Welcome to WASDA’s June edition of our online Newsletter! We hope that you all enjoyed another successful school year in your district.

Membership information for the 2020-21 year for WASDA and AASA will be EMAILED to all Wisconsin superintendents in early June! Please watch for it! If you do not receive your invoice, please contact Jessica at the WASDA office and she will send you another membership form.

A complete listing of all of WASDA’s events for the 2020-21 year can be found on our website at www.wasda.org. Please note: WASDA intends to continue to provide professional learning opportunities for our members in 2020-21. At this time, the method of delivery for those opportunities will be dependent on the guidance from public health officials and compliance with any restrictions on assembly. We are prepared to provide in-person, virtual, and hybrid spaces for our members to gather, learn, collaborate, and network. Registrants will be provided updates as our future unfolds.

We hope that those of you who have been members of the WASDA Video Library in the past have had an opportunity to check out the new WASDA Resource Libraries, which features the Baird Video Library and the Legal Library. Complete information on how to subscribe to these two Resource Libraries will be included with your 2020-21 membership renewal email.

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!
JUNE 2020
WASDA E-NEWS

WASDA President’s Message
WASDA Executive Director’s Report
WASDA First Year Superintendents Academy
WASDA Summer Legal Seminar
Supporting Principals Excellence Academy
Francis Peichel Obituary
New Superintendents
Robert Howard Obituary
BVL June Update
James Egan Obituary
Fall School Finance Workshops
2021 National Superintendent of the Year Program
The Capitol Report - John Forester, Dir. Of Gov. Relations
Superintendent Vacancies
WASDA Calendar of Events

www.wasda.org
Einstein is often credited with the quote, "Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results." Regardless of its origin, the statement rings true and there is merit in recognizing that change is necessary in order to facilitate improvement or get different results. Sometimes change in institutions, like a school system, comes a bit slower because it often requires buy-in from many stakeholders (i.e. teachers, parents, taxpayers). Stakeholders may not see the need for change or may be afraid to change because of the risks, not knowing what the new results will be. This creates the dilemma we often face in education today. The traditional educational system worked for me, why change it? Can you guarantee better results with the change you are making? These are tough questions to answer, but when we, as school district administrators, make recommendations based on the research and study we have done and the Board of Education approves those changes- whether it be in curriculum, school structure, or hiring- the goal is always for continued improvement, higher student achievement, and greater success for our students upon graduation.

COVID-19 has ushered in a whole new perspective on change for me. There was no time for research or study on how to move 100% of our staff from brick and mortar teaching to online/at home learning. In the Tomah Area School District, we had been dabbling with flipped classes and teachers developing online activities tied to Quality Matters standards on best practice for online learning. But, this was being done in pockets and the vast majority of our teachers were using technology to enhance their current lessons, rather than to redesign their instruction. What a difference a global pandemic made in the work we do. We transitioned from brick and mortar to online/at home instruction in forty-eight hours. It wasn't easy for many, but our staff rolled up their sleeves, accepted the challenge, and got to work, as did so many teachers across Wisconsin. Just as a crisis in our personal lives (i.e. heart attack) can drive us to make changes that we didn't think we could do (i.e. eat healthy and exercise), the crisis of COVID-19 has helped us to make changes in education we didn't think we could do. However, now is the time to do our research- study what worked and what didn't work- to ensure that the changes we decide to permanently adopt using technology are what is best for our children.

Change does involve risk and it demonstrates hope. I find comfort in these words by Linda Ellerbee, "What I like about change is that it's a synonym for 'hope'. If you are taking a risk, what you are really saying is, "I believe in tomorrow and I will be part of it." As district administrators we must believe in tomorrow- a better tomorrow for our students- and that is why we cannot be content with the status quo. Change is an impetus to improvement. The changes we made in our work because of COVID-19 can be used to improve how we educate. As we look to the future, let's keep our eyes on what is best for our students. We must not be afraid to say that children are best served through public education when they are in our school buildings under the watchful and loving care of qualified, experienced, and compassionate educators who will challenge and motivate them to excel. There is a place for technology and there are valuable virtual and online opportunities that we want to continue to use and explore, but not at the expense of the human factor that is so important to learning- the student/teacher relationship- which technology can't replace.

Your superintendent association-WASDA- is one of the most valuable resources available to you as you plan for the future and respond to the challenges ahead. Let's work together to ensure that the changes in our educational system brought about by COVID-19 will make public education stronger and serve our children better!

Cindy Zahrte, WASDA President, 2019-2020
Executive Director’s Message
June 2020
Dr. Jon Bales

“No Ordinary June for Schools or WASDA”

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

CLICK HERE.

Please send your comments and questions to Jon - jbales@wasda.org.

