Welcome to WASDA’s April edition of our online Newsletter!

March was another busy month for the WASDA office with a meeting of the Child Advocacy Committee, a WASDA Board of Directors meeting, and the Wisconsin Data Summit!

The WASDA staff is working on the final touches for this year’s annual convention to be held May 10-12 at the Madison Concourse Hotel. A great program has been planned. Information and online registration is available online at www.wasda.org.

Complete details about all of WASDA’s events for the remainder of the year can be found on our website at www.wasda.org. If you experience any difficulty with the website, please contact Jessica directly at jschwedrsky@wasda.org.

Jessica is also the person to contact regarding any registration issues or questions on our the WASDA video library - www.samonline.us. Please be sure to check it out! You have access to many videos on a wide range of educational topics 24/7. Again, if you experience any difficulties with SAM-Online, please do not hesitate to contact Jessica.

We are always looking for new ways to serve our members. If we can ever be of service to you, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here to serve you!

Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators
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Madison, WI 53704
608/242-1090
608/242-1290 - FAX
www.wasda.org
APRIL 2017

WASDA E-NEWS

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www.wasda.org
In my Superintendent's dream turned real, our Governor put forth a state budget that provided a significant increase in per-pupil funding for each of the next two years. Well over $600 million - arguably that would be considered by most as real money. For years we've endured funding cuts and zero-percent increases in per-pupil funding because the state could not afford it as revenues lagged. We managed this and lead our districts with shrinking revenues as best we could. We made it work. With significant new state revenues available, the Governor has prioritized education in a budget that will benefit schools and students. Governor Walker, thank you for recognizing in your budget proposals that public schools remain the backbone of the great education that Wisconsin is known for.

Of course, in this dream of mine, there were no conditions placed on receiving the aid that might work against public schools, a difference from reality that we must all work together to modify and resolve. Still, the renewed education priority is welcome.

Unfortunately, not all policymakers share the Governor's priorities. Speaker Vos has proposed that the state take a zero-base budget approach to education - risking the revenue priority established by the Governor. Still other prominent legislators suggest zero new funds for schools, giving schools no value among other priorities. Interesting that despite the personal benefit most Wisconsin policy leaders have received from a Wisconsin public education, some appear willing to once again abandon the system even in a time of increased revenues.

Let's all get behind the Governor's funding proposals and the emphasis on the value of education that this represents. Likewise, we should stay unified in opposing a zero-base budget approach. Our unified voice will be important throughout this biennial budget process. Stay engaged.

Todd Gray
WASDA President
tgray@waukesha.k12.wi.us
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Executive Director’s Message
April 2017
Dr. Jon Bales
There’s Plenty Going On

Please click on the link below to hear a message from Jon.

CLICK HERE.

We have an idea!
Let Member Benefits help you reduce staff turnover and attract new talent by leveraging your existing employee benefits and adding no-cost enhancements. Ask us about:
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GEORGE R. GRIGSBY

George R. Grigsby, age 89, of Neenah passed away on Sunday morning, March 19, 2017 at ThedaCare Medical Center, Neenah, surrounded by his family. George was born on September 2, 1927 in West Baden Springs, IN to Floyd H. and Eva E. Richardson Grigsby. After graduating high school in 1945, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He then enrolled as a student at Indiana University where he was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity.

After graduating from Indiana University in 1951, he began his 41-year career in public education, serving as a teacher and administrator in the Gary and Highland, Indiana schools. Dr. Grigsby completed his doctorate of education at Indiana University in 1970 and was appointed Superintendent of the Neenah Joint School District in 1975. He served in that position until his retirement in 1992.

George was married to the love of his life, Carolyn Jane Bonham, for 62 years.

During the forty plus years George and Carolyn worked and lived in Neenah, he served in a leadership role in a number of civic organizations including: Neenah Rotary, the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum, the Valley VNA, the Neenah Public Library, the Neenah-Menasha YMCA, the Neenah-Menasha United Way and the First Presbyterian Church.

Dr. Grigsby was the very proud father of three beautiful and talented daughters: Carol Lynn Morris (Bob) of Normal, IL, Susan Mary Grigsby (Rob Reinhardt) of Middleton, WI and Jane Grigsby Klett (Derek) of Waukesha, WI. In addition to his daughters and his loving wife Carolyn, he is survived by his grandchildren, J. Tanner Morris, Kelly Marie Heissler (Adam), Zoë Grace and Elijah Grigsby Klett, and great-grandchildren Hattie and Luke Heissler.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to: the Neenah Joint School District Foundation, the Neenah Rotary Foundation, the Valley VNA, or the First Presbyterian Church of Neenah.

