement in early 2027!

In addition, some utilities offer BOC course seats at discounted rates or sponsor the entire tuition.

Be sure to check with your local utility.

These webinars offer continuing education towards maintenance of BOC and other professional credentials. To keep a BOC credential current, a building operator must accumulate credential maintenance points through continuing education and engagement in the field. Technical webinars are also open to participation by others in the building operations and management profession who are interested in staying informed about

changing technology and practices in building management.

Full details and registration information for 2027 webinars will be available at www.theboc.info/webinars.

If you are interested in the BOC program or want to share information about what we offer with colleagues, free informational webcasts are available for download at any time by visiting www.theboc.info/free-recorded-webinar.

To all the BOC Graduates: We now have a closed LinkedIn group for graduates to stay connected.

Visit LinkedIn and search for "Building Operator Certification (BOC) Community."

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/37090026/>

Statewide Benchmarking Assistance

The Smart Buildings Center will continue offering statewide benchmarking assistance through the Clean Buildings Performance Standard Technical Assistance Helpdesk. The helpdesk offers support to building owners, managers, and facility personnel responsible for their building's compliance with the Washington State Clean Buildings Performance Standard. The utility-sponsored service offers free one-on-one coaching during office hours via phone, virtual meetings, and email, a resource webpage including training videos, a searchable directory for Qualified Persons and Qualified Energy Auditors FAQs. For more information and to schedule a consultation, please visit <https://www.smartbuildingscenter.org/resources/clean-buildings-performance-standard/>.



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Join Us at the Smart Buildings Exchange (SBX): "Accelerating Performance at the Speed of Innovation"

Join the Smart Buildings Center for the 2026 Smart Buildings Exchange (SBX) at the Bell Harbor

Conference Center in downtown Seattle on November 9-10, 2026.

This year's conference program is centered on the question of acceleration: how do we move faster, and why aren't we moving faster already? SBX 2026 will examine the real barriers slowing progress – capital constraints, fragmented delivery models, workforce and implementation challenges, competing pressures on building owners, and the difficulty of moving from one-off success stories to repeatable solutions at scale. Participants will engage with practical strategies for midsize commercial buildings, grid-enabled and grid-interactive building approaches, financing models that can unlock adoption, and the operational realities reshaping the market.

The 2026 conference theme, "Accelerating Performance at the Speed of Innovation," reflects both the urgency of the moment and the opportunity in front of us. As technologies advance and pressures on the built environment intensify, buildings are being asked to do more: reduce costs, improve resilience, respond to grid needs, support occupant outcomes, and deliver stronger performance in an increasingly complex operating environment. SBX 2026 will create space not just for inspiration, but for debate, problem-solving, and clearer pathways to action.

The discount code WAMOASBX26 can be used for a 25% discount off the registration. 



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LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Prepared by Mitch Denning, AEA Consultant

*Alliance of Educational Associations
WA Assn of Maintenance and
Operation Administrators
2026 Legislative Session Report
Revised 7/15/26*

AEA 2026 Interim Plans - WAMOA

- Travis Bown and Mitch met with 28 senators and representatives during the session to share WAMOA's 2026 priorities, and most of them expressed interest in fall school visits. Senators include Sen. Ron Muzzall (R-Oak Harbor); Sen. Matt Boehnke (R-Kennewick); Sen. Leonard Christian (R-Spokane Valley); Sen. Mark Schoesler (R-Ritzville); Sen. Keith Wagoner (R-Sedro Wooley); Sen. Chris Gildon (R-Puyallup); Sen. Yasmin Trudeau (D-Tacoma), chair of Senate Capital Budget;
- and Sen. Nikki Torres (R-Pasco) (8 senators). Representatives include Rep. Carolyn Eslick (R-Sultan); Rep. Chris Stearns (D-Auburn); Rep. Lisa Callan (D-Issaquah); Rep. Alicia Rule (D-Blaine); Rep. Stephanie McClintock (R-Vancouver); Rep. Mari Leavitt (D-University Place); Rep. Peter Abbarno (R-Centralia); Rep. Jim Walsh (R-Aberdeen); Rep. Joel McEntire (R-Cathlamet); Rep. Mary Dye (R-Pomeroy); Rep. Kevin Waters (R-Stevenson); Rep. Omar Salahuddin (D-Kirkland); Rep. Janice Zahn (D-Kirkland); Rep. David Hackney (D-Tukwila); Rep. Stephanie Bernard (R-Pasco) and Nathasha Hill (D-Spokane) (17 representatives).
- On April 23, Rep. Walsh visited the Longview SD with Mitch as the WAMOA representative, and Winlock SD with Frank Wilson, Olympia SD, as the WAMOA representative.
- On April 28, Rep. Stearns visited Auburn High School with Sergio Rios as the WAMOA representative.
- WAMOA is participating in the AIAWA work group on School Construction Funding. This architects' group has developed a position paper on this topic. Devlin Piplic, Travis and Mitch serve as WAMOA reps on this work group. It meets monthly during the school year.
- WAMOA will be working with IOEU regarding their interest in state-wide school district boiler operator certification, as referenced in ESSB 5694. 