2020 FALL SUPERINTENDENTS CONFERENCE
Presented by WASDA
in cooperation with the
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
Carolyn Stanford Taylor, State Superintendent

SEPTEMBER 16-18, 2020
MADISON CONCOURSE HOTEL

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BOOK YOUR HOTEL ROOM NOW!
DOWNTOWN HOTELS:
MADISON CONCOURSE HOTEL - 1-800-356-8293
MADISON MONONA TERRACE HILTON HOTEL - 1-866-255-5100
HYATT PLACE MADISON/DOWNTOWN - 1-608-257-2700
BEST WESTERN INN ON THE PARK - 1-800-279-8811
DOUBLETREE OF MADISON - 1-800-222-TREE
THE CAMPUS INN - 1-800-589-6285
UNIVERSITY INN - 1-800-279-4881
Wisconsin public school districts face unprecedented challenges and opportunities. The attorneys at Strang, Patteson, Renning, Lewis & Lacy, s.c., are dedicated to helping you meet the challenges and take advantage of the opportunities.
WASDA is committed to supporting the success of each new superintendent through induction experiences. These include workshops, virtual webinars, coaching, and 'just in time' e-mail blasts.

Academy content for 2020-21 will give particular attention early on, to supporting superintendent decisions associated with opening of schools in this pandemic year and the resulting effects for students, staff, budget and communications. The sessions will continue the emphasis on developing successful board/superintendent relationships, promoting student achievement and equitable practices to close achievement gaps, continuous improvement, addressing school legal issues, wise business and fiscal stewardship, effective communications, and community engagement. Academy facilitators will provide rigorous content while engaging leaders in practical experience-based activities.

Each first year superintendent will be "paired" with a highly regarded, experienced superintendent for coaching. The coaching experience reaches beyond the simplistic textbook answers for issues to consider the nuances and subtleties of leadership which high performing leaders have mastered.

The first academy sessions are scheduled for late July. A complete calendar of events will be posted on the WASDA website along with the registration link soon.

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2020 WASDA SUMMER LEGAL SEMINAR

At this time we are still planning to hold WASDA’s Annual Summer Legal Seminar at the beautiful Stone Harbor Resort in Sturgeon Bay. This year’s seminar will be held July 29-31.

WASDA members can call the Stone Harbor Resort now to reserve their room for the evenings of July 29 and 30. 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 29, followed by dinner and the first presentation. The seminar will continue all day on Thursday and adjourn by noon on Friday, July 31. There will also be an informal golf outing at noon on Wednesday, July 29.

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

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE MAY NEED TO CANCEL THIS EVENT DUE TO COVID-19. If that happens, we will plan to host this seminar virtually so that our members have access to the latest legal information from the state’s leading school attorneys.
SUPPORTING PRINCIPAL EXCELLENCE:
PROFESSIONAL GROWTH COACHING FOR LEADERS

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School administrators need skillful support from leaders of teaching and learning; leaders who believe in coaching as a vehicle for developing exemplary leadership. The Professional Growth Coaching for Leaders Academy, presented by WASDA and AWSA, will equip superintendents, central office leaders and others who directly support principals with the tools and practices that enhance principal performance in leading schools of equity and excellence for student success. The overarching goal of the Academy is to assist with the development of instructional leadership skills that deliver breakthrough results for all students.

Knowledge Objectives:

1. Identify strategies to determine best practices in teaching and learning.
2. Understand how to use evidence of principal practice to identify next steps of leader improvement that foster a positive educational environment and support the diverse cultural and learning needs of students.
3. Learn a process for determining local academic priorities and problems of practice.
4. Understand how to identify a shared problem of practice and recognize strategies to impact change.

Practice Objectives:

1. Analyze coaching conversations and scenarios for effectiveness and intended impact.
2. Promote reflection on impact by engaging leaders in coaching simulations that use targeted questioning and conversation strategies.
3. Engage in a relationship with a principal for the purpose of practicing and analyzing coaching skill.
4. Facilitate coaching conversations that ensure equity and excellence in schools.

The Academy will include four (4) full-day sessions and the sessions are intended to build upon each other. Registration will cover attendance for all four dates. Register at www.wasda.org!

Comments from past Academy participants:
"This is within my area of study/experience, and the academy has helped me advance my practice."
"The balance of learning/research and practicing with others was greatly appreciated."
"I really liked the discussion and role playing of case studies and to discuss sensitive issues in a safe environment."

Choose your location and attend all four (4) full day sessions.

