Welcome to OSPI—Superintendent Reykdal

On January 10, Chris Reykdal will be sworn in as Superintendent of Public Instruction, succeeding Randy Dorn.

Chris Reykdal was born and raised in Snohomish, Washington, as the youngest of eight children. He has served as a high school history teacher, local school board member, state legislator, and budget and education policy executive for our state’s community and technical college system. Chris has dedicated his entire career to public education, and he will be serving in his first term as the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Chris and his wife, Kim, live in historic Tumwater with their two children, Carter and Kennedy.

Chris graduated summa cum laude from Washington State University with a bachelor’s degree in social studies and a teaching certificate. He earned a master’s degree in public administration from the University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill. He coached both youth and adult soccer for several years, he volunteered as a local city planning commissioner, and he had the honor of serving as a trustee for the College Spark Washington Foundation for six years.

Chris is committed to supporting ALL students by embracing multiple pathways to graduation and moving beyond the “university for all” approach. To do this, Chris will advocate to expand career and technical education opportunities, decrease our reliance on standardized tests that label our students and schools, improve K-12 student support systems, and increase career & college exploration and guidance. Additionally, Chris is building broad coalitions that are working to close opportunity gaps through critical policy and budget changes, and implementation of comprehensive student support systems that meet the needs of the whole child.
National School Counseling Week is February 6–10, 2017

The ASCA theme for National School Counseling Week this year is “School Counseling: Helping Students Realize Their Potential.” The purpose of National School Counselor Week is to focus public attention on the unique contribution of school counselors and to highlight the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students developmentally in elementary, middle, and high school with academics, social emotional issues, and with their future. The American School Counselor Association (ASCA) has many materials to help you promote National School Counseling Week in your school.

http://www.schoolcounselor.org/school-counselors-members/about-asca-(1)/national-school-counseling-week

Elementary School Counselor Resources

ASCA writes about the importance of elementary school counselors: “Elementary school years set the tone for developing the knowledge, attitudes and skill necessary for children to become healthy, competent and confident learners. Through a comprehensive developmental school counseling program, school counselors work as a team with the school staff, parents and the community to create a caring climate and atmosphere. By providing education, prevention, early identification and intervention, school counselors can help all children achieve academic success.”

Emily Weber, WSCA Elementary Vice President and elementary school counselor in Tumwater has provided a list of resources:

Blogs:
Elementary Counseling Blog: http://elementarycounseling.blogspot.com/
Lisa King Counselor: http://lisakingcounselor.com/
Life on the Fly: http://www.lifeontheflycounselor.com/
Savvy School Counselor: http://savvyschoolcounselor.com/
School Counseling from A to Z: http://schoolcounselingfroma-z.blogspot.com/

Pinterest:
School Counselor Central
Social Emotional Workshop
S. Fuller Entirely Elementary School Counseling
The Counseling Office – School Counseling
Middle School Counselor Resources

ASCA has this to say about the purpose of middle school counselors: “Today’s young people are living in an exciting time, with an increasingly diverse society, new technologies, and expanding opportunities. To help ensure that they are prepared to become the next generation of parents, workers, leaders and citizens, every student needs support, guidance and opportunities during adolescence, a time of rapid growth and change. Early adolescents face unique and diverse challenges, both personally and developmentally, that have an impact on academic achievement.”

From: Marisa Castello, WSCA Middle School Vice President

1. The Savvy School Counselor- online blog
   www.savvyschoolcounselor.com

2. The Middle School Counselor- online website created by MS counselor Carol Miller and also contains a blog, Pinterest boards and more.
   www.themiddleschoolcounselor.com

3. Caught in the Middle School Counselor Facebook group- closed group on Facebook where members have to be approved. Serves as an online community where members can post questions, concerns and ideas.
Middle and High School Events from WA Council

The latest information, registration and additional information are at WA Council. http://www.washingtoncouncil.org/.

The 8th Grade College Planning Days for spring 2017 will be posted soon.

2017 College Planning Days

The Washington Council's 2017 College Planning Day provides a one-stop opportunity for your high school sophomores, juniors, and undecided seniors to learn about Washington state's higher education options.