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Procurement, Simplified

What Cooperative Purchasing Actually Means for Your District

Cooperative purchasing is often discussed in broad terms, but for many school districts, the real day-to-day impact is not always fully understood. While the concept itself is straightforward, understanding how it changes the purchasing process in practice is where the value becomes clear.

Traditionally, public procurement requires every purchase to go through a full competitive process. Districts must develop specifications, issue a bid or RFP, advertise the opportunity, wait through required timelines, evaluate vendor responses, and ultimately award a contract. These steps are essential for maintaining compliance and fairness, but they also require significant time and administrative effort. Each new project essentially starts from the beginning.

Cooperative purchasing changes where that process begins.

With a cooperative purchasing organization like TIPS Purchasing Cooperative, contracts have already been competitively solicited and awarded through a compliant procurement process. Instead

of recreating that process internally for every purchase, districts can utilize existing awarded contracts that are ready for use.

In practice, this allows districts to move more efficiently through procurement. Rather than spending weeks or months navigating the full bid process, teams can focus on identifying their needs, selecting an awarded vendor, requesting a quote, and issuing a purchase order. The compliance structure remains intact, but the path to completion becomes far more streamlined.

The benefits extend beyond saving time. Cooperative purchasing helps reduce administrative workload, provides access to pre-vetted vendors, and creates greater consistency throughout the procurement process. This allows purchasing teams, administrators, and facility leaders to focus more on project outcomes and less on managing repetitive procurement steps.

Cooperative purchasing is not intended to replace every purchasing method, nor is it a one-size-fits-all solution. Instead, it serves as an additional procurement tool districts can use strategically. It is especially effective for projects with tight timelines, recurring purchases, standardized needs, or situations where internal resources are limited.

At its core, cooperative purchasing is not about avoiding procurement requirements. It is about leveraging a process that has already been completed through a trusted cooperative. For districts, that means a more efficient path from need to action while maintaining compliance, accountability, and confidence in the purchasing process.

Jack Brown

Western US

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BOARD MINUTES

2026 WAMOA BOARD MEETING

Date: May 19, 2026

Google meet online

Minutes

In Attendance:

President: Cisco Gomez

Interim-Vice President: Michael Pauley

Sec./Treasurer: Jessica Beehner

Past President: Devlin Piplic

Executive Director: Katie Granado

R1: Jerry Page, Ned Wendle

R2: Randy Acker, Steven Randall

R3: Nicole Daltoso, Jason Ackley

R4: Frank Willson

R5: Justin Gray, Joan Moore

R6S: Michael Knaack

R7: Britton Vanness,

R8: Rosey Burkhard

R9: Trevor Bell, Jeff Curtis

Environmental Health & Safety Chair: Jeff Rogers

Governance & Compliance, Elections & Programs: Jeff Hosler

Conference: Alicia Lawver

Ed Partners: Ben Moore, Bryce Williams

Professional Development: Paul Harrison

Membership/Publications: Michael Pauley

Membership & Marketing Coordinator:

Makenna Reaves

Legislation: Travis Bown

TAC: Kelly Gregg, Devlin Piplic

Technology: Dave Baird

Not Present:

R6N: Julius Carter

R6S: John Boatman

R8: Jenny Payne

Call to Order @ 9:02am

Trevor Bell: Board meeting norms read

Motion to approve agenda: Motion: Jeff

Rogers Second: Michael Pauley vote: all "yes"

1.1 President's Report. Cisco Gomez -

Reg 4 co chair Robert Kuhn, Reg 7 co chair John Palomarez, and Reg 8 co chair Dustin Hoffman resigned, welcome Jenny Payne from NCESD as new reg 8 co-chair, Rosey has been re-elected to remain Chair for another year.

- Assisted for one day with Wasbo
- Continued to strategy outreach ideas with Makenna.
- Information and brainstorming with Ben and Bryce on restructuring Ed partner packages is ongoing.
- Attended one AEA meeting.
- Rough draft of a master plan- Send over to Katie and Makenna for their review. Some items on this list of to-dos already completed due to Makenna's talents.
- Worked with executive committee on filling a vacancy and out of that

came Michal Pauly's appointment as our interim Vice President.

- I have been working with Katie on all future planning for upcoming board meetings and other logistics.
- Attended the last 3 region 9 meetings.

1.2 Interim-Vice President's Report.

Michael Pauley -

I have served in this role since May 4. On May 7, Katie and I met to review organizational information, including regional representatives and ongoing WAMOA operations. My first official meeting in this position will take place on Tuesday, May 19, beginning with the Regional Representatives meeting at 8:00 a.m., followed by the Board meeting.

I am honored to serve in this role and look forward to supporting the continued progress of WAMOA. As I transition into the position, there is much to learn, and I appreciate the strong foundation established by past Vice Presidents. I would also like to thank Geoff for his dedicated service to the organization. I look forward to building upon that work as we continue moving WAMOA forward.