**Madison - WASDA School Leadership Ctr.**  **Stevens Point - Holiday Inn**

October 16  
December 1  
January 15  
March 10

October 15  
December 2  
January 7  
March 11
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 5-6 for the first New Superintendents Workshop for the 2020-21 school year, which will be held virtually.
Robert J. (Bob) Howard, 91 of Trempealeau, and long-time resident of Galesville, passed away early Saturday morning May 9, 2020. He passed peacefully and spent his final days with his wife and sons.

Born March 15, 1929 in Ashland, WI, Bob attended Ashland High School graduating in 1947. He received a bachelor’s degree from Northland College in Ashland and Master’s degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He served in the US Air Force during the Korean War from 1950 – 1953.

Bob moved to Galesville in 1958 and was superintendent of schools of the Gale-Ettrick, and later Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau school district, from 1962 until 1989. He had a never-ending passion to bring the highest quality of education to the children of the community. Over the years Bob enjoyed hunting, fishing, gardening, and watching sporting events. He was strong supporter of G-E-T athletics and a regular attendee of those events for over 50 years. He also enjoyed spending time at his cabin on West Twin Lake in Ashland County. But more than anything, Bob enjoyed spending time with his family.

Bob is survived by his wife of 22 years, Julie, and his two sons Bruce (Amy) and Jim (Sarah) and their families, and a sister Geraldine Randby (Ashland, WI). He was preceded in death by his parents (Leslie and Margaret Howard), two sisters (Marion, Shirley) and a brother (Les) A celebration of life event will be held at a later date. Coulee Region Cremation Group is assisting the family. The family wishes memorial contributions to be made to: Robert J. Howard Scholarship Fund, Citizens First Bank, 24050 3rd Street, Trempealeau, WI 54661 or Shirley M. Wright Memorial Library, 11455 Fremont St., Trempealeau, WI 54661.
BVL JUNE Update
We picked a few videos you might find helpful this month

Baird is dedicated to your district and your school finance needs. Although the BVL library is full of useful videos to be accessed anytime, this month in the business office, you might be interested in the below videos:

- Balance Sheet
- Accounts Payable
- Accounts Receivable
- Act 221 Aidable Costs
- Revenue Limit Recurring Exemptions – Transfer of Service
- Reporting Debt to DPI
- School Calendar Reporting
- School Census
- Fund Accounting – Fund 46
- Fund Accounting – Fund 73
- Transportation Report/Transportation Aid

If you have any questions on the above videos, or if you have any comments on how the BVL can better serve your district, let us know! Reach out to any member of our team below; we’d be happy to help.

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HAZEL GREEN—Dr. James Egan, age 76, passed away peacefully at home on May 20, 2020. A private family memorial service will be held at Casey Funeral Home & Cremation Services in Cuba City. Private burial will be in Jamestown Cemetery. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Services will be livestreamed at 11 a.m. Tuesday, May 26, 2020, through the funeral home Facebook page, due to COVID-19.

James Egan was born on May 20, 1944, in Macon, Georgia, the son of George and Marjorie (Terry) Egan. He graduated from Cuba City High School in 1962 and from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville in 1966 with his teaching degree. He received his master’s degree in 1970 and doctorate in 1981 from Northern Illinois University.

Dr. Egan began his 50 years in education as a social studies teacher at the Rochelle (Ill.) Junior High School in 1966. He became principal of Lincoln Elementary School in 1973. He served as superintendent of the Kings School District from 1979-1983 and became superintendent of the Big Hollow School District until 1990. In 1990, he moved his family back to Wisconsin to be closer to grandparents and became superintendent of the Monticello (Wis.) School District from 1990 to 1995. In 1995, he came full circle and became superintendent of the Southwestern Wisconsin School District in Hazel Green, where he served from 1995 until his retirement in 2015. His passion was to make positive changes in education and positively impact students.

James considered himself a Renaissance Man. He was a man of many interests, in addition to being a professional educator. He started a photography darkroom in an elementary school, downhill skied for over 50 years at Chestnut Mountain, and raised registered American Quarter Horses. He was a beekeeper, school bus driver, and was an avid long-distance biker, tennis player, whitewater canoer, camper, antique collector and refinisher, and world traveler. He was active in the International Lions Club and Wisconsin School Music Association. James was selected for several Fulbright trips to study education and schools in Japan, South Korea, China, Argentina, Brazil, Finland, France and England. He made friends everywhere he went. He was a lifelong Badger, Brewer and Packer fan. He loved to tell jokes and colorful stories of his life experiences. James was the first to arrive and the last to leave. He did all of this, on top of his most important job — being the best father to his three daughters, with whom he shared his passions of education and traveling the world. James made sure his daughters saw every state in the U.S. and experienced the world. They were his pride and joy, and his world.