March 7th—Heritage University: David Wise, Wise_D@heritage.edu
March 14th—WSU Tri Cities: Kristy Gilmartin, kristy.gilmartin@tricity.wsu
March 20th—Western Washington University: Tina Castillo, tina.castillo@wwu.edu
March 21st—UW Bothell: Muriel Montenegro, murielm@uw.edu
March 22nd—Seattle Pacific University: Leylani Orozco, orozcol@spu.edu
March 23rd—Walla Walla CC: Chad Miltenberger, Chad.miltenberger@wwcc.edu
March 23rd—UW Tacoma: Megan Beresford, megan61@uw.edu
March 24th—UW Tacoma: Megan Beresford, megan61@uw.edu
March 27th—Bellevue College: Cathy Thruelsen, cathy.thruelsen@bellevuecollege.edu
March 28th—Clark College: Abby Thompson, aethompson@clark.edu
March 29th—Wenatchee Valley College: Laura Singletary, lsingletary@wvc.edu
March 30th—Spokane Falls CC: Lori Williams, lori.williams@sfcc.spokane.edu

To request a bus subsidy, please submit information at https://admissions.wwu.edu/forms/college-planning-day-bus-subsidy-request by January 31st. For general information or questions regarding College Planning Days contact Commission Chair, Jami Buselmeier at jbuselmeier@life-christian.org

The WA Council Dual Credit Workshop is March 24, 2017, at Central WA University in Ellensburg from 9:00 am—3:00 pm for Running Start Coordinators. Registration information posted soon.

Updated Guidance Curriculum for Middle School and High School

Career Guidance is a part of a comprehensive school guidance and counseling program that helps elementary, middle and high school students make good choices for their future. The High School & Beyond Plan’s Personalized Pathway is a requirement for the 24-credit diploma for Class of 2019 or 2021 for school districts
with a 2-year waiver. The updated curriculum offers lessons in the areas of academic planning, course selection, goal setting, career planning, and postsecondary options, including financial aid. This new revamped Career Guidance WA is on the OSPI site with many more lessons—about 30 for each grade level, 6th–12th. The High School & Beyond Plan templates and developmental lessons, starting in Grade 6 remain popular with many schools. You can register to receive the lessons and have access to many more program planning resources at: http://www.k12.wa.us/SecondaryEducation/CareerCollegeReadiness/default.aspx.

The 2016 updates and new guidance curriculum lessons for grades 6–12:
- Provide a model program for student postsecondary planning
- Develops High School & Beyond Plan
- Provides Personalized Pathway Requirement planning tools
- Resources, templates and curriculum for development of school-wide program
- 29-30 Lessons for each grade

- High School & Beyond Plan Templates
- Tools for Personalized Pathway Development

New and Updated Resources
- Handbook for Navigating College & Career Readiness
- Replicating an Effective College & Career Program
- Family Newsletters for Grades 7–12
- Career Planning Legislation RCW 28A.600.045

**School Mental Health Resource Updates from Project AWARE**

**Schools website **NEW**

We’ve gone live with this newly revised “Mental Health and Schools” OSPI website. http://www.k12.wa.us/MentalHealthandSchools/default.aspx

OSPI’s Project AWARE (http://www.k12.wa.us/SecondaryEducation/AWARE.aspx) offers no-cost trainings that are in-person and open to school counselors, parents, teachers, and other community members in Washington State. The all-day training teaches adults how to identify and respond to signs of mental illness and substance
abuse among youth. Interested? Learn more about Youth Mental Health First Aid on the YMHFA website. (https://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/cs/take-a-course/find-a-course/)

Project AWARE in collaboration with Prevent-Avert-Respond (PAR) Mental Health Initiative in Pierce County and the Jordan Binion Project is piloting a curriculum resource on mental health for use in high school classes. More information: http://www.k12.wa.us/SecondaryEducation/AWARE.aspx

- Saturday, Jan 14th—Tacoma
  9:00 am—4:30 pm
  Registration

- Friday, Jan 27th—Tri-Cities–Kennewick (FULL—waiting list)
  8:30 am—4:30 pm
  Registration