ARE YOU RETIRING IN 2017?

The requirements to receive the Honorary Life Membership and be recognized at the retirement banquet held in conjunction with the WASDA Annual Educational Conference are as follows:

A. The recipient must have retired from school work.
B. The recipient must have total experience in educational work on any level of at least twenty-five (25) years.
C. The recipient must have been a member of the Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators at the time of retirement and for the five (5) years immediately preceding retirement.
D. CESA administrators who were county superintendents are to receive credit for the years served as county superintendents.

If you are retiring this year, please email the WASDA office. ALL WASDA members retiring will be recognized at the banquet. This year’s convention will be held May 10-12 at the Madison Concourse Hotel in Madison. (Conference begins with a reception at 5:30 p.m., May 10, followed by the Recognition Banquet & ends at 12 noon on May 12.)
Register Now for WASDA’s 50th Annual Educational Conference!

Theme: Education Policy Matters

Policy matters. Whether Federal, State or local, education policy shapes operational practices and the eventual outcomes students realize. The Superintendent’s voice in influencing effective education policy has never been more important. Engage with your professional colleagues at WASDA’s 50th Annual Educational Conference at the Madison Concourse Hotel in Madison on May 10-12 to understand the current state of Federal and State level education policy and how it might be meaningfully improved to benefit all students.

At the Conference you will hear from national, state and local experts with respect to educational policy and its impact on practice. You will learn what is being done to advocate for effective evidence-based policy and how you can engage in that work. You will also learn about best practices that have emerged in the current policy environment.

WASDA is proud to bring you our 50th Annual Educational Conference. Register here.

Included in the Conference will be (full program to follow):

**Federal Policy and State Effects**
Leslie Finnan is the Senior Legislative Analyst for AASA, The Superintendents Association. Leslie focuses on Federal Education Policy and its implications for states and local districts. Leslie will provide a comprehensive update on the status of ESSA, as well as an overview of policy considerations advanced by the Administration and the Department of Education. Particular emphasis will be given to near term budget implications for districts across Wisconsin.

**How Policy Effects the Landscape for Professional Teachers and Their Employers in Wisconsin**
Mike English is President and CEO of WASDA Business Partner, Forecast5 Analytics, Inc. Forecast5 specializes in business analytics and business intelligence applications. For the past year, Forecast5 has been studying the trends and status of employment and compensation of the professional teachers in Wisconsin. Mike’s presentation will provide a deeper understanding of the current state of teacher employment under Wisconsin’s current Educational Policies. This data will be informative in shaping your operational practices related to employment and staffing decisions in Wisconsin’s new market environment.

**A Business/Education Roundtable on College and Career Ready**:
A conversation with Business and Higher Education leaders discussing the skills and characteristics students require to be truly College and Career Ready. Policy initiatives emphasizing readiness have shaped programs and services throughout Wisconsin. What practices will produce the best outcomes for students?

**The Wisconsin Legislature and Current Policy Deliberations**
A panel of legislators will discuss the current status of Wisconsin’s budget policy and education related policy proposals.

**Celebrations and Entertainment**
In addition you will enjoy hearing from this year’s WASDA Statewide Special Recognition Award Honorees, celebrate the careers of retiring superintendents, hear from the incoming Association President-Elect Steve Bloom, and be entertained by the music of *The Superintendencies*.

Looking forward to seeing everyone.
YOUR GOALS. OUR MISSION.

We share your commitment to public education and our children's futures. And we're ready to help you meet the challenges that the school year will bring.

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Service Centers in Milwaukee and Oshkosh

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WASDA AWARD RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

WASDA is pleased to announce that the following individuals were selected to receive WASDA’s major awards at the upcoming WASDA Annual Educational Conference. The awards will be presented at the Recognition Banquet on the evening of Wednesday, May 10, as part of the convention program. This year’s convention will be held at Madison Concourse Hotel in Madison.

