



*Our students will lead and shape the future*

## News release

**May 3, 2016**

### **Communications Director earns *Lifetime Achievement Award***

*State association honors district Communications Director Mary Waggoner*



*Communications Director Mary Waggoner earned the WSPRA 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award for her contributions to school communications.*

Everett Public Schools Communications Director Mary Waggoner has written hundreds of news releases for other people and other events. This time, she earns her own news release.

[Washington School Public Relations Association](#) (WSPRA) honored Mary Waggoner on April 28 with their first-ever *Lifetime Achievement Award*. WSPRA also honored Waggoner in 1997 with a *Learning and Liberty Award* for her contributions to the profession of school public relations through her extensive body of work, unique achievements, collaboration with colleagues and mentoring other school public relations professionals.

Mary Waggoner has served as Everett Public Schools' director of communications since the spring of 2006.

She also worked as director of communications for the Wenatchee, Snohomish, and Issaquah school districts. Before working in school communications, she was a high school English teacher in Colorado, and held several communications related jobs in the private sector.

Waggoner's recognition comes on the horizon of her retirement. "My one-room-Colorado-schoolhouse-teacher-grandmother hooked me on reading and then on teaching decades ago. How the time has flown – and you know, it only does that when one is having fun. What a blessing it's been to have a supporting role in this important work of public education – and so many amazing teachers and mentors along the way," Mary shared.

Superintendent Cohn shared, "Under Mary's leadership we completely rebranded our district, jumped from legacy to state-of-the-art systems for keeping in constant contact with our public, and launched a multi-faceted community engagement effort that led to

(more)

our school board's recognition as a state board of the year. Mary's contribution to the quality of our team and the joy she finds in public education can't be measured, nor can it be easily matched in our time. There's absolutely no doubt that she's the very, very top of the charts in our book, and we'll miss her dearly after she retires."

Communications Director Leanna Albrecht will transition from Northshore School District to Everett Public Schools in July.

**For more information:**

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