- Wednesday, Feb 15th—Tacoma (FULL—waiting list)
  9:30 am—4:30 pm
  Registration

Changes to the AP Exam Fee Reduction Program for 2016–17

In the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the AP Test Fee Program was removed from Title I, and placed into a block grant in Title IV. However, ESSA is not fully implemented until the 2017–18 school year, leaving a gap in federal funding for 2017 exams. At the present time there is no state funding for the program. If any state funding becomes available, it will be posted here: http://www.k12.wa.us/advancedplacement/testfee.aspx.

Districts and schools will need to utilize other sources of funds in order to support low-income students in taking Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and Cambridge exams. See OSPI Memorandum 067-16M (http://www.k12.wa.us/BulletinsMemos/Memos2016/M067-16.docx) for more detailed information.

Every Student Succeeds Act—ESSA

http://www.k12.wa.us/esea/essa/default.aspx

The ESSA Consolidated Plan draft is the planning document for how Washington will implement the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), passed by Congress in December 2015. The plan outlines six core concepts in Washington’s plan to help
every student succeed, and provides details on how we plan to implement these six concepts:

1. **Long Term Goals and Measurement of Interim Progress** looks at three key areas for students: academic achievement, graduation rate, and English language proficiency, and identifies the goals and steps necessary to achieve those goals.

2. **Consultation and Coordination** describes how OSPI and other stakeholders, including the public, worked together to develop the Plan.

3. **Challenging Academic Standards and Academic Assessments** illustrates the state education standards in mathematics, English language arts, and other disciplines. It shows the assessment systems used in Washington state and explains how our students will be career and college-ready through application of the standards and assessment processes.

4. **Accountability, Support, and Improvement for Schools** defines key thresholds for schools—in academic achievement, graduation rates, English language proficiency, school quality, and other measures. It outlines the support that will be provided to schools when necessary.

5. **Supporting Excellent Educators** defines what it takes to be an excellent educator and describes the professional development and other supports offered to educators in Washington state.

6. **Supporting All Students** describes how all students in our state will have access to a fair, equitable, and high-quality education. It addresses the academic and non-academic needs of subgroups of students, and how the state will collect and use data to ensure a well-rounded and supportive education for all students.

WSCA President-Elect Dave Forrester, counselor from Olympia High School, is leading a WSCA workgroup to give input from school counselors as the process moves forward.
State Assessment

The link to the latest information about state testing can be found at: [http://www.k12.wa.us/assessment/StateTesting/default.aspx](http://www.k12.wa.us/assessment/StateTesting/default.aspx). For the purpose of tracking the assessments for high school graduation, the following chart through 2020 can be used.

**Washington High School Assessments and Assessment Graduation Requirements August 2016**

Scores for federal accountability are reported when a student is in the 11th grade. Where applicable, a student may test in an earlier grade. If a passing score (level 3 or level 4) is obtained, the score will be banked and reported when the student is in 11th grade (ELA and Math) or 10th grade (Biology).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Year 2016 - 17</th>
<th>School Year 2017 - 18</th>
<th>School Year 2018 - 19</th>
<th>School Year 2019-20</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tests that Fulfill Grad Reqs by Class*</td>
<td>Class of 2017: ELA – SBA by Exit Exam cut score Math – SBA by Exit Exam cut score or Math EOC Exit Exam Yr 1 or Yr 2 – Gr 11, 12 Science – Biology EOC Exam</td>
<td>Class of 2018: ELA – SBA by Exit Exam cut score Math – SBA by Exit Exam cut score or Math EOC Exit Exam Yr 1 or Yr 2 – Gr 11, 12 Science – Biology EOC Exam</td>
<td>Class of 2019: ELA – SBA by Exit Exam cut score Math – SBA by Exit Exam cut score Science – Biology EOC Exam or Next Gen Science Exam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tests by Grade and Class