WASDA Outstanding Educator Award
Joseph Heinzelman, Retired Supt., Oakfield

WASDA Distinguished Service Award
Wayne Anderson, Supt., Williams Bay

WASDA Award of Special Recognition for Service to Wisconsin
Attorney Kirk Strang - Strang, Patteson, Renning, Lewis & Lacy, S.C.

15, 20, 25, 30 & 35 YEAR RECOGNITION AWARDS

Those members who will have achieved 15, 20, 25, 30 or 35 years of service as a superintendent as of June 30, 2017, will be recognized at the Recognition Banquet on Wednesday, May 10, at the Madison Concourse Hotel in Madison. This awards ceremony will also include recognition of the 2017 WASDA retirees and the recipients of the three major WASDA awards. Also, the convention fee will include all meals held in conjunction with the convention. Therefore, there will not be an additional charge to attend the Wednesday evening banquet.

Below is a listing of those members who will be recognized at the banquet at the convention on Wednesday, May 10. If you believe that you qualify for recognition and your name is not listed below, please contact the WASDA office immediately.

15 YEARS
Dave Alexander - Yorkville #2
Dean Gorrell - Verona
Thomas Hiebert - Cochrane-Fountain City
Jeff Kasuboski - Wautoma
Loras Kruser - Shullsburg
Dave Laehn - Bangor
Paul Schley - Cornell
Terrance Slack - Wisconsin Dells

20 YEARS
Mike Beighley - Whitehall
Dan Boxx - Almond-Bancroft
John Gaier - Neillsville
Michael Garvey - Johnson Creek
Brian Hanes - Ashwaubenon
Steve Patz - Franklin
Ben Villarruel - DePere

25 YEARS - NONE

30 YEARS
Glen Denk - Gilmanton
George Karling - Three Lakes

35 YEARS - NONE

CONGRATULATIONS!
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“I would highly recommend the Trust. It’s been very user friendly for our staff and user friendly for myself on the business side.”

Nick Curran  
Business Manager at Omro School District

“Any experience I’ve had with WEA Trust has been positive. It was a relief to come back and I’ve been nothing but happy.”

Kristi  
WEA Trust Member

“Theyir customer service is excellent. I don’t have to sit on the phone and wait and push buttons. I get a person to talk to right away.”

Jenifer  
WEA Trust Member

To learn more about WEA Trust, contact:

- Jon Klett, VP of Sales, Marketing and Product at 262-227-1203 or jklett@weatrust.com
ELECTION OF WASDA BOARD MEMBERS

The following terms of board members currently serving on the WASDA Board of Directors expire as of June 30, 2017:

- CESA #1 Deb Kerr-Brown Deer
- CESA #5* Gus Knitt-Pardeeville
- CESA #6 Kieth Kriewaldt-Erin
- CESA #9* Larry Ouimette-Lac du Flambeau
- CESA #12 Chris Patritto-Hurley

*Gus Knitt and Larry Ouimette are eligible for reelection for a three-year term on the board. The other board members are NOT eligible for reelection.

Superintendents in WASDA wishing to place their names on a ballot to run for the board position open in their respective CESAs must notify the WASDA office on or before April 15, 2017. **In order to have a name placed on the election ballot, a WASDA superintendent must follow one of the two following procedures:**

1. A written letter of declaration (or email) by a WASDA superintendent sent to the WASDA office. OR
2. By three superintendent members of WASDA signing a nomination paper requesting the name of a WASDA superintendent to be placed on the ballot.

In the event more than two candidates qualify for the ballot, there shall be a primary election held not less than 30 days before the general election, to be conducted in the same manner as the general election. Ballot order shall be determined by draw of names by the Executive Director of the association in the presence of two voting members who are not candidates for the office. The ballots shall be distributed to the voting members no later than May 15, 2017, with an established deadline for return of the completed ballot of June 1.

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2017 WASDA SUMMER LEGAL SEMINAR

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend WASDA’s Annual Summer Legal Seminar at the beautiful Stone Harbor Resort in Sturgeon Bay. This year’s seminar will be held July 26-28.

WASDA members can call the Stone Harbor Resort now to reserve their room for the evenings of July 26 and 27. Please call the resort directly at 1-920-746-0700. Please do not wait long to book your room as the resort typically sells out for this event!

To assist in your planning, the seminar will kick-off with a reception at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 26, followed by dinner and the first presentation. The seminar will continue all day on Thursday and adjourn by noon on Friday, July 28. There will also be an informal golf outing at noon on Wednesday, July 26.

