



News release

Nov. 2, 2020

Everett Public Schools board is a 2020 *Board of Distinction*

District school board named among state's most effective



*Everett Public Schools board of directors front:
April Berg, Caroline Mason, Andrew Nicholls.
Back: Pam LeSesne, Traci Mitchell*

Everett, WA – Everett Public Schools board of directors earned high honors with the designation as a *Board of Distinction*. Applications are reviewed by a panel of judges that includes former and current educational service district superintendents, State Board of Education board members, former school directors and other education leaders in Washington state. Scoring is based on how well applicants show alignment with the Washington School Board Standards, support their statements with data and demonstrate a link between outcomes and decisions made by the board.

Each year the WSSDA awards program establishes criteria upon which boards will be judged. Everett's nomination highlighted efforts to better understand student achievement and the gap that may be caused by inequities, decisions and actions taken to positively impact the opportunity gap and community engagement showing collaboration with families and community members, responding to diverse interests and needs and mobilizing community resources.

Board President Caroline Mason shared, "We are honored to be receiving this recognition as it reflects the work of our entire district to support our students during a very challenging time. More so than ever it is important to have strong governance practices in place and I believe the adjustments we've had to make due to the impacts from the coronavirus have brought additional cohesion and focus to our work."

"Receiving this recognition is not only an honor, but a valuable process in self-reflection for our board to inspect our successes and strategies benefiting students, identifying connections between those positive outcomes and our decisions and then hopefully inspiring the work of others into the future," added Superintendent Ian Saltzman. "We have an amazing board of directors."

The awards ceremony at the Washington State School Directors Association's (WSSDA) Annual Conference will differ slightly from previous years since the conference is virtual. On Nov. 19, Everett's school board will be honored along with 24 other Boards of Distinction.

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For more information:

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