**Grade 12**

Class of 2017: ELA, Math, Science—retakes as needed

Class of 2018: ELA, Math, Science—retakes as needed

Class of 2019: ELA, Math, Science—retakes as needed

Class of 2020: ELA, Math, Science—retakes as needed

**Grade 11**

Class of 2018: ELA – Smarter Balanced ELA (grad/acct’y) Math – Smarter Balanced Math (grad/acct’y) and Math EOC Exit Exam Yr 1 or Yr 2 (grad) Science – Biology EOC exam retake, as needed (grad)

Class of 2019: ELA – Smarter Balanced ELA (grad/acct’y) Math – Smarter Balanced Math (grad/acct’y) Science – Next Gen Science (grad/acct’y) and Biology EOC exam retake, as needed (grad)

Class of 2020: ELA – Smarter Balanced ELA (grad/acct’y) Math – Smarter Balanced Math (grad/acct’y) Science – Next Gen Science (grad/acct’y) and Biology EOC exam retake, as needed (grad)

**Grade 10**


**Grade 9**

Class of 2020: Science – Biology EOC Exam (grad)

(acct’y) – test taken for state and federal accountability (grad) – test taken if needed to meet state graduation requirements

* State-approved alternatives
  - GAA for all students
  - Collection of Evidence (COE)
  - ACT/AP/SAT/IB exams
  - GPA Comparison
  - GAA for students with IEP
  - LC, EOC, SBA, COE
  - Off Grade Level: ELA, Math, Science
  - WA-MIM: ELA, Math, Science
  - LDA: ELA, Math, Science

**Graduation Assessment Alternatives**

Detailed information regarding the Graduation Alternatives Application Updates can be found on the application’s webpage at: [http://www.k12.wa.us/assessment/GraduationAlternatives/GraduationAlternativesApplication.aspx](http://www.k12.wa.us/assessment/GraduationAlternatives/GraduationAlternativesApplication.aspx).
Regional Workshop Webinar Recording

The OSPI Fall 2016 Regional Workshops for over 300 high school counselors were held at 4 ESDs across the state in October. Topics were geared toward dual credit leaders for academic acceleration and dual credit capacity building that included dual credit program overviews, updates, co-deliverance, equivalencies, alignment, transcript coding, and evidence-based best practices for program replication. The workshop also included updates on overall 24-credit implementation of High School & Beyond Plan, with career and college readiness resources, activities, and collaboration related to dual credit program planning. A webinar about the content of this workshop for those who were unable to attend can be found at: http://www.k12.wa.us/SecondaryEducation/CareerCollegeReadiness/DualCredit/default.aspx. Look in the “What’s New” blue box.

Graduation: A Team Effort (GATE) is a cross-agency initiative working to close the achievement gap and improve the academic success of all Washington youth. The overall goal of the work is to take an intentionally systematic approach to make sure every student in the state graduates from high school ready for career, college and life. The work of GATE focuses on three key areas: 1) setting a student achievement goal and coordinate school and community efforts to achieve it; 2) building a dropout early warning system to keep students on track; and, 3) creating a dropout reengagement program to reconnect youth that have left the school system. The GATE effort, including representatives from various state agencies, school districts, statewide youth-serving organizations, is comprised of multiple committees and workgroups taking a systemic approach to providing supports and minimizing barriers to high school graduation.

The 2016 Highlights
Attendance Initiative

Through a GATE call to action, a cross-agency communication strategy was developed and implemented to help raise awareness about the importance of regular school attendance. Further, House Bill 2449 was passed during the 2016 Legislative Session promoting regular attendance, intervening early with students experiencing problem attendance, and forming community truancy boards in every school district in the state. Check out the Attendance and Chronic Absenteeism Webpage to see more about how we are addressing attendance.
Mental Health Supports for Youth in Need

Schools and communities across the state report mental health issues are a barrier to high school graduation. GATE is beginning to examine successful strategies being implemented to support school mental health. The December GATE Advisory meeting focused on school-based mental health and invited a practitioner panel to present. A recording of the panel can be found on the GATE webpage at http://www.k12.wa.us/GATE/AdvisoryMeetings/default.aspx

Related to the GATE Panel, are resources available through a federal grant titled Project AWARE. **Youth Mental Health First Aid Training is one such resource.** It is a free training open to parents, school staff, and other community members in Washington State. The all-day training teaches adults how to identify and respond to signs of mental illness and substance abuse among youth. To learn more about Youth Mental Health First Aid on the [YMHFA website](http://www.k12.wa.us/SecondaryEducation/AWARE.aspx).