The program will be planned this spring. Registration information should be available online at www.wasda.org in May.

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NEW SUPERINTENDENTS

If you are leaving your district, please be sure to notify the WASDA office of the name of the new person who will be assuming the superintendency. If the new person is either new to the superintendency or new to the state of Wisconsin, be sure to have them hold the dates of August 1-2 for the first New Superintendents Workshop for the 2017-18 school year, which will be held at the Holiday Inn-Stevens Point.
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PROGRAM

7:30 a.m.  REGISTRATION/CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:00 - 8:30 a.m.  WELCOME AND REFLECTION
Finishing Strong and Planning Proactively for the Next Year.
The school year is coming to a close. Many accomplishments have been realized in your first year. But one good year doesn't make a good run. Expectations will actually increase if you've had a good year. Attention to several tips can help ensure you have a strong finish to your first year and a productive start to your second.
Discussion facilitated by Kathleen Cooke and Michael Gallagher

8:15 a.m.  FINANCIAL LITERACY - DEBT 101
There are many procedures and statutory provisions relating to bonding and indebtedness. Learn from the experts, what superintendents need to know including understanding the debt issuance process, Funds 38 and 39, EMMA filing requirements, the bond rating process, role of bond counsel and other related topics.
Baird Financial Team

9:15 a.m.  BREAK

9:30 a.m.  LEGAL UPDATE
The rapidly changing legal landscape continues to offer topics that must be mastered to avoid legal entanglements. Gain insight from the "legal eagles" in a round two discussion of "current events" and hints for handling challenging personnel issues.
Attorney Kirk Strang - Strang, Patteson, Renning, Lewis & Lacy

10:30 a.m.  PROVIDING LEADERSHIP WHEN EXPECTATIONS CONFLICT
Successful leaders understand that expectations of the staff, community or board may conflict. But rather than feeling caught in the middle, they employ strategies to identify and build common ground and ownership for direction, while serving as a child advocate. Learn tips utilized by experienced leaders who have successfully prevented or navigated conflicting expectations to create a culture of high expectations, transparency and results.
Presenters: Brian Busler, Supt., Oregon; Deb Kerr, Supt., Brown Deer; George Mavroulis, Supt., Middleton Cross Plains; and Ron Walsh, Supt., Plum City

11:30 a.m.  LUNCH
12:15 p.m.  EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATIONS FOR LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
Creating an effective communications plan for community engagement and legislative advocacy doesn't happen by chance. Understanding principles of communication, shaping messages to match audience expectations and selecting the appropriate communication tools require informed decision making. Participants will work with the presenter to learn strategies to tailor communications for specific district and community needs.

Joe Donovan, President, Donovan Group

1:15 p.m.  STRATEGIES FOR REFERENDUM PLANNING AND SUCCESS
Is a referendum in your district's future? Learn from a Public Outreach Specialist hints that will support your district's planning and preparation.

Kit Dailey, Eppstein Uhen Architects

2:15 p.m.  PRIORITY PLANNING FOR 2017-18 - HOW SHOULD WASDA MEET THE NEEDS OF YEAR TWO SUPERINTENDENTS?
Your input will be sought regarding content and activities which can be facilitated by WASDA to best support your continued growth and leadership development during your second year.

Discussion facilitated by Kathleen Cooke and Jon Bales, WASDA Executive Director

2:50 p.m.  Wrap up

3:00 p.m.  Adjourn

REGISTER AT WWW.WASDA.ORG!
As you know, WASDA and WREA have forged a long-term relationship in order to strengthen our advocacy voice for public education. This relationship also allows us to bring to you personal and professional benefits that emerge from our business partnership. Among the benefits, are an array of opportunities available to you while you are still in active employment. Note that these same benefit opportunities can be made available to employees in your district if that is of interest to you.

We partner with AMBA (Association of Member Benefits Association) to offer a menu of benefits. The benefits are available to any employee who has a membership with WREA - which is available to you through your WASDA membership at a reduced cost. This and successive newsletters will provide you a series of videos that will highlight many of the benefits available to you. This month's video highlights Vacation and Travel Benefits. We hope they will be beneficial to you and your staff in making their personal decisions.

http://www.wasda.org/?page=MbrBenefitVacation

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