Dr. Egan is survived by his daughters, Dr. Kelly (Patrick) Huibregtse of San Francisco, Calif.; Dr. Katie (Robert Goodenough) Egan of Kansas City, Kan.; and Kari (Cullen) Steck of Belleville, Wis. He adored his grandson, Cullen James (CJ) Steck, and several grand dogs. He is survived by a brother, George Robert (Glenda) Egan, and two sisters, Sandy Eustice and Marlene (Jerry) Schollmeyer, as well as cherished nieces, nephews, and cousins.

James was preceded in death by his parents; several extended family members; and a cherished great-nephew, Eric Egan. James’s family would like to thank his many friends who cared deeply for him like family, especially his neighbors, Jesse and Linda Jansen.

A Dr. James Egan Scholarship Fund for the Southwestern Wisconsin School District has been established. Condolences and memorials for the scholarship may be sent to the family at 905 Ann Court, Belleville, WI 53508. Online condolences for the family may be left at www.caseyfuneralhome.net.
FINANCIAL WELLNESS BEGINS WITH YOUR DISTRICT AND BENEFITS EVERYONE

84% of employees want financial wellness programs, but only 18% of employers currently offer them.* WEA Member Benefits provides FREE financial education for your staff.

Let one of our Worksite Benefit Consultants help you get started today. Give us a call at 1-800-279-4030.

*Source: PLANSPONSOR.
GETTING SCHOOL FINANCE RIGHT: FROM THE BUDGET TO THE LEVY

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2020- HOLIDAY INN-STEVEN'S POINT
MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020 - WASDA SCHOOL LEADERSHIP CENTER - MADISON
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

WASDA is pleased to announce that it will be hosting two workshops entitled "Getting School Finance Right: From the Budget to the Levy." These workshops will be conducted by the DPI School Finance Team. Although open to all, this "how to do it from the ground up" workshop is geared toward new administrators or those with less than 3 years' experience. It will include:

- A detailed discussion and hands-on practice of the 2019-20 revenue limit calculation
- What to do with the October 1st Equalized Property Valuation from DOR and the October 15th General Aid Certification from DPI
- Determining the impact of the exempt business computer valuation (“Computer Aid”)
- Conceptual overview of Equalization & Special Adjustment Aid (General Aid)
- How the pieces all fit together (revenue limit/general aid/levy; equalized property valuation/levy/mill rate

The extended time will allow participants to use their own district's numbers to do the various calculations with hands-on help from the School Finance Team. The goal is for you to be confident in your budget, revenue limit and general aid numbers so the board can certify your district's levy correctly. **This is your opportunity to make sure you're getting it right!**

Items to bring with you to the workshop:

- A laptop computer
- Your district's 2019-2020 final revenue limit worksheet*
- Your district's Oct. 15th Certification of 2019-20 General Aid from DPI*
- Your district's September membership count, including 2020 summer school*
- Your district’s 2020 Equalized Values received October 1 from Department of Revenue*

*This information will be available on the SFS Team website so districts may choose to bring a hard copy or simply access the information online while at the workshop.

Please call the STEVEN'S POINT HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER at 715/344-0200 to reserve a sleeping room for the evening of October 20.

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2021 National Superintendent of the Year Program

About the Program
Now in its 34th year, the National Superintendent of the Year® Program pays tribute to the talent and vision of the men and women who lead our nation's public schools. This program is sponsored by First Student, AIG Retirement Services and AASA. Download the FAQ here.

Eligibility
Any AASA Affiliate Association State Superintendent of the Year® who plans to continue in the profession may be nominated. This program is designed to recognize the outstanding leadership of active, front-line superintendents. It is not recognition of service at retirement or a program to reward current state or national leaders.

Selection Criteria
Each candidate for the National Superintendent of the Year® Award must first be named by their state association as the State Superintendent of the Year.

Each State Superintendent of the Year is judged on the following criteria:

Leadership for Learning – creativity in successfully meeting the needs of students in his or her school system.
Communication – strength in both personal and organizational communication.
Professionalism – constant improvement of administrative knowledge and skills, while providing professional development opportunities and motivation to others on the education team.
Community Involvement – active participation in local community activities and an understanding of regional, national, and international issues.

STATE APPLICATION INFORMATION:

Nominations for both the STATE and the NATIONAL award must be completed online.
NOTE: to be eligible for the AASA National Superintendent of the Year® Award, any nominee must first be awarded their state superintendent of the year designation.

Awards
The AASA National Superintendent of the Year presents a $10,000 scholarship to a student in the high school from which he/she graduated. All state and overseas nominees receive a medallion and are honored at AASA's National Conference on Education.

Staff Contact:
Jennifer Rooney Director, Meetings & Awards
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jrooney@aasa.org