**Plans for 2017—a Focus on Student Wellbeing**

In addition to our continued work related to student mental health, GATE will focus on another topic related to student wellbeing, civic engagement. In alignment with the new College, Career and Civic Life (C3) Framework, GATE will look for ways to prepare young people for college, careers, and civic life through classroom instruction, discussion, service learning, extracurricular activities, school/group governance, and simulations. Key work will be building capacity to provide opportunities for youth to develop questions, apply their knowledge, evaluate their impact, and take action. The quarterly GATE Advisory on March 16, 2017, 9:00-noon, at ESD 113 will focus on this topic. For more information, visit the GATE webpage at [www.k12.wa.us/GATE](http://www.k12.wa.us/GATE).

**OSPI’S GATE Monthly Webinars**

OSPI Graduation: A Team Effort (GATE) is conducting a monthly webinar series on best practices in relation to the OSPI performance indicators, such as chronic absenteeism, behavior, 9th grade failure, post-graduation enrollment and graduation. [http://www.k12.wa.us/DataAdmin/PerformanceIndicators/DataAnalytics.aspx](http://www.k12.wa.us/DataAdmin/PerformanceIndicators/DataAnalytics.aspx). These workshops scheduled from 10:00-11:00 AM are valuable for elementary, middle, and high school counselors, educators and community partners who wish to improve support systems, data use, and instruction in an effort to increase student achievement. Recordings of past webinars can be found at [http://www.k12.wa.us/GATE/WebinarWorkshops.aspx](http://www.k12.wa.us/GATE/WebinarWorkshops.aspx). Register at: [https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/61329457930210495](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/61329457930210495)
September 14, 2016—Chronic Absenteeism  
October 12, 2016—Truancy and Attendance  
November 9, 2016—Grade 9 Failures  
December 14, 2016—Creating a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) for Integrated Student Services  
January 11, 2017—MTSS For Behavior—HS Implementation Ideas  
February 8, 2017—Lessons Learned from the K-12 Achievement Analytics  
March 8, 2017—Graduation Outliers: key practices and processes  
April 12, 2017—What is Career Ready?  
May 10, 2017—Building a Dual Credit System in Washington State

WA Student Achievement Council/OSPI Wednesday Webinar Series

Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) and OSPI are co-hosting monthly webinars for elementary, middle and high school counselors during the 2016–17 school year. Webinars take place monthly from 10:30 – 11:30 AM. Recordings of past webinars be posted on WSAC “Ready, Set, Grad” as it becomes available at http://readysetgrad.org/search/node/wednesday%20webinar. General information will also be sent on OSPI News & More for School Counselors Listserv. https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WAOSPI/subscriber/new

Register now! https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2102462322665889284

October 19—Financial Aid Updates (Posted on WSAC’s Ready, Set, Grad site)  
November 16—College Bound Scholarship Re-Pledge  
December 7—24-Credit Diploma/High School & Beyond Plan  
January 25—Dual Credit Updates  
February 22—K-12 Postsecondary Options  
March 22—Financial Aid 201  
April 26—Transition/Summer Melt  
May 24—GET/529 Plan

GEAR UP Funding Applications

The Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC), College Access and Support Division is recruiting eligible school districts to join our application for the next Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP), which we will submit in spring 2017. http://www.gearup.wa.gov/  
GEAR UP Washington managed by WA Student Achievement Council has many resources to share with schools who are not receiving a GEAR UP Grant. http://www.gearup.wa.gov/resources One is called “College Spotlight Graphics”.

600 Washington St. SE * P.O. Box 47200 * Olympia, WA 98504-7200 * 360.725.0415

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Middle School GEAR UP Grants

The Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) has released the GEAR UP Grant IV Request for Proposals (RFP No. 17-RFP155).