1.3 Secretary/Treasurer's Report.

Jessica Beehner -

Feb board meeting minutes

- Motion to approve February board meeting minutes: Motion to approve agenda: Motion: Devlin Piplic Second: Alicia Lawver vote: all "yes"

Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Activity - Updated to PNL and Balance Sheet

- Motion to approve Financial Position and Statement of Activity: Motion to approve agenda: Motion: Michael Pauley Second: Joan Moore vote: all "yes"



Board Minutes, continued

1.4 Immediate Past President Report.

Devlin Piplic - No report

1.5 Executive Director Report. Katie Granado-

- Paul and I had a trade show booth at the WASA small schools conference in March. Great conversations and a few new memberships. In April I attended the NSPMA conference with Rosey and Joan, 27 states were in attendance this year. The state directors roundtable is always a highlight for me. Great to compare what we are doing with other states. Last week Makenna, Alicia and myself had a trade show booth at the WASBO conference in Tacoma. We were joined by Cisco, Gomez, Paul Harrison and Jeff Hosler that also attended the conference. We had lots of great conversations with district attendees and handed

out conference save the date cards letting them know our registration opens next month and that they need to send their M & O staff! We also took some notes and did lots of our own conference planning!

- Platinum & Gold partner past dues - FloHawk, Mohawk, & Paul Davis
- I'm working with Opsahl Dawson on our annual 990 filing, they were due May 15th. Opsahl Dawson notified me that they have filed for an extension.
- Legislatures have passed bill - school districts, esd's & presentations by non-profits no longer need to charge tax effective July 1, 2026. Yes, this did just go in effect 10/1/2025 and has already been eliminated!

Region Reports:

Region 1 - Jerry Page, Ned Wendle

Salutations Board Members. Region One members are preparing to finish up the 2025-26 school year in this month's final regular meeting. Region One is not planning to conduct monthly meetings during June, July, and August.

Our focus is to bring members to functional meeting spaces and learning environments appropriate to school operators will continue once again in September, with a building tour of McKinstry's Catalyst Building in Downtown Spokane. Ned Wendle already has number of meeting events planned for the coming year.

Our March meeting was remotely held in Leavenworth during the Leadership Conference. In attendance were six Members and five Spokane-local Partners. What a great experience! Ned and I continued with a remote meeting for April in Medical Lake SD, with Pape

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Board Minutes, continued

Machinery providing a seminar on maintenance equipment telemetrics, indicating possible efficiency models for schools to use in our budget-constraint environments. This Thursday, the 21st we will convene remotely at the Spokane Pergola Event Center to share in building operations training and BBQ cookoff sponsored by Johnson Barrow. Registration is required by members to “eat” and attend the offered classes in HVAC controls and installations.

Jerry Page (Ned likely to attend) is planning to attend and support Region 7's RTS this June. Hope to see our community in attendance. Due to conflict with family vacation times, Jerry Page will not be in attendance for the Summer Board retreat, with Ned Wendle to represent Region One members.

Wishing everyone a trouble-free Spring and Summer, as this may be my last address to the group for a while. Ciao, Jerry Page

Region 2 – Randy Acker, Steve Randall

- March: Region 2 did not have a meeting because Steven or I could not attend.
- April: The Presenter and lunch sponsor was involved in a collision while riding in an Uber the night before the meeting and was unable to attend. Randy held a round table discussion on various subjects about what Directors are faced with and Randy's music studio bought lunch for everyone (pizza and drinks).
- May: ATS did a presentation on CBPS updates and led a discussion after. ATS also was our lunch sponsor for the day. We also discussed the the change in Vice Presidents and upcoming nominations and elections for Co-chair for next year and that I am not on the list for those nominations due to my upcoming retirement.

Region 3 – Nicole Daltoso, Jason Ackley

- February 19, 2026 | The February

meeting included a presentation by Jacob Gloss (McKinstry) on, “Solar, Storage and Demand Response: Effective strategies to save energy and reduce your consumption/demand charges.” McKinstry sponsored lunch. We had 18 attendees. Following the presentation, we had an RTS update, reminder to sign-up for the Leadership Seminar in Leavenworth, and our district roundtable where we spent the time discussing setting expectations that there may be a reduction in service as result of budget cuts and having less staff.

- March 12, 2026 | The March meeting included a presentation by Sarah Thomasson (WA Department of Enterprise Services) and Mike Bowen (Seattle Office of Sustainability & Environment) on, “Spare A Watt. Save A Lot.” They reviewed energy policy, energy standards, benchmarking, resources for tracking and managing energy use, reducing consumption, and energy savings and financing. Lunch was sponsored by The Garland Company. Following the presentation an RTS update was provided, and we had a district roundtable discussion where the biggest topic of conversation was budget cut details. We had 17 attendees.
- April 16, 2026 | The April meeting included a presentation by Aaron Gibson (ERSM) on, “Stormwater Infrastructure and What to Look for.” The presentation reviewed why stormwater is important, inspections, maintenance, and types of stormwater infrastructure. ERSM also sponsored lunch. There were 11 attendees. Following the presentation, we had an RTS update, WA DOH K-12 Health & Safety Rule update, polled attendees for topic ideas for the 26-27 meetings, and as always,

our roundtable discussion. The roundtable included discussion on a contract for backboards and bleachers and budget cuts. We also concluded with Important Announcements from Makenna and Katie.

- Future Meetings | We have one final meeting on May 21, where Phil Partington with OSPI will be presenting on APP/BCA/ICOS. We have four Ed Partners interested in presenting during our next regional meeting year, and have topics of interest from our membership for the other months.

RTS Update | We can't wait for our event on June 26! Things are moving right along and all the last-minute details are being finalized in the coming weeks.

