

# Board to Board



Winter 2015 Board News

ESD 112 to Southwest Washington School Districts



## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

### Impact of board work is far-reaching



As the newly elected chair of ESD 112's Board of Directors, I want to take this opportunity to thank you, the board directors in our region, for the work you do.

This month marks my fourth year serving on ESD Board. During this time I've witnessed firsthand the work of our school boards. Collectively and individually, you have far-reaching impacts that have a powerful influence on students. Not only are you charged with governing, setting policies, and advocating for your districts and communities, but your commitment is manifested in the classroom, shaping what and how students learn and grow into responsible, successful and caring adults.

This spring many students will take the Smarter Balanced Assessments for the first time. Your staff members are working hard to help students do their best to prepare for this new chapter in Washington state assessment history. Our student and school success staff are also working to help your districts by providing professional development and working side by side with your staff on this new and challenging journey. We are also developing a webpage, where districts can go to find sample resources and share their communication materials.

On behalf of my fellow board members at ESD 112, it is our pleasure to partner with you in this most worthwhile endeavor. Together, we leverage resources, level the playing field, and collaborate to assure the best education possible for the students of Southwest Washington. Let us know how we can better serve you and your school districts. I look forward to working with you and meeting you in the near future.

Sincerely,  
*Patricia (Trish) Kellogg, ESD 112 Board Chair*

## REGIONAL POETRY OUT LOUD COMPETITION

### Students show off their talents

Ten high school students from the ESD 112 region selected poems from an anthology of more than 700 classic and contemporary works to memorize and perform in front of judges, peers and parents February 3 as part of the Regional Final for Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest. Each student read two poems and was evaluated by judges on criteria including voice and articulation, evidence of understanding, level of difficulty, and accuracy.



*From left: Sameayah Pehlke, Vancouver School of Arts and Academics, and Emelie Pennington-Davis, Trout Lake School, will advance to the state competition.*

Based on their scores, Emelie Pennington-Davis, Trout Lake School, **Trout Lake School District**, and Sameayah Pehlke, Vancouver School of Arts and Academics, **Vancouver School District**, were selected to represent the Southwest Washington Region at the State Competition. They represented the region at the state-wide event March 7 in Tacoma, Washington.

The competition, presented in partnership with the Washington State Arts Commission, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Poetry Foundation, is part of a national program that encourages high school students to learn about great poetry through memorization, performance, and competition.

The following students participated in the regional competition: Levi Shenk, **Battle Ground High School**; John Nelson, **Camas High School**; Owen Carlson, **Cedar Tree Classical Christian School**; Phoebe Jud, **Hayes Freedom High School**; Jerica Pinard, **Heritage High School**; Rosie Mayfield, **Ridgefield High School**; Joseph Lane, **Skyview High School**; and Natalie Johnson, **Stevenson High School**.



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH DISTRICTS

# Students EXcel through tutoring program

More than 600 students in 44 schools across 13 school districts are receiving tutoring through ESD 112's EXcel program to provide Supplemental Education Services (SES) under the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act.

After Washington state's waiver from the accountability requirements of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act was not renewed for 2014-15, schools in Washington state reverted back to reporting Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). Part of this requires that districts offer SES, interventions in reading and math, to qualifying families.

Parents may select any provider from the state-approved list, and ESD 112's EXcel has been a top choice for families, likely because of its close partnership with local districts. Through EXcel, students receive tutoring at their home school, sometimes even with their own classroom teacher, in groups of 1 to 5 students. Because districts must set aside 20% of their Title I funding for SES, hiring their own teachers as tutors brings funds back to the district.

"My child enjoyed EXcel, learned a lot from it and was able to advance in her math skills," said a parent.

Other ESDs in the state have modeled their programs after EXcel.

EXcel is currently available in **Battle Ground, Castle Rock, Evergreen, Kalama, Kelso, La Center, Longview, Ocean Beach, Ridgefield, Vancouver, Washougal** and **Woodland** school districts.

For more information, contact Program Coordinator Marlene Gonzalez, at [marlene.gonzalez@esd112.org](mailto:marlene.gonzalez@esd112.org).

# Voters approve bonds and levies

Voters in our region supported schools in a big way February 10. **Hockinson, Washougal** and **Toutle Lake** school districts had capital bonds on the ballot, which require a 60% supermajority for approval. All were approved by voters. Meanwhile, the following districts had successful Maintenance and Operations and Capital Project levies: **Castle Rock** (two); **Kalama** (two); **Lyle; Roosevelt; Trout Lake;** and **Naselle-Grays River Valley**.

# Regional Art Show now on display

The hallways of ESD 112 were transformed into an art gallery featuring artwork from students throughout Southwest Washington as part of the 2015 Southwest Washington Regional High School Art Show.



*From the 2014 Art Show: Happy Feet by Mickayla Murray, Kelso High School.*

Now it is its 42nd year, the art show is one of the few opportunities for area art students to receive recognition and exposure for their work. An artists' reception is set for March 18, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

New this year, Central Washington University will offer several competitive scholarships (tuition waivers), including one \$2,000 scholarship and three \$1,000 scholarships, to student artists participating in this year's art show. These awards will be made solely in recognition of merit and will be selected by art faculty from Central Washington University.

The artwork is on display from March 2- April 1 at ESD 112, 2500 NE 65th Avenue in Vancouver. The show is open to the public during business hours.

# ESD 112 Board Representing YOU

ESD 112 is governed by a board of directors consisting of seven citizens elected by the school board members in the region's 30 public school districts. The board members represent geographic director districts based on U.S. Census data. The ESD board is responsible for policy and governance of ESD 112 and for providing direction to the superintendent who is advised by local school district superintendents.



ANN CAMPBELL



DR. RICHARD GRAHAM



RAINER HOUSER



MARILYN KOENNINGER



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STEVE WRIGHTSON



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