WSAC and Washington State GEAR UP is soliciting proposals from Washington schools that house 7th grade students and have a 50% or greater free and reduced lunch population who are interested in providing GEAR UP services beginning in fall 2017. As stated in the RFP, sub-awards are contingent on WSAC’s receipt of federal funding, which we anticipate receiving in fall 2017.

If your district is interested in applying, there are two important first steps. Complete instructions are found on page 2 of the RFP.


The complete RFP can be downloaded here: http://gearup.wa.gov/file/gear-grant-iv-rfp. It is important that you review the entire contents of the RFP before completing the application packet.

The application packet (a fillable Word document) can be downloaded here: http://gearup.wa.gov/file/gear-grant-iv-application-packet.

Proposals are due Friday, February 24 by 5:00pm. Both electronic and hard copies must be received by this deadline. Instructions are in the RFP.

If you have questions, please contact the RFP Coordinator, Marcie Sample, at marcies@wsac.wa.gov or 360-753-7788.

AWSP 24-Credit Video Workshop

The Association of WA School Principals has a video workshop from Scott Seaman, Director of High School Programs, to help school districts implement the new career- and college-ready diploma requirements.

http://www.awsp.org/Resources/24-credits/1.aspx

Examples of discussion Questions:

- How a school defines and offers credits?
- What programs are in place for remediation and credit retrieval?
- What programs are in place for acceleration or extended learning?

600 Washington St. SE * P.O. Box 47200 * Olympia, WA 98504-7200 * 360.725.0415
• What partnerships and articulation agreements are in place with local colleges or universities?
• What competency-based credits available?
• What is your school doing to create opportunities for all students?
• How long has your system been in place?
• Are you meeting the needs of all students?
• And, if you are not, what systems adjustments need to be made?

State Board of Education Releases Report

The WA State Board of Education has released their biennial report on the Indicators of Educational System Health. Established in law, these indicators are like the measures we see for physical health—data points that help us determine how well the whole system is working. In this report, we saw improvement in many areas, but we also see persistent gaps in opportunity and achievement. You'll find the report, as well as a video with thoughts on the indicators from Board members, on the State Board of Education’s webpage http://www.sbe.wa.gov/edsystemhealth.php#.WEna7OQzVaT

College Board to Offer More Accommodations for Students with Disabilities and ELLs

The College Board announced that it will make it easier for students with disabilities to request test accommodations, and that it will provide, for the first time, testing supports to some English language learners who take the SAT. https://www.collegeboard.org/releases/2016/college-board-simplifies-request-process-for-test-accommodations

NCAA Resources for Student-Athletes

The 2016–17 Guide for High School Counselors is available for download. This guide has been designed to help high school counselors and administrators understand the NCAA initial-eligibility process and to prepare them to help college-bound student-athletes to transition from high school to becoming an NCAA Division I or II student-athlete.

Other resources can be found at: http://www.ncaa.org/student-athletes/future/eligibility-center.
Fifth National Reach Higher Convening
The fifth National Reach Higher Convening took place October 28–30 at the American University Washington College of Law in Washington, D.C. The convening was entitled "Connecting the Dots: Cultural Competence, Counseling, and Career Readiness of Underserved Youth."

Leaders who attended to represent Washington state were Becky Ballbach of Everett School District, Weiya Liang of Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC), Michelle Alejano and Yolanda Spiva of College Success Foundation.

Because of our consistent involvement and state metrics Washington state is considered a "Best Practice State for Reach Higher!"

Updates from WA Student Achievement Council

Counselor Survey

- **Calling All High Schools!** The Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) needs your help to improve postsecondary enrollment rates among our College Bound students. The Gates Foundation has provided WSAC funds to award to schools that are selected to participate in a survey of current College Bound seniors regarding their plans for postsecondary education and what obstacles they may perceive. To that end, WSAC needs staff in high schools who are willing to deploy this paper survey to their College Bound seniors.