Region 4 – Frank Wilson

- March meeting was held on the 11th at Mercato. Aimee Livingston with Custom Energy presented on Clean Buildings Performance Standards. Custom Energy also sponsored the lunch. There were 17 attendees including 5 from school districts.
- April meeting was held at Ocosta School District on the 15th. McKinstry sponsored lunch and Jacob Gloss (with McKinstry present on the solar and geo thermal projects they helped Ooosta with. We discussed the upcoming Region 3 RTS to make people aware of the open invitation.
- May meeting was held at Olympia School District on the 13th. AAA Fire Protection sponsored lunch and Harvey Markey with AAA Fire presented on items related to fire protection. This presentation was a bit of a sales pitch so caution should be used when scheduling ,them in the future announced that Robert Kuhn has stepped down as the co-chair and that given we are entering the summer months, after consultation with WAMOA, we will wait to fill the position as

Board Minutes, continued

part of the normal election process in the fall. We made a final push for attendance registration to the Region 3 RTS happening in June

- The following meetings are scheduled:
 - June 10th Collin Parks with Bain Associates will present on rooftop maintenance.
 - July 9th Chris Gavin with Great Western Recreation will present on Playground Maintenance/Safety
 - August 12th meeting may be cancelled due to summer work obligations
- New members!
 - John Kuykendall, Operations Director at Chehalis School District
 - John Ashley, Maintenance and Technology Director at South

Bend School District

- Mark Sylvester, Director of Facilities at ESD 113

Region 5 – Joan Moore, Justin Gray

Region 5 continues to meet on the third Friday of the month. We did not hold a regional meeting in March due to the WAMOA Spring Leadership Seminar in Leavenworth.

Our April meeting featured Lindsay Doolittle from ServPro, who presented on disaster preparedness and preemptive measures districts can take to reduce damage during emergency situations. Topics included identifying and labeling critical infrastructure such as water shutoffs and utility controls. We had 13 members in attendance. Members also discussed Accident Prevention Programs (APPs) and the potential for OESD support in helping districts develop and update their APP

documentation and safety programs.

Our May 15th meeting was hosted by Port Townsend School District. We had seven members in attendance, and Jacob Gloss from McKinstry joined remotely to present on solar storage systems and energy demand management strategies. We also discussed upcoming nominations and elections for the Region 5 Co-Chair position.

Additional discussion focused on the idea of developing a WAMOA compliance “toolkit” or checklist resource for leaders, along with expanding online resources and support materials available through the WAMOA website.

Region 5 will not be meeting at the end of June due to the conclusion of the school year. Meetings will resume in July at North Kitsap School District, where AAA Fire is scheduled to present to the

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Board Minutes, continued

group.

Region 5 continues to value collaboration, round-table discussion, and the sharing of resources and ideas that support our districts and educational partners.

Region 6N – Julius Carter

Region 6S – Michael Knaack, John Boatman

- Mar 16, 2026 Our monthly meeting at Charlies was a presentation by Lori Karnes from Tacoma-PC Health Dept on School Safety Inspections. We had information and discussion on the upcoming Leadership Seminar, Fall Conference and Golf Tournament. There were 7 school district and 18 ed partners in attendance.
- April 20, 2026 Our monthly meeting at Charlies was a presentation by Mariella Conti

Swain from McGranahan on “How to Budget a Maintenance Year Plan”. We had information and discussion on the upcoming Regional Training Seminars, Fall Conference and Golf Tournament. There were 7 school district and 20 ed partners in attendance.

- May 18, 2026 Our monthly meeting at Charlies was a presentation by Jack Brown of TIPS on Cooperative Purchasing. We also had a bonus presentation by Beth Gilbertson of PSE on current Clean Building accelerator grant opportunities. There was information and discussion on the upcoming Fall Conference and Golf Tournament. It was also announced that elections for Region Reps would be in the fall. There were 7 school district and 21 ed partners in attendance.

Region 7 – Britton Vanness

1. Region Overview - Region 7 meets on the third Wednesday of each month from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at ESD 123 in Pasco.

Since the last Board Report, Region 7 held one meeting on April 15, 2026, with 16 attendees present.

2. April 15, 2026 Meeting

Location: ESD 123 – Pasco, WA, Lunch Sponsor: Central Paving, Presenter: Billy Harrell, Central Paving, Attendance: 16
Program Summary - Billy Harrell presented on common asphalt issues experienced during the winter season and methods for addressing those issues in the spring. The presentation included a productive question-and-answer session, along with recommendations for products and in-house repair strategies. Billy also provided an in-house checklist for monitoring pavement conditions and tracking long-term maintenance and funding needs.

Additional Discussion - Attendees discussed the upcoming June Regional Training Session (RTS), including participation opportunities and event planning considerations. Britton provided updates to the training schedule and requested volunteer support from school district partners for the day of the event.

