MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

New Adventures this Year

Another school year is underway and just as districts embrace the flurry of back to school activities, our ESD 112 programs have been busy gearing up for a new year and responding to district needs. I would like to take this opportunity to share a few highlights.

**Early Learning growth:** ESD 112’s early learning programs are seeing some exciting changes. Renamed to “Early Care and Education” our ECEAP, SWCCC centers and Early Head Start programs directly serve more than 2,200 children.

**Professional development made easy:** School staff take advantage of a variety of professional development classes at ESD 112. Enrolling in those classes is now easier than ever. Our recently launched pdEnroller is a web-based, mobile friendly system that supports event registration, payment, clock hour approval and reporting. Learn more about it here: www.pdenroller.org/

**Quest Academy serves Cowlitz County students:** A vacant Longview building previously used as both a skating rink and a fitness center is now the home of Quest Academy, a program that supports Cowlitz County students who require a more therapeutic learning environment. Quest is made possible through a partnership with Cowlitz County school districts.

**Kudos to our Early Learning staff:** A big THANK YOU to SWCCC staff who worked diligently to assure that parents in the Evergreen School District would have child care in the event of a work stoppage as school started this fall. I’m so proud of how our staff (including Jodi Wall, Kristi Baker and their teams) mobilized quickly to secure space, obtain licensing approval and locate furniture and equipment to have child care ready to go at alternate locations for parents. Their teamwork was incredible!

I am looking forward to the school year and having opportunities to connect with you!

Sincerely,

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

EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT 112

Exciting Staff Changes

We are pleased to welcome former Camas School District Superintendent Mike Nerland as our new Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning. Three executive directors in Teaching and Learning will report directly to Mike – Jodi Wall, Executive Director for Early Care and Education; Kathy Whitlock, Executive Director for Student and School Success; and Mary Mertz, Executive Director for Special Services. Welcome Mike! Read more about Mike: www.esd112.org/about/staff/nerland

**STAFF AND STUDENTS**

**Chalk the Walks**

On August 16, ESD 112 staff participated in the international Chalk the Walks event to spread positive messages on a common surface-our sidewalks!

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**ESD12 NEWSROOM**

THE LATEST FROM EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT 112

www.esd112news.org
ESD 112 REGION

Teacher of the Year

Vancouver Public Schools preschool teacher Kendra Yamamoto is the Educational Service District 112 region Teacher of the Year. Yamamoto was one of nine finalists from around the state for the Washington State Teacher of the Year Award.

Yamamoto teaches preschool at Martin Luther King Elementary and works in all 21 of VPS’s elementary schools as a mentor for new kindergarten teachers. She is also a member of VPS’s Early Learning Task Force and the coordinator of an award-winning summer program, Jump Start, for incoming kindergarten students. In 2016, the program served 1,055 students.

“Working with, informing, and connecting with others in the community makes me a stronger teacher, which then directly impacts my students,” said Yamamoto. “The power of a connected community is limitless.”

Yamamoto joined other nominees from Washington at the state Teacher of the Year Award Ceremony this month. Camille Jones from Quincy School District was selected to represent Washington state in the National Teacher of the Year Program.

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.

EMERGENCY SUMMIT

Helps Districts Prepare

More than 460 school administrators and personnel attended the 2016 Emergency Training Summit August 8 to prepare for the start of a new school year and the key priority of keeping students safe. This year saw a record number of attendees, underscoring the importance of emergency preparedness in schools. Hosted by the Clark County Safe Schools Task Force, the event was held at Skyview High School and featured keynote speaker John Norlin.

Administrators attended sessions on bullying, threat assessment, gangs, drug recognition, and more.

“This year’s safety summit was the best one I have attended to date and this was my tenth summit,” said Washougal High School Principal Aaron Hansen. “The Summit is not only a tremendous professional development opportunity, but a chance to network with other Clark County administrators.”

Enhanced safety and security

Like many school districts in our region, ESD 112 has made safety and security upgrades in our building to help ensure employees and guests feel safe. Employee badges are required to access areas of the building beyond the main lobby, hallway and conference and institute center. Visitors will be required to check in at reception to go beyond secured areas.