- **Participation Requirement:**
  If you are selected for participation, you will be asked to give paper surveys to all CBS scholars in their senior year at your school between February 1, 2017 and March 31, 2017. Importantly, you will need to give the surveys to ONLY your CBS scholars in their senior year. The survey will take less than 10 minutes for each student to complete. You will then collect the surveys and send them back using a pre-paid envelope to the Washington Student Achievement Council. **To receive the $250 Amazon gift code,** you will need to achieve a minimum response rate of 75%. That is, 75% of your College Bound seniors will need to complete the survey by March 31, 2017. Schools can easily access their College Bound student lists via WSAC’s online portal.

- **Let Us Know You Are Interested!** To be considered for participation, please fill out a quick contact form at: bit.do/CBS-survey-interest.
**12th Year Campaign**

- Want to help students apply for college and financial aid? It’s not too late! There is still time to host 12th Year Campaign activities in January and February. Sign up online: [bit.do/12thyearform](bit.do/12thyearform) BONUS: You can still [order FREE materials](#) for your events!

**Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Completion**

- **Thirty & seven-tenths percent (30.7%)** of high school seniors have successfully completed a FAFSA so far this year. Thank you for your work with these students! However, there are many more students who still have not applied, thus limiting their ability to access financial aid. See your school’s FAFSA completion rate online at: [bit.do/FAFSACompletionData](bit.do/FAFSACompletionData)

- In Washington State 2,295 have submitted a FAFSA with errors. Student should log back into their FAFSA to investigate. You can use the FAFSA Completion Portal to identify students that have completed the FAFSA with errors. If you are a district employee and want to request access, please send your name, email, phone number, school and district to [fafsa@wsac.wa.gov](mailto:fafsa@wsac.wa.gov)
  - A Common error that occurs is completing the 2016-2017 FAFSA instead of the 2017-2018 FAFSA. If you have a student that has completed the FAFSA but are not showing up in the portal you can ask them to check their confirmation email to see what FAFSA year they applied for. If they applied for the 2016-2017 year, encourage them to go back to [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) and complete the 2017-2018 FAFSA as soon as possible.

**Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA)**

- Students that are ineligible for federal student aid due to immigration status may be eligible for some state financial aid programs by completing the WASFA. Data collected on the WASFA is accessed by WSAC and eligible Washington colleges for the sole purpose of determining eligibility for resident tuition and financial aid. For more information and to apply, please visit: [www.readysetgrad.org/wasfa](http://www.readysetgrad.org/wasfa).

- Please remember the “Rule of One” when working with students on financial aid applications: every student should only complete one application - the FAFSA or WASFA.

**Training**

- Need more training on the FAFSA and WASFA? We have a webinar for that! You can watch a line by line of both the FAFSA and WASFA [online](#).

- Upcoming Training- Webinar: Scholarships, theWashboard, and the College Bound Scholarship Repledge Campaign. Thu, Jan 12, 2017, 8:00–9:00 AM PST
Joint OSPI/WSAC monthly Wednesday Webinars: join colleagues monthly to learn about topics ranging from dual credit, summer melt, and Washington’s GET program. For more information and to register visit: http://readysetgrad.org/#WedsWebinars

**State Scholarships**

**Washington State Opportunity Scholarship—Up to $22,500**

https://www.waopportunityscholarship.org/new-applicants/overview?srctid=1&erid=1415046&trid=d245bc5f-b4e6-4a18-8d44-d73784923d6f

The Washington State Opportunity Scholarship (WSOS) supports low- and middle-income students pursuing eligible, high-demand majors in science, technology, engineering, math (STEM) or health care. The 2017–18 application opens Jan. 3, 2017, and has a February 28, 2017 deadline.

- Annual awards range from $2,500–$7,500 per year.
- Renewable up to five years based on credits completed and continued eligibility.

*Approximately 1850 applicants will be selected this year. We strongly encourage students who meet the criteria to apply.*

**Leadership 1000 Scholarship—Up to $20,000**

http://collegesuccessfoundation.org/wa/scholarships/l1000/eligibility?srctid=1&erid=1410406&trid=20914f37-388e-4a87-924e-2ae2206c9dc

The Leadership 1000 Scholarship provides college scholarships to students who will be attending an eligible four-year college or university in Washington state. A Leadership 1000 Scholarship can be customized around a general set of requirements requested by the donor. The 2017–18 application opens Jan. 3, 2017, and has a February 28, 2017 deadline.