3. Regional Training Session (RTS) Planning

Confirmed Date: June 17, 2026, Location Support: Gregg Fultz, Othello School District, Confirmed Location: McFarland Middle School – Othello, WA

RTS Committee Members

- Britton Vanness
- Alicia Cole
- Kelly Gregg
- Gregg Fultz
- Jeff Hosler

Completed Planning Actions

- “Save the Date” notifications distributed to Educational Partners
- Direct outreach conducted with active school district members

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Board Minutes, continued

- Training sessions confirmed; all trainers have been contacted and verified
- Training schedule finalized
- RTS event schedule finalized
- All school districts in the region have received registration forms with a June 5 registration deadline
- All Educational Partners have received final registration notifications with a June 1 deadline
- Jeff completed the event brochure, which significantly elevates the professionalism of the program
- Jeff, Britton, Kelly, and Gregg Fultz conducted an on-site walkthrough at McFarland Middle School and finalized:
- Event layout and operations
- Points of entry
- Food setup
- Vendor show setup

- Classroom assignments and schedule
- Gregg secured coffee machines for the event
- Katie mailed the name tags and raffle tickets, which have been received

RTS Items Remaining

- Finalize food selection for the event (Current preference: Pizza Hut personal pan pizzas and personal pasta meals)
- Purchase water, soda, and coffee from Walmart
- Purchase donuts from Walmart
- Send final reminder emails to presenters with the finalized event schedule

4. Upcoming Meeting

May 15, 2026

Presenter: Traci Hudson – Restoration 1

Lunch Sponsor: Restoration 1

Topic: Mold Remediation

This will be our last Region Meeting this school year. RTS in June and next meeting will be in September

Additional discussion will include final planning and coordination for the Regional Training Session (RTS).

Discussion about elections and selection of new Co-Chair for the region

Notes: John Palomarez has resigned his position as co-chair. He has moved to a private sector job and will no longer be able to participate.

Region 8 – Rosey Burkhard, Jenny Payne

Meetings: Since our last report in February, Region 8 has deferred one meeting in March due to the Leadership Conference. Our originally scheduled meeting in April fell during Spring

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Board Minutes, continued

Break. Many had reported absence so we encouraged everyone to join the legislative report via zoom.

Presentations: Our last meeting in May we had a presentation by Great Western Recreation. Great information regarding outdoor recreation safety and it generated helpful conversation for those of us not familiar with some of the requirements.

Membership: We have welcomed some new school districts and ed-partners to our Region 8 group.

- Soap Lake SD
- Methow Valley SD
- Harvest Valley Pest Control
- Musco
- Pacific Floor Care

We are also glad to welcome the Facilities Supervisor from the City of Chelan. A new non-ed partner. His involvement is pivotal to me as it shows our community that both city and school are working together. The resources through our ed partners are a valuable place to start. He will be joining us for the RTS and our conferences.

Attendance: Attendance has been steady however as the spring came upon us, it began to dip. We are purposely

not having a meeting in June as we all prepare for graduations.

Region 9 – Trevor Bell, Jeff Curtis

We are currently meeting at Bob's Burgers in Everett on the first Thursday of each month but have had issue with gaining access to their calendar, so we have had to move to other locations a few times. We are averaging between 12-20 attendees with mostly ed partners attending. We have reached out to many of the districts in our area to inquire on why they aren't attending many have stated budget issues as well as no longer being members or that we are simply too far away to meet with.

We will be holding our June meeting somewhere special; I just haven't found the place yet. Maybe someone will have a great idea that is free.

All is well in our land, and we will continue to go with the flow. Go team WAMOA.

3.0 Committee Chair Reports: Environmental Health & Safety Chair - Jeff Rogers

The Summer 2026 WAMOA

Clean Buildings – Phase 1 July 2026

Blood Trauma Kits Mandate - Beginning

in the 2026-27 school year, each school district shall:

- a. Sharing as this may fall into the AED, Narcan locations bracket and then who does oversight of program? Laws and Regulations | Washington State Department of Health
- i. Location of equipment
- ii. Inspections
- iii. Budget
- iv. Department

Lead in School Drinking Water – DOH

a. This 5-year retesting cycle begins July 1, 2026, and continues through June 30, 2031. Every school that was built or had all plumbing replaced prior to 2016, must complete another round of mandatory testing for the potential of lead contamination in drinking water. Sampling and testing must follow the Department of Health's (DOH) Lead in School Drinking Water program technical guidance. This includes testing all outlets used for drinking or cooking and testing the morning after a regular school day.

We appreciate your partnership in the effort to reduce children's exposure to lead. If you have questions or would like additional information, please email DOH at leadfreekids@doh.wa.gov.

WASBO 2025 Canceled so done spring Feb 2026 online

Environmental Health Safety & Regulatory Compliance presented EHS Unfunded Mandates WASBO May 15th 18 item covered presented EHS

Fall 2025 Journal - EHS

School Integrated Pest Management: Pest Press Handouts | Washington State Department of Health

2024-

DOH:

- a. Infectious Disease Control Guide for School Staff
- b. Safe Cleaning and Disinfecting Guidance for Schools
- c. Washington DOH and OSPI K-12

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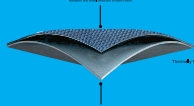
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Heather Siwinski hsiwinski.perspective@gmail.com | Kris Johnson kris.johnson@jjflooring.com

Board Minutes, continued

Health & Safety Guide (2025)

d. Pest Press: Pest-Proofing Before School Break

e. Pest Press: Spiders

f. Pest Press: Mice & RTS

g. Pest Press: Bed Bugs

Washington State Department of Agriculture: IPM

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Cell: 360-688-8627 | agr.wa.gov
rebecca.maguire@agr.wa.gov

