

WA-CCER

Washington Association for Career Counseling & Employment Readiness

Spring 2024 Newsletter



CONFERENCES

Our PD Committee has worked on three conferences so far this school year for our WA-CCER Members. First, we joined forces to put on WA-ACTE Fall Conference in Centralia. This conference focused on work-based learning, employing minors, and 21st Century Skills. Next, we also had our first in-person spring conference since Covid 19! It was a huge success, and we received positive feedback from our attendees. Members came together the night before for a networking social and wine tasting at Longship Cellars in Richland! We heard that members appreciated the opportunity to hear about strategies and events others are doing. We also got a crash course in the legislative process from Jesse Taylor, ACTE Lobbyist. In addition, we said goodbye to Terry Derrig, a long-time WA-CCER member who has served in several capacities, including president and secretary. Finally, we will wrap up the school year with the WA-ACTE Summer Conference in Spokane. We are proud of our lineup and presenters for our WACCER sections. You will see some new presenters, old favorites like Kris Neal and Debbie Smith, and of course, Ben Compton, who is always standing room only!

BATTLE GROUND SCHOOL DISTRICT POP FOR A PLAN

Battle Ground Public School held their fourth year of Pop for a Plan for their seniors. Pop for a Plan is designed to allow students to meet with teachers, counselors, and community members to share their post-secondary plans and how we can help them with their next steps. For instance, if a student is interested in a college we provide them financial information, scholarships, connect them with college reps, make sure they have applied and provide testing information. If a student is interested in pursuing a career in the military we provide them with ASVAB testing. Students that are planning on working we shared the BGPS Industry Fair at BGHS Feb. 15th, 2024. Students looking into apprenticeship and trades were given information on apprenticeships, trade schools and scholarships.

Every year Pepsi sponsors Pop for Plan by providing pop and water. Our office staff participates by running the concession stand and popping popcorn for the students.

This event is a great opportunity for our career staff to talk with students about completing their High School & Beyond Plan.

For more information, contact Kris Neal or Debbie Smith at Battle Ground School District, or catch them at Summer Conference!





THANK YOU TERRY DERRIG

A note from Terry: I was born in Oklahoma but due to dad's job moving the family a great deal, I have lived in eight states. Once I moved to Washington to attend Western Washington University, I knew this is where I wanted to live. I earned my degree in Economics and Business, and I was the first in my family to earn a college degree. I met Joe, my husband of 43 years and had two sons. We picked up bonus children along the way.

After spending 19 years in banking, I decided to stay home with the boys when I was laid off because of downsizing. During this time, I picked up some contract work before going into education. I did not realize I could be a teacher, so I was an ASB bookkeeper in Puyallup. People kept encouraging me to go into education, but I did not want to go back school to get another degree. One day a post card advertising Central's CTE program arrived in our mailbox, and I was signed up in the same week. In 2003, I left Puyallup to begin teaching Business Education classes in Renton. I had the opportunity to teach classes such as J.A.G. (Jobs for American Graduates), Project Management, IT, Career Choices, Applied Math, Financial Algebra and C.O.E. Math along with doing Work Site Learning. In 2014, I left the classroom to do Work Site Learning full time for all four high schools and to start our internship and apprenticeship programs. Building opportunities for our students in non-collegiate pathways has been very rewarding. What I started is only the beginning of opportunities for our students.

I look forward to retirement and to spend time with my husband and family. My grandchildren are growing up and it will be fun to be able to see their activities. We have a sibling and a cousin reunion planned and are in the process of planning family vacations that includes all the children, grandchildren, and bonus children. We would like to go on a few cruises, light house and baseball field tours.

Thank you to all that have supported and encouraged me through the years. Keep up the good work on supporting today's youth.

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

We are pleased to announce our 2023-24 WACCER Scholarship recipients.

Kaitlyn Kirkegaard from Graham Kapowsin High School and Karolyn Marquez Garcia from Cascadia Technical Academy have been selected to receive \$1000 scholarships to continue their education.

Kaitlyn is a four-year JROTC student and currently holds the highest office in JROTC, Battalion Commander. She will pursue a career in Law Enforcement by completing a bachelor's degree in criminal justice at Liberty University. Career Specialist, Lindsey Pettit is the nominating WACCER member.

The Aviation program at Cascadia Tech has helped Karolyn to obtain her student pilot's license and will graduate with her associate in aviation tech from Green River College in June. In the fall, Karolyn will continue at Green River and work toward her bachelor's degree in aeronautical sciences. Ryan Hovde, Counselor at Cascadia Tech, is the nominating WACCER member.

A special thank you to our scholarship selection committee:

Richard Mitchell

Jewel Robinson

Christiann Thomas

Nora Zollweg

Please consider nominating a student from your school in 2024-25. All current WACCER members may nominate one student from their school. Applications will be available in early February 2025.

Submitted by Shelley Jellison

HIGH SCHOOL AND BEYOND PLAN UNIVERSAL PLATFORM

OSPI has announced that SchooLinks has been selected as the Apparent Successful Bidder for the SB5243 Universal HSBP Platform! Implementation planning will begin once contracts are finalized and will be communicated to our agency partners and school districts in conjunction with the legislative report due on October 1, 2024. The earliest districts would be expected to use the platform would be Fall 2025. *OSPI Newsflash Release.*

GET INVOLVED IN WACCER

Become an Officer

President & Secretary officer positions are open! Consider serving for the 2024/2025 school year! These are great opportunities to hone your leadership skills and get involved!

President--In this position the president is responsible to hold WA-CCER board meetings and support committees. The president also acts as the backup for WA-ACTE Board representative. As the president, you will serve as president elect for one year before taking office and one year after your service as president.

Secretary--In this position you will work with the president to create agendas for meetings and take notes which you will distribute to WA-CCER members.

Join a Committee

Being on a committee is a great way to meet people in WA-CCER and other WA-ACTE associations.

Professional Development Committee *Laurie Price & Marie Miller Chairs*--be a part of planning our WA-CCER conferences and WA-ACTE Summer Conference. We need your ideas!

Legislative Committee *Shelley Jellison WACCER Representative*--as our legislative representative you will attend WA-ACTE meetings once a week during legislative session. This is a great way to learn about legislation and CTE.

Scholarship Committee *Shelley Jellison Chair*--read over scholarship applications to award recipients. Support fundraising for scholarship.

FAME Committee (membership/awards) *Laurie Price Chair*: Attend WA-ACTE FAME Committee meetings. Assist in judging WACCER award candidates.

WA-ACTE Executive Board Representative *Marie Miller Representative*--This is a three-year position. As the board rep you will attend a WA-ACTE board meetings and communicate back to WACCER.

Have a story to share?

We would love to have it for our fall newsletter!