- Annual awards range from $1,500–$5,000 per year.
- Some scholarships are renewable for up to four years.

*Approximately 80 applicants will be selected this year.*

**Governors’ Scholarship—Up to $20,000**

http://collegesuccessfoundation.org/wa/scholarships/governors/eligibility?srctid=1&erid=1410406&trid=20914f37-388e-4a87-924e-2ae2206c9dc

The Washington State Governors’ Scholarship for Foster Youth helps young men and women from foster care continue their education and earn a college degree. The program has been supported by the current and former governors in Washington.

- Annual awards range from $2,000–$4,000 per year.
- Renewable for up to five years.
- Approximately 40 applicants selected this year.

**Participate in The College Bound Scholarship Re-pledge Campaign Launching February 2017**

The transition from middle to high school can be challenging, especially for low-income and underrepresented youth. This year may be associated with loneliness, isolation, and disconnection from peers. Students who succumb to these factors fall behind in their classes, which makes it harder to graduate on-time with their peers. Thus, the success of the 9th grade year is pivotal to increasing graduation rates in Washington state.

The Washington College Access Network (WCAN) in partnership with the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) is working with schools across the state to encourage them to host a College Bound Scholarship Re-pledge activity during the month of February. These school-based events will provide a platform to talk to students around the scholarship’s commitment while also connecting behavior, attendance, and class performance to the larger goal of high school completion, postsecondary enrollment, and a successful career.

**Informed Consent for Health Care**

Through RCW 28A.320.147, school nurses, school counselors, or homeless student liaisons are authorized to provide consent for health care for unaccompanied homeless students. In situations where informed consent is necessary due to the age of the student, the authorized school personnel may provide that consent for “nonemergency outpatient primary care services, including physical examinations, vision examinations and eyeglasses, dental examinations, hearing examinations, and hearing aids, immunizations, treatments for illnesses and conditions, and routine follow-up care customarily provided by a health care provider in an outpatient setting, excluding elective surgeries.” Health services may also include outpatient treatment for mental health and substance abuse.

When service is provided, the school district personnel authorizing the care must give the provider written notice of exemption from liability for care or payment of care, for both themselves and the employing school. (Sample Informed Consent for Health Care Notification Form)

For more information, please contact:
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A Research Synthesis of the Associations Between Socioeconomic Background, Inequality, School Climate, and Academic Achievement by Berkowitz, Moore, Avi Astor, and Benbenishty

Educational researchers and practitioners assert that supportive school and classroom climates can positively influence the academic outcomes of students, thus potentially reducing academic achievement gaps between students and schools of different socioeconomic status (SES) backgrounds. Nonetheless, scientific evidence establishing directional links and mechanisms between SES, school climate, and academic performance is inconclusive. This comprehensive review of studies dating back to the year 2000 examined whether a positive climate can successfully disrupt the associations between low SES and poor academic achievement. Positive climate was found to mitigate the negative contribution of weak SES background on academic achievement; however, most studies do not provide a basis for deducing a directional influence and causal relations. Additional research is encouraged to establish the nature of impact positive climate has on academic achievement and a multifaceted body of knowledge regarding the multilevel climate dimensions related to academic achievement.

Keywords: school climate, compensation, mediation, moderation, academic achievement, achievement gap

For the complete report, go to http://rer.sagepub.com/content/early/2016/09/19/0034654316669821.full.pdf+html?ijkey=1T3lGnRAnqVJ6&keytype=ref&siteid=sprer

Student Support Conference

Registration link: https://www.pdenroller.org/esd112/Catalog/Event/22998
Early Bird Registration: $130 (ends Feb. 28)
Regular Registration: $160
The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction is the lead education agency in the state for K–12 education. The current Superintendent of Public Instruction is Randy Dorn. The agency was formed by the territorial government in the 1870s.

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