EPA:

Chemical disposal - turbo waste no longer DOE but they have reporting oversight

UST's in Pierce County -TPCHD

a. PCB'S - EPA Study Plans Related to Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) in Schools | US EPA

New Changes to PCB Regulations

Effective February 26, 2024

i.Light ballast

ii.Window caulking 1950-1970.s

iii.Paint

Wildfire Smoke Rule January 3, 2024,
Science Matters - EPA Science Matters
N 95 Mask requirements for employers

a. EPA

i.Smoke-Ready Toolbox for Wildfires | US EPA

ii.Air Quality and Outdoor Activity Guidance for Schools | AirNow.gov

b. DOE

i.Wildfire smoke - Washington State Department of Ecology

c. DOH

i.Wildfire Smoke - Partner Toolkit | Washington State Dept. of Health

ii.Wildfire Smoke Presentation for School Workshop (wa.gov)

d. OSPI

i.Equitable Access to Clean Classroom Air: 2024 Supplemental Capital Budget Request (ospi.k12.wa.us)

2025-

DOH:

a. Pacific Northwest Pest Press: Ants in Schools

b. PNW Pest Press - Food in the Classroom

c. Pest Press: Bats in Schools

d. Healthy Air Quality in Schools - Print version of webpage

1. Healthy Air Quality in Schools | Washington State Department of Health
Washington State Department of Agriculture: IPM

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Board Minutes, continued

Governance & Compliance/Elections & Programs - Jeff Hosler

Scholarships: Recipients Announced

Ike Weets

Hunter Duncan

ChaseLagadinos

Elections: Emphasize nomination needs, suggestions emailed out to consider for July P&P/ Bylaw meeting.

Governance and Compliance: A look ahead to July's P&P/Bylaw discussion.

Conference - Alicia Lawver

Things are revving up for the 2026 Fall Conference!

When/Where: Oct. 7-9, 2026, at the Yakima Convention Center

Opening Keynote: Mark Mohammadpour, "The Buoyant Leader: Managing Yourself and Your Pit Crew Through the Checkered Flag"

Closing Keynote: Lee Rubin, "Navigating Change: The Secrets of Extraordinary Teams"

Theme: Revved Up

This year's theme is a call to step on the gas together — and rally when the road

gets rough. Inspired by the speed of the racetrack and the precision of a pit crew, Revved Up celebrates momentum, teamwork, and clear communication. It's about fine-tuning our engines, trusting our crew, and making smart, timely decisions that keep us moving forward. Just as importantly, Revved Up recognizes that not every race goes perfectly. When challenges arise, progress comes from pulling into the pit together — recalibrating, supporting one another, and getting back on track stronger than before.

Other Notes: Tuesday night's welcome reception will once again be held at the Sports Center, and the Wednesday evening Educational Partners Reception returns to the Yakima Convention Center.

Trade Show - Katie Granado

Trade show booths are sold out with 6 currently on the waiting list. Please continue to help spread the word that there will be 4 max booth attendees this year.

We are also changing Platinum &

Gold partner renewals. Only Platinum partners will be able to renew the day of the trade show and select their 2027 booth. Gold will be able to renew and select their booth November 2nd, with all others being able to select their booth April 2027.

Conference sponsorship opportunities are being finalized and will be emailed out to all partners soon.

Educational Partners - Ben Moore, Bryce Williams

- 15 New members
- Golf Tournament sold out
- Continuing to work with Bryce on the new tiers, utilizing data

Legislation - Travis Bown

We recently wrapped up our AEA Session for the year and recapped the wins and losses, as well as our various activities and meetings. Mitch captured everything in the meeting minutes, which are attached. For the summer or early fall we do anticipate discussing the boiler operators license topic again as we believe this topic will come back up, if so, we may call upon board members from Seattle, Tacoma and Spokane as



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Board Minutes, continued

those three districts are the only groups required to comply at the moment. Their feedback will be imperative, but that is down the road.

ALLIANCE OF EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

SPRING BOARD MEETING

MAY 4, 2026

ZOOM MEETING

Revised 5/5/26

MINUTES

Members Present: WSNA: Kim Elkins, Mead SD; Alexandra Epstein-Solfield, Ellensburg SD. WAMOA: Travis Bown, Mead SD; Cisco Gomez, Mukilteo SD. Members Absent: WSNA: Leeda Beha, Bethel SD; Juliana Fisher, Northshore SD. WAMOA: Devlin Piplic, Northshore SD. Also Present: Mitch Denning, AEA.

1. Welcome: Mitch called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

2. Approval of October 9, 2025 Minutes: The minutes from the fall board meeting were approved as presented with a motion made by Travis and seconded by Cisco.

3. 2025 Legislative Session Report: (a.) AEA Legislative Activity Report: Ten of the 34 bills that AEA supported or watch passed; 20 of the 30 did not pass; one of three bills that AEA opposed passed; and two of three did not pass. Mitch complimented both organizations on having ample legislative mtgs, a number of members directly involved in the process, and testifying on 12 bills. He further complimented both associations on a very successful AEA Day on the Hill with 14 members attending, meeting with 17 senators and representatives, and making 143 AEA issue contacts.

4. Summary of AEA Priorities: Mitch shared that Continue to Increase State Funding for MSOC: no funding increase; Fully Fund Special Education: No funding

increase; Revise and Adequately Fund Pupil Transportation: No policy revisions or funding; Maintain and Strengthen School Meal Funding: Fortunately, current school meal funding was not reduced. In addition, the intent section of ESSB 6546, millionaire's tax, includes the provision of universal free meals, but not projected to be funded until the 2029-31 biennium.

4. 2026 Board Goals: (1) OSPI Rule-Making Public Hearings: On October 21, 2025, OSPI held a public hearing to take input in adding a new chapter WAC 392-902, school safety seismic program. New language was needed for OSPI to award school safety grants to school districts, and also allow said school districts to receive eligible SCAP funding. (2) Other Association 2026 Platform meetings: Mitch met with consultants and association officials from the



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Board Minutes, continued

following K-12 groups as they discussed each other's platforms. Each person he met with appreciated the time to better understand each other's priorities.

Included were AWSP, WEA, SBE, PSE, PTA, WSSDA and WASBO.

5. 2026 Interim Activities: WSNA (a.) Rep. Roger Goodman (D-Kirkland) will be visiting the Northshore SD in LD 45 in the fall to observe their nutrition programs, as well as speak to several classes regarding his work with the Legislature.

(b.) WSNA Presentations to Retiring Legislators who are MFK Champions: Alexandra shared that Sen. Matt Boehnke (R-Kennewick) and Rep. Timm Ormsby (D-Spokane) would receive glass apples. (c.) Kim shared that WSNA will be reaching out to Sen. Marcus Riccelli (D-Spokane) and Rep. April Berg regarding a bill to implement the universal free meals in ESSB 6394, millionaires tax, and at the same time codifying the entitlement funds OSPI receives for elimination of the copays, local grown goods and SUNBUCKS. WAMOA (a.) Mitch said that Travis and he met with 28 senators and representatives during the session, and most of them expressed interest in fall school visits. He also mentioned that on April 23, 2026, Rep. Jim Walsh (R- Aberdeen) visited the Longview SD, with Mitch being the WAMOA rep, and Winlock SD, with Frank Wilson, Olympia SD, as the WAMOA rep. On April 28, 2026, Rep. Chris Stearns (D-Auburn) visited Auburn HS, with Scott Weide as the WAMOA rep. (b.) Travis discussed WAMOA's interim work with the IOEU on ESSB 5694, statewide boiler operator certification, and mentioned the pros and cons of this bill. WAMOA will meet with the IOEU reps to discuss possible language changes. Mitch mentioned that they might have a followup meeting with Sen. Curtis King (R-Yakima), the bill's prime sponsor. (c.) Travis also discussed WAMOA's work with the AIAWA

school construction funding group, and a possibility of inviting A4LE to join the group.

6. 2027 AEA Day on the Hill will be held on Tuesday, February 9, 2027 at the AWSP office. February 10-12 will be virtual meetings.

7. Dates of 2026-27: (a.) Fall Zoom AEA bd mtg will be held on Thursday, Oct. 8, 2026. (b.) WAMOA legislative day will be January 26, 2027. (c.) WSNA legislative day will be January 28, 2027. (d.) 2027 DOH is February 9, 2026. (e.) Spring Zoom AEA bd mtg will be on Monday, May 3, 2027.

8. WSNA will serve as the AEA bd chair for the SY 2026-27. Mitch will contact Juliana after school starts to find out her selection.

Meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Marketing & Membership - Makenna Reaves

Members:

- Active: 197 (up by 11 from February)
- Educational Associate: 43 (up by 2 from February)
- Educational Partner: 417 (up by 30 from February)
- Non - Educational: 7 (Up by 1 from February, thank you Rosey!)
- Honorary: 41
- Retired: 76

I have been working on compiling the contact information for school districts we do not currently have members from. We are missing members from over 200 school districts so this is a major project with a lot of potential. I am reaching out to the small school districts first, of which there are 61. We also had some fantastic conversations at the WASBO conference last week with WASBO members from School Districts who had never heard of us as well as the WASBO team who are a fantastic resource.

Marketing:

I had a great time meeting everyone at Leadership and it was a great first event for me to attend. I have continued to focus on posting regularly to both the

linkedin and facebook accounts and I have seen an increase in engagement and I started a Youtube channel that we can utilize for upcoming projects. I have also restarted the monthly newsletter and have seen fantastic open rates with that as well as engagement with the materials included in the newsletters. I have been working on standardizing the emails that go out to all of our members. And I have been working on creating materials for our Conference in the fall, including converting the forms to google forms!

I will also be going to a Membership and Marketing Conference next month hosted by Associations West, where I am very excited to talk to other coordinators about what they have been seeing with their organizations and what platforms they are using as we look to potentially switch ours.

Lots of behind the scenes work but having a great time!

Publications - Michael Pauley

Journal Updates

Spring Journal: The Spring edition was successfully submitted to the publisher in April. Distribution is expected shortly.

Summer Journal: Planning is currently underway. We are actively seeking content for the upcoming issue.

Call for Content & Submissions

We are looking for the following contributions to enhance our upcoming publications:

Articles: Please submit any article suggestions or completed drafts for consideration in the Summer Journal.

Photography: We are building a centralized media resource. Please share high-quality photos capturing:

Washington Nature: Scenic regional landscapes.

Project Sites: School construction and maintenance activities.

Staff in Action: Candid or professional shots of team members on the job.

Submission Process

Board Minutes, continued

Please send all articles and photos directly to Makenna and I. We will archive these in our dedicated Google Drive folder for use in WAMOA publications. (Journals, newsletters, Facebook, etc)

A Note of Thanks: "I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the committee members for their continued hard work and dedication in getting the Spring Journal across the finish line."

Committee Members: Michael Pauley, Chair; Katie Granado; Cisco Gomez; Nicole Daltoso; Jeffrey Hosler; Jeffrey Rogers; Alicia Lawver; and Paul Harrison!

Professional Development - Paul Harrison

Thank you to the 116 people who signed up for the 2026 Leadership Seminar in Leavenworth last March, featuring Jahmad Canley. Based on overwhelmingly positive feedback from attendees, we're excited to announce

that Jahmad will return as our featured speaker for the 2027 seminar.

We also heard your feedback regarding conference space and room capacity. In response, we have selected a new venue for 2027: Suncadia Resort in Cle Elum, offering additional space and a fresh setting for learning, networking, and connection.

Please save the date for the 2027 Leadership Seminar: March 18-19, 2027. We look forward to seeing you there.

TAC - Kelly Gregg/Devlin Piplic

The OSPI Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met on April 24, 2026. The TAC group reviewed updates related to the 2026 Supplemental Budget Implementation, SCAP enhancements, ICOS improvements, seismic safety initiatives, and recommendations for the 2027-29 capital budget request.

A new SCAP Enhancement Grant pilot

program was introduced. Discussion included the rollout of the new SCAP Enhancement Grant pilot program for the Wahkiakum, Garfield, and Wellpinit school districts. This pilot initiative is intended to provide enhanced grant and planning support for participating districts and is scheduled to begin implementation in April 2024.

Avram Bourdeau provided updates on ICOS system enhancements scheduled for release on April 30, 2026, including implementation of SCAP scoring, CAD file submission capabilities, and workflow improvements to streamline project review processes. The committee also reviewed the 2026 SCAP project list and noted that five districts are preparing capital bond measures totaling approximately \$4.57 million for the April 2026 election cycle.

Seismic Safety Program updates included the upcoming quarterly



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Board Minutes, continued

advisory meeting on June 4, 2026, and ongoing revisions to the Seismic Guidance Document to incorporate updated technical guidance and legislative changes.

The committee also reviewed prioritized SCAPR recommendations for the 2027-29 budget request, including improvements to facility planning and outreach, development of updated educational specifications, phased modernization options, streamlined D-Form processes, and revisions to SCAP calculation methodologies. Discussions focused on enrollment forecasting, modernization versus new construction eligibility, square footage standards, rising construction costs, and improving the Funding Assistance Percentage (FAP) formula to better reflect district need through more equitable metrics, including poverty-based indicators.

Additional SCAP information and reports are available through the SCAP StoryMap website:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/3c18906d73674d1d8da14d4e38583785>

Technology Chair - Dave Baird

No news. Everything is rolling along well.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

1. Board of Directors - Katie

Members of the Board of Directors

serve without compensation. As part of WAMOA's appreciation for their service, active Board members may be entitled to the following: Board members are eligible for a conference registration fee waiver and two nights of hotel accommodations in exchange for volunteering in at least two designated areas during the conference. To qualify for this benefit, board members must attend a minimum of three out of four board meetings and at least three regional meetings annually.

Motion to add to Policy and Procedures that the Board members are eligible for a conference registration fee waiver and two nights of hotel accommodations in exchange for volunteering in at least two designated areas during the conference. To qualify for this benefit, board members must attend a minimum of three out of four board meetings and at least three regional meetings annually.: Motion: Randy Acker Second: Michael Pauley vote: all "yes"

2. Asbestos Trainings - 16hr O&M training - Travis/Jerry/Katie Kyron - Larry Hagel

Here is a brief description of classes. I believe that every maintenance person should have one or the other.

16-hour Class III Asbestos Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Training is required for those

who will disturb (not remove) asbestos as part of their maintenance duties.

Refresher training is required annually and must be at least 2 hours. This course is compliant with Washington State Division Occupational Safety & Health (DOSH) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations.

\$4000 for 30 attendees - in person

2-Hour Asbestos Awareness Training is required for employees who may come into contact

with asbestos containing building materials but are not required to disturb those materials. This class must be conducted annually. This training meets WAC 296 62 regulations for Class IV asbestos work.

\$800 for 40 attendees - in person or zoom

Decision: form a subcommittee to discuss further details including pricing, membership, and locations. Members include: Travis Bown, Jerry Page, Rosey Burkhard, Paul Harrison, Steven Randall, Joan Moore, Cisco Gomez, Nicole Daltoso, Makenna Reeves, and Katie Granado

Next Board Meeting Dates:

- July 23-24, Ellensburg, WA
- Dec 4th, Spokane, WA

Upcoming Events:

- June 17, 2026 - RTS Region 7, Othello, WA
- June 26, 2026 - RTS Region 3, Vancouver, WA
- October 7-9, 2026 - Conference, Yakima, WA

Meeting adjourned at 11:38AM. 